

## **Band 7-8 Honors**

UC/CSU "f" approved/Not NCAA approved

Grade Level: 12

Estimated Work Outside of Class: 5-6 hrs per week (instrumental practice)

### **Course Description:**

This ensemble course offers a performance-based learning experience through musical practice on orchestral string instruments. Band 7-8 Honors is for students who have developed very advanced proficiency on their instrument. Students will continue to have access to tools and strategies across a variety of ability levels within the ensemble setting. The curriculum will include both traditional and contemporary repertoire and will cover instrumental performance technique, historical context, as well as components of musical theory. Students are expected to practice their instruments outside of class time in order to be prepared for rehearsal. Supplemental instruction and student leadership opportunities are available and encouraged.

Instrumentation is limited to traditional orchestral string instruments: violin, viola, cello and double bass. Students interested in different instruments should inquire about other ensemble courses, such as band. Students are responsible for providing their own instrument, but may elect to work through the school's recommended music vendor for convenience.

All Band students participate as members of the *Marching Dons*. Seasonal performances, outside of the school day, with the Marching Band are included as part of the grade expectations.

### **Prerequisite:**

Completion of Band 5-6 Honors, Orchestra 5-6 Honors, Choral Music 5-6 Honors

### **Recommended Prerequisite Skills:**

Students enrolled in Orchestra 7-8 Honors should have three years experience in a high school ensemble or should be able to demonstrate advanced proficiency on their instrument, as well as with musical literacy. This includes being able to perform at least 8 major scales, memorized, at a brisk tempo. Students should be able to comfortably sight-read Grade 3 literature and perform Grade 4 literature when preparation time is provided. Experience with chamber music and/or jazz repertoire is not required with this course, but is encouraged.

### **Course Grade Categories:**

- Practice and Rehearsals: 40%
- Written Assignments: 20%
- Assessments / Performances: 40%

### **Major Assessments/Units/Topics:**

This is a performance-based course.

- Scales, techniques and sections of music can and will be regularly assessed, via video or live performance.
- Students also demonstrate their knowledge and connection to the subject through music literacy (note reading/writing), as well as written expression (essay/journals).

- Additional grades are determined by rehearsal participation, effort and etiquette as well as ensemble performances at school events/concerts.
- Students may also show progress on their instrument through solo playing
- Students will participate in seasonal ensemble performances (marching shows, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert).
- Students in advanced ensembles may have extra opportunities to participate in additional community performances.
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