

Jazz Band/Combo
Enrichment Class Expectations
Mr. Christopher Jones
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Course Description:

Practical experience in performing jazz, arranged, and composed for a jazz ensemble.

Prerequisite:

An invitation by the director (based on previous performance), or a qualifying audition by the instructor, and an intermediate ability to sight read on an instrument appropriate to the jazz ensemble/combo.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Perform beginning and intermediate jazz literature for jazz ensemble.
2. Demonstrate instrumental techniques appropriate for various styles of jazz.
3. Perform varied works of beginning and intermediate jazz literature fitted to the size and instrumentation of the group available in any given semester.
4. Participate in the creation, rehearsals, and performance of new works for jazz ensemble.
5. All members will learn the basic fundamentals of improvisation.

Goals and Expectations:

1. A rewarding musical experience for all involved.
3. The sheet music must be at every rehearsal.
4. To read and perform a challenging standard of literature and to give opportunities to students to improvise solos when appropriate.
5. To give opportunities to student composers and arrangers to have their music performed.
6. Woodwind players are to have all necessary reeds and doubles at every rehearsal. Brass players are to have all mutes, (cup, harmon, plunger, tacet). Rhythm section members must have appropriate sticks.
7. Perform stylistically in the jazz tradition.

Attendance:

Each rehearsal will start at 2:25 PM. That affords each student four minutes to prepare for rehearsal after the 2:21 PM bell. Please let Mr. Jones know if you do not plan on attending 5th block that day.

Rehearsals on Mondays and Wednesdays will end at 3:30 PM. Rehearsals on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays will end at 3:00 PM. Students may attend meetings with other clubs and for athletics. However, so that the ensemble may be successful, I ask that each student make an effort to be at as many rehearsals as possible.

Grading (Pass/Fail Grade):

Pass = 70-100%

Fail = 0-69%

Performance Calendar:

Please visit <https://www.rchsbands.net> for the performance schedule.

Classroom conduct:

The following are important considerations to help make the class pleasant for everyone. Please:

- Be ready to start class at the appropriate time.
- **Turn off all cell phones, I-Pads, tablets and watch alarms that make noise before coming into class.**
- Avoid side conversations because this is disruptive and distracting to other students. I may ask students who are engaging in side conversations to leave the class if they persist in distracting the progress of rehearsal.
- Please be sensitive to what might offend or distract others (like sending text messages, grooming yourself, or use of potentially offensive language).

You may also wish to refer to the RCHS Bands Student Handbook for further clarification on what is expected from RCHS Band students.