

**Music History**  
**Richland County High School**  
**Mr. Christopher Jones**  
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**Course Overview**

This course is designed to promote a history of music and the habit of intelligent listening. Basically designed for students with little or no previous musical experience, students begin by learning musical terms, definitions, etc. Music is then presented in a historical perspective with an emphasis on prominent composers and musical periods/styles. Ideas, customs and political climates in relation to each musical period are examined. Outside classroom concert attendance is required. Students study each period of music history by reading, recordings, films, concerts and live class performances.

**Prerequisite(s)**

None

**Recommended Class Materials**

- Three-ringed notebook
- Note pad
- Pencil

**Provided Class Materials**

- Computer for assessments, readings, & in-class assignments
- iPad Pro for in-class projects
- Online textbook
- Physical (paper back) textbook upon request

**Course Objectives**

At the conclusion of the course, all students should be confident in their abilities to:

- a) To understand basic music terminology and notation.
- b) To develop critical listening skills.
- c) To be familiar with important, representative examples of classical music from all style periods.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes**

- a) Identify the elements and vocabulary of music for mastery of discussion of music of all styles.
- b) Make judgments and critical observations about musical works based on the elements and concepts of music: pitch, melody, rhythm, timbre, harmony, musical texture, musical form, notation, tempos and dynamics.
- c) Identify various musical instruments and ensembles: strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion and vocal.

- d) Articulate basic understanding of the historical periods of music, including the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionism, Twentieth Century, and Post-Modern.
- e) Describe the role of music within historical, artistic, and cultural traditions.
- f) Recognize the styles of each of the historical periods by aurally identifying standard masterpieces.
- g) Be familiar with technical aspects of selected pieces: orchestration, instrumentation, form and musical texture.
- h) Appreciate the creative process of music by demonstrating familiarity of the lives and styles of individual composers.
- i) Describe and explain performance practice: playing, singing, and conducting.
- j) Develop skills of aesthetic judgment and critical thinking through music listening in-class and at scheduled live performances (when possible).

### **Topical Outline**

- Listen to music
- Musical color, texture, and form
- Hearing musical styles
- Medieval music
- Renaissance
- Early Baroque
- Late Baroque music: Johann Sebastian Bach and George Fredric Handel
- Classical ideals: the world of Haydn and Mozart
- Classical forms
- Classical genres
- The bridged to Romanticism: Ludwig Van Beethoven
- The Romantic spirit
- The early Romantic
- Romantic opera
- Late Romanticism

### **Grading Scale**

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = 00 – 59%

### **Percentages of Final Grade**

Projects = 30%

Assignments = 30%

Tests = 40%