

DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT: Orchestra

GRADE: 6-8

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 lessons will be provided on an as needed basis. 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. As an MYP Arts class, all students in Orchestra will create and maintain a process journal, demonstrating their growth and achievement as musicians. 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 previously learned skills to develop new instrumental skills.
- Perform music for both Winter-Spring Concerts and District Orchestra Concert.
- Students will have a strong knowledge base of beginning Music Theory (i.e. key signatures, time signatures, rhythm)
- Students will have an understanding of music history that correlates to the repertoire being learned.

MATERIALS

Dedicated Music Folder, Instrument, Music, Pencil

CRITERIA for ASSESSMENT

Lessons: Lesson will be provided on A & C Days 1st- 3rd period. Students are excused from their regular class and will be responsible for missed work. The lesson period is to provide extra help on music, skills or preparation for audition/performance. **I am available for T-periods Tuesdays 3:30-4:00 or by appointment.**

Organization/Attendance: Students are expected to attend every class and rehearsal on time and prepared. If a student is unable to attend, the student should inform the teacher as soon as possible.

Practice: Students are required to practice a minimum of 30 minutes three times a week. Each student will be provided with a monthly practice sheet in Google Classroom that should be filled out each week. This will be collected every 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.

Grading Procedure: Grades are based upon a number of accumulated points. Sources for accumulating points are:

- a. Prepared: 15%
- b. Participation: 40%
- c. Practice: 25%
- d. Projects: 20%

Outline developed by:

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Date: Winter 2025