

**DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**SUBJECT:** Orchestra

**GRADE:** 8

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The middle school orchestra is comprised of students in grades six through eight. Each student will have orchestra class every other day and are provided a lesson twice a month. The whole orchestra meets on Monday after school from 3:30 – 4:30 pm. This time provides the opportunity for the whole orchestra to rehearse together. The concepts that will be learned are music theory, instrumental technique skills, ensemble skills, and independent musicianship. These skills are developed through home practice and study, rehearsal, and music chosen from the standard string ensemble repertoire.

**ANTICIPATED STUDENT OUTCOMES**

*By the end of this year, students in this class will be able to:*

- build on previous learned skills to develop new instrumental skills.
- perform music for both Winter and Spring Concerts.
- Students will have a strong knowledge base of basic Music Theory (i.e. key signature, time signatures)
- Students will have an understanding music history that correlates to the music being learned.

**MATERIALS**

Dedicated Music Folder, Instrument, Music, Pencil

**CRITERIA for ASSESSMENT**

**Lessons:** Students are excused from their regular classes on a rotating basis to take an individual or small group lesson.. Lessons are on a rotating basis so that the minimum of time is missed in each class. Students taking private lessons are exempt from weekly lessons during the school day. In each meeting of a lesson group, students are expected to have improved in ability from the previous session. **For extra help or Make-up lessons, I am available for T-periods Tuesdays 3:30-4:00 or by appointment.**

**Organization/Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every lesson and rehearsal on time and prepared. If a student is unable to attend, the student should inform the teacher as soon as possible. A make-up lesson will be scheduled if possible.

**Practice:** Students are required to practice a minimum 30 minutes three times a week. Each student has been provided with a monthly practice sheet that should be filled out each week and be signed by parent /guardian. This will be collected each month. The degree of success a student achieves rises in direct proportion to the amount of time they spend practicing.

**Concert:** All students are required to attend all concerts. Any student who cannot make a concert should notify their music teacher in writing two weeks prior to the performance. Any unexcused absence from a performance will greatly reduce a student's grade.

*Outline developed by:*

*MUSIC DEPARTMENT*

*Date: Spring 2018*