



Course Description: This performing string ensemble class is open to all string students. Brass, woodwind, and percussion players may be added pending the repertoire needs. This orchestra studies and performs traditional and contemporary string and orchestral literature from various historical music periods and genres. It is also the course's goal to create an atmosphere of thoughtful reflection and critical thinking and to foster a community in which students respect the music, the ensemble, and each other. Performances outside of the school day are usually part of class expectations.

Class Materials

- Selected ensemble literature
- Instrument (contact the teacher if you need to rent an instrument)
- Pencil (Every Day! I Will Give you one!)
- Other materials provided by the teacher
- Textbook: Sound Innovations for String Orchestra: Sound Development (Advanced)

Course Objectives

- Students will be able to generate a beautiful and characteristic tone on their respective instruments.
- Students will be able to identify and perform traditional bowing symbols and advanced bowing techniques found in newer orchestral music.
- Students will be able to demonstrate literacy through the performance of a varied repertoire of instrumental music and sight-reading material.
- Students will be able to reflect on their own personal musical growth by analyzing and discussing performances using specific musical categories and terminology.

Grading Policy

- Summative Grades: Performances and exams (80%)
- Formative Grades: Weekly music theory assessments, Flipgrid assignments, Terms 2-4 morning rehearsals.
- Students will lose 1 point from their Flipgrid assignment each day it is late. After one week has passed, students will receive a "0" for the assignment.
- Weekly Music theory assessments (given on Fridays) may be retaken for a better grade after reviewing with the teacher. Re-takes must be completed by the Thursday following the original test date.

Grading Scale

- A, 100-90
- B+, 89-85
- B, 84-80
- C+, 79-75
- C, 74-70
- D+, 69-65
- D, 64-60
- F, 59-0

Communication:

I will send out an email every few weeks titled "Orchestra Updates". These emails will be sent to students and parents and contain information about upcoming events/performances/rehearsals.

The best way for students and parents to contact me is via email. I will respond as quickly as possible. My email address is jfahrla@lps.org.

Google Classroom:

Students will receive the majority of communication through Google Classroom. All students enrolled in **Orchestra** as of August 15th have been invited to google classroom and must accept the invitation. I also strongly recommend that students turn on notifications for Google Classroom on their Chromebooks.

LSW Building Wide Cell Phone Policy:

Students will place **cell** phones in a designated area at the beginning of class each day. Teachers will have the professional judgment to determine if access to **cell** phones will be allowed and beneficial at any point during the instructional period and will communicate those expectations with students.

If a student is accessing a personal electronic device during the instructional period without express permission from the teacher, the following sequence of consequences will be applied. Compliance at any step along the way will prevent movement to the next step.

1. Teacher will ask the student to put their electronic device in the designated location.
2. Teacher will contact the office, and the device will be collected and held in the main office for the remainder of the day. If the student refuses to turn over the device, they will be removed from the classroom. Teachers will contact parents/guardians if this intervention is necessary.
3. If habitual non-compliance with the policy leads to frequent disruptions to learning, the teacher will write a referral, and the student's administrator will work with the student and family to determine a personalized plan to meet the expectation.

Concert Attire:

Men – **black** dress shirt, **black** dress pants, LONG **black** socks, **black** shoes (no other colors/branding visible), **black** tie optional

Women – **black** top with sleeves (covered shoulders), **black** pants, skirt, or dress. Skirts and dresses must be below the knee while seated with **black** hose/tights. Shoes must be closed-toe; no flip-flops or sandals.

*If students wish to wear gender-neutral clothing, they may wear an all-**black** outfit in which they feel most comfortable.

Orchestra Classroom Procedures:

- Students will enter the classroom and immediately grab their folders from their cubbies
- Students will place their electronic devices (Phones, Earbuds, Sony Walkman, etc.) in their assigned folder cubbies. Devices will remain in cubbies until the end of class.
- Students must be in their assigned seats with all materials unpacked and ready to tune three minutes after the start of the period.
- **Restroom Use** - Students should use the restroom before and after class during passing periods. If a student experiences an emergency, they will be issued a restroom pass. Only one student may leave class at a given time.
- **Food/Drink Policy** - Any food or beverage other than water is prohibited in all E-wing classrooms.

Morning Rehearsals:

- Rehearsals combining multiple orchestra classes will take place during 0-hour (7:15-8:00 am) on Wednesdays during terms 2-4.
- Attendance at these rehearsals is expected and worth 25 formative points per rehearsal.
- Class conflicts with other 0-hour classes will be worked out with the teacher individually.

Rehearsal Etiquette:

- It is expected that students have all supplies needed for class daily. (Instrument, music, pencil)
- Pencils are provided to students and should be used regularly during rehearsal.

- All students are expected to participate while rehearsing
- During pauses in rehearsal, students should raise their hand if they have questions.

Unplanned Topics

Unplanned topics may arise during a class that may be considered controversial (i.e., discussion of current events). As the teacher, I will proceed with addressing the topics, helping students analyze issues with open minds, investigate and consider various positions, weigh alternative viewpoints, organize and present arguments, and draw intelligent conclusions. Our goal for LPS students is to think critically and creatively, using higher-order thinking skills to make decisions, solve problems and create new perspectives and possibilities.

Music Curriculum Definitions

Music is an **academic class** offered during the school day and meets the LPS Fine Arts Graduation Requirement.

Curricular activities are those activities that are a part of the curriculum.

Co-curricular activities are those activities that are outside of but usually complement the regular curriculum.

Music ensemble classes have both curricular and co-curricular components.
