

Jazz Band Disclosure Document

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Introduction

Welcome to the Jazz Ensembles at Lehi High School! The program is divided into two bands by experience level. The Jazz 1 course is our open enrollment wind section. Our Jazz 2 course is our advanced big band that contains our auditioned wind section. The rhythm sections of both groups are auditioned. Our jazz program covers music theory, history, and jazz interpretation. For wind players, it is required that you are also participating in one of our concert wind ensembles as well.

Playing in a jazz band requires a lot of hard work and listening. The key elements in jazz are articulation, rhythm, and improvisation. These are skills that need to be developed. You will become a better “jazzier” with practice and by listening to the greats of jazz.

Course Materials

All Classes (Required):

Brass Players- oil, polishing cloth, cleaning kit, mutes (as instructed), music

Saxes- Four working reeds, reed guard, swab, music

Guitar/Bass- Instrument and patch cord

Drum- Sticks and Brushes

Piano- A big smile and a strong back

Recommended for all: Private lessons, metronome and tuner.

Music

Music will be provided for each ensemble. The music will be checked out to the student. Each student is expected to keep the music in good condition. Each student will be issued a folder that will help the students keep the music in good condition. Students will be fined \$5 for each part that is not returned to cover the replacement cost and \$2 for each part that is returned late to cover the cost of special processing. Any music that is returned tattered, wrinkled, torn, or written on excessively or with pen will also need to be replaced at the \$5.00 replacement cost.

Fees

Class Participation Fee \$50

Uniform: \$35.00 (covers custom shirts for performances)

Grading

Grading in class will be based off the school wide grading policy and scale. The students will be graded on the following:

- **Participation/Sectionals 25%:** Students are expected to participate in class each day and will receive a weekly grade. Those students who are missing their instruments, their music, or who are non-cooperative during class will lose participation points. Students with excessive absences will be required to make up days they have missed by an alternate assignment during remediation time. Students are of course expected to be prepared with all necessary materials in class each day.

Students are also required to participate in weekly 45-minute sectional rehearsals. These sectionals are organized by the section members and run by the section leaders. They take place outside of regular class time.

- **Concerts/Festivals 40%:** Attendance and participation in concerts are mandatory. Students who come late, are not appropriately dressed, or do not stay for the entire performance will not receive full credit.

Concerts are the assessment for the musical groups at Lehi High School. Since each performer in an ensemble is unique and important to the performance, attendance of the dress rehearsal and concert are mandatory. Missing a performance will result in an F grade in that concert. Students are required to stay for the entire dress rehearsal and performance. Late arrival or leaving early will result in the student not earning full points. **Only under rare and special circumstances with approval** can a performance or a dress rehearsal be missed. Approval should be requested as early as possible and must be **more than two weeks** before the performance date, except in cases of emergency. Approval is up to the conductor of the concert.

I will be trying to set up some gigs for our jazz bands and perhaps some combos during the school year. We will play in the commons area, at assemblies, and at some local stores.

- **Assignments 20%:** Students will have a variety of assignments throughout each quarter. We will have listening and theory assignments to improve skills in those areas.

Listening to music is important to understanding music. Students will listen to music both in and out of class. Radio and most digital television providers have music channels. Students must listen to classical or jazz music to count for listening assignments. Some listening assignments will be posted on Charms.

- **Playing Tests 15%:** On a regular basis every student will have a playing test on their instrument. Each test will be worth 20 points. These playing tests will assess student's progress and count toward the final grade.

Practice is vital to understanding music and being able to play it. It is recommended that all students practice at least 30 minutes per day (5 days a week). Although practice time

will not count towards any grades, lack of practice will be apparent in regular playing tests that count towards the grade.

- **Extra Credit:** Extra Credit is available to all students who take private music lessons. Other extra credit may be given for different musical activities on a case by case basis.
- **Late Work:** Late work will not receive full credit. The student will lose 10% of the value of the paper for each class period that the assignment is late until it is worth half credit after two weeks.
- **Remediation:** Remediation will be available for students who may need it. Remediation should be student initiated and include a conference with the parent or guardian, the signing of a contract and prompt make-up work. Every student should be able learn the material and subsequently pass the class. If a student needs accommodations for any reason, please contact Mr. Reynolds to discuss those accommodations.

Concert Attire

Concert attire will be Business like in nature. Men will wear sport coats, ties and dress pants and shoes. Ladies will wear business suits, or a nice dress. Students may also be asked to wear their uniform shirts as needed.

Rules

There are three main rules in my classroom:

1. Be prepared and present. This means no cell phones, no doing homework for other classes, and participating fully in the class.
2. Treat each other with respect. The band room should be a safe place for students to try new techniques and skills without fear of ridicule.
3. **Treat the equipment and facilities with respect.** This means leaving gum, food, and drinks (except water) outside the band room. Percussion instruments are to be played **ONLY** by those who are assigned to play them.

Please print and complete the Acceptance of Policies form below and return it to Mr. Reynolds on or before Tuesday Aug 25th.

Jazz Band Acceptance of Policies

Student's Name: _____ Student ID Number: _____

Primary Guardian: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

City: _____ E-Mail: _____

Preferred Contact Method: E-Mail Phone

I have read the complete Disclosure Document and I agree to abide by the policies and procedures detailed in it.

Student's Signature

Date

I have read the complete Disclosure Document and I will support my child's efforts to participate in the Instrumental Music program.

Parent's Signature

Date