

Horton High School Music Department
Course Outline - Explore Music 9
Ms. Lyndsey Mitchell - lmitchell@gnspe.ca

Welcome to Explore Music 9! This course is designed to give learners the opportunity to explore music in a variety of ways, including small group and solo music-making, composition, music theory, research, and other music-related projects. No prior experience is required - just curiosity and a willingness to try new things. However, it is important to note that this course is not a music appreciation course. Learners will be expected to explore, create, and play/sing within a number of musical styles.

While public performance is optional, students may choose to participate in concerts or other school events to showcase their work. Weekly updates will be sent out (usually Sundays) to keep families informed about activities, events, and department news.

Important Dates & Events

Horton Music Parents' Association Meeting - Tuesday, September 9th
Music Registration & Meet the Teacher Night - Thursday, September 11th
Horton Harvest Craft Fair - Saturday, October 18th
Concert #1 - Thursday, November 27th
Concert #2 - Thursday, April 16th
Concert #3 - Thursday, June 11th

Assessment Plan

As part of the Explore Music 9 curriculum, learners will cover outcomes from three strands:

- Creating, Making, and Presenting
- Understanding and Connecting Contexts of Time, Place, and Community
- Perceiving and Responding

Learners will demonstrate growth across four categories, connected to curriculum outcomes:

- Knowing (20%) → music literacy and theory
- Doing (30%) → creating and playing/singing in small or solo settings
- Connecting (30%) → composition, projects, and response to music studied
- Collaborating (20%) → working effectively with peers in group activities

Assessment includes conversations, observations, and projects with rubrics. Percentages may shift slightly as the course progresses.

Required Resources

- Provided sheet music/resources (student responsibility to track)
- Journal/Portfolio (analog or digital archive of learning)
- Pencil

Communication Plan

- Weekly Notices → emailed updates
- Google Classroom → assignments and resources
- Student Portal (PowerSchool) → marks and progress
- [Music Website](#), [Google Calendar](#), [Printable Calendar](#) → events and rehearsal schedules
- Email - best way to reach Ms. Mitchell (lmitchell@gnspe.ca)

Students are expected to check multiple sources (weekly notice, calendars, peers) before asking the teacher.

Music Department Involvement

- Join the Music Executive (Wednesdays, lunch) - leadership and event planning
- Participate in ensembles (Concert Band, Jazz Band, Vocal Ensemble)

Horton Music Parents' Association (HMPA)

Parents are encouraged to join the HMPA or help with events such as the Craft Fair. Info and FAQ are available on the Horton Music website.

Looking forward to a fantastic year of music-making together!