



JWMHS Orchestra Syllabus 2020-2021

Ryan Haring – Associate Director of Bands and Orchestra
raharin@pasco.k12.fl.us, 774-9200 Available 7:45 – 8:30am

Course Description

The Orchestra courses at JWMHS are designed to develop beginning to advanced musical techniques on classical string instruments. These classes involve required after school rehearsals and several performances. This includes Concerts, FOA evaluations, Solo and Ensemble events, as well as Chamber music performances.

Participation outside of school is a graded co-curricular requirement of all classes.

Course Objectives

1. Students will develop and demonstrate increased levels of music literacy
2. Students will develop basics music theory skills
3. Students will develop and demonstrate advanced bow skills
4. Students will develop and demonstrate advanced left-hand skills such as shifting, vibrato, and high velocity playing
5. Students will gain mastery in their 12 major scales and develop the ability to play multiple scales in two octaves.
6. Students will perform in a variety of ways – in a full ensemble, small ensemble, solo settings and a Symphonic Orchestra
7. Students will attend rehearsals and develop rehearsal and ensemble skills
8. Students will gain an understanding of the historical development of the string orchestra and its component instruments.

Grading Policies

100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59-0=F

Students are never graded on innate ability – grades are earned based on individual progress and daily demonstrations in the ensemble.

Demonstration, Progress and Technique Development - 35% - MU.912.S.3.5, MU.912.F.3.1, MU.912.S.3.1

- These points are earned by completing the appropriate technique development exercise for your level based on the technique development sequence. Playing exams and quizzes also fall under this category.

Rehearsals (Co-curricular) – 30% - MU.912.O.2.1, MU.912.3.2, MU.912.S.3.4

- Rehearsal grades will be given based on each student's preparation, effort and engagement at each event. **All after school events are required as a co-curricular element of this class.** 100 points will be available for the quarter. An unexcused rehearsal absence will deduct 15 points from the available points for the quarter.

Performances (Co-curricular Assessments) – 40% - MU.912.O.2.1, MU.912.3.1

- Rehearsal grades will be given based on each student's preparation, effort and engagement at each event. **All after school events are required as a co-curricular element of this class.** 100 points will be available for the quarter. An unexcused performance absence will deduct 25 points from the available points for the quarter.

Please note the following:

1. An unexcused performance absence *WILL RESULT IN A LOWERING OF ONE LETTER GRADE* for the grading period, regardless of a student's accumulated points.
2. Two unexcused rehearsal absences *WILL RESULT IN A LOWERING OF ONE LETTER GRADE*, regardless of a student's accumulated points.
3. Students that are removed from the orchestra program for any reason may result in a failing grade for the grading period.

Every music student is expected to be a student musician. J.W. Mitchell High School Orchestra members are expected to maintain good grades, represent the orchestra well when working with teachers and administrators, and succeed in the classroom. Students are expected to take what they learn in the orchestra room and apply it to the other academic subjects and vice-versa. Music is an art that requires a person to be well organized and intelligent. All orchestra students are required to maintain a 2.0 GPA for full participation.

Rehearsals and Performances

All after school rehearsals and performances are graded, co-curricular portions of the orchestra class. Outside school rehearsals are an integral part of the learning experience, and they will be kept to a minimum. Performances function as tests for the performing arts, they are where we showcase the learning and progress taking place in the classroom. All performances and rehearsals will be announced at least two months in advance. If there are any conflicts with performances or rehearsals, Mr. Harring must be informed more than a week in advance for make-up work to be assigned. Anything that qualifies as an emergency under district policy (with proper documentation) will also be excused and make-up work assigned. A tentative schedule of performances will be released both on paper and digitally at the end of the first week of school.

Makeup Work Policy

Students may make up any and all assignments, tests or related in class work assigned on the day(s) of any excused or unexcused absence for full credit. **This does not apply to music performances, competitions and concerts. NOTE: It is the student's responsibility to ask the teacher(s) for make-up tests, assignments and related work.** Students will be given a minimum of two (2) calendar school days per day or period of absence to make up all tests, assignments and related work. Students will need to make sure that they coordinate with the teacher in order to make-up tests or quizzes. Students may be given additional time based on teacher discretion. Assignments (**excluding long-term projects/assignment**) due to be turned in on the day of the absence shall be turned in upon return and be given full credit. Students who have been assigned out-of-school suspension (OSS) may make up all tests, assignments and related work for full credit.

Late/Missing Work Policy

Students have until the Summative Assessment to turn in any late or missing assignments/work related to that specific Summative Assessment.

Classwork Policy

Classwork assigned by the teacher is due at the end of class, unless otherwise stated by the instructor. Failure to submit classwork by the end of the period will result in a zero (0).

Remediation & Retake Policy

All students are eligible to redo an extended writing assignment or retake each test or quiz **ONE** time in order to improve their grade. To be eligible to redo an extended writing assignment or retake a test or quiz, students must complete a remediation task assigned by the teacher. Additionally, students must complete the teacher-directed remediation task and submit the writing assignment or sit for the retake within **ONE WEEK** of receiving their score on the test or quiz. Please note that retake tests and quizzes will assess students on the same standards but may contain different questions than the original assessment. CFAs and Open Note tests or quizzes are not eligible for the Remediation & Retake Policy.

Long Term Project Policy

Long-term projects and long-term assignments will be due on a specified date according to the teacher's calendar. Students will have these due dates well in advance and will be expected to adhere to these due dates

regardless of absences or SRAs. The student is expected to turn in long-term projects and long-term assignments on time whether the student is absent from school or not. Students are able to submit the long-term project or long-term assignment in person, via email, or by bringing it to the Main Office on the specified due date. If it is submitted late, there is not an opportunity to earn more than 50% on the project or assignment.

Online and myLearning (Canvas) Assignments

If there is an assignment due online or through the myLearning (Canvas) platform, students are expected to submit this assignment on the due date whether present in school or not. These assignments are typically given in advance with a prescribed due date. If it is not submitted on time, there is not an opportunity to earn more than 50% on the assignment.

Tardy Policy

Students need to arrive on time and stay through dismissal so that they receive important directions, class instruction and avoid disrupting other students. Parents can set a good example by encouraging students to follow the school's time schedule and to follow the procedures found in the school handbook. All parents must report to the front office when picking up their child prior to the regular dismissal time.

All students are expected to arrive on time for each class period. A student who is later than five minutes to class is no longer considered tardy, but skipping, unless an excused admit is provided. Students will be subject to classroom and school-wide disciplinary action as a result of tardiness.

Academic dishonesty

Our school expects students to act with integrity; therefore, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be treated as a serious breach to the Code of Student Conduct. Academic dishonesty occurs when a student uses or attempts to use someone else's work in taking an exam; or submits as his or her own work essays, reports, class work/homework, laboratory notes, or other assignments prepared by someone else. It also includes assisting a peer in such acts. In such instances when this occurs, the teacher will make the determination of a grade and/or academic penalty or the incident can be reported to the school's administration. The consequences may include, but are not limited to, the following: rewriting of the assignment, completion of another exam/assignment, a zero percent grade for the exam/assignment, loss of class privileges, Saturday school or in-school suspension.

Dress Code

While in Class students are expected to follow the same dress code standard that the rest of the school follows with one exception – Cellist cannot come to class in a dress or a skirt.

For all concerts and public performances, students are required to wear black slacks, black shoes, and the black Orchestra Polo. The Orchestra Polo can be ordered through Mr. Harring for \$30.

After School Help Sessions

The Orchestra classroom will be open after school Monday and Wednesday during the fall for all students that would like a place to practice or find help from 3:00PM to 5:00PM. In the Spring, these days will change to every weekday from 3:00PM to 5:00PM. These sessions are a great opportunity for students to catch up, practice, get one-on-one instruction on their instrument, and even do make-up assignments.

Orchestra Syllabus Signature Page 2020-2021

I understand and have read all the information in the syllabus. I understand and agree to the policies set forth by Mr. Harring and J.W. Mitchell High School and will follow them directly. By signing this, I am confirming that both, myself (the student) and my parent/guardian have read the syllabus. By signing this I acknowledge that I understand that **outside rehearsals and performances are required as a co-curricular graded element of this class**. I understand that performances are scheduled in our current situation with as much notice as possible and that all performances are listed on the Orchestra Calendar found on jwmhsorchestra.com.

I also acknowledge that I am aware of and agree to all orchestra policies set forth in the orchestra handbook available at jwmhsorchestra.com (the 2020-2021 version will be posted by the first day of classes) under the resources tab. I have read the attendance policies and understand the difference between an excused absence and unexcused absence. I acknowledge that the current situation has created an atmosphere where performance and rehearsal dates will be scheduled when appropriate and with sufficient notice.

Student Name Printed: _____

Student Signature and Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name Printed: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date: _____