

Dulles High School Course Syllabus

Orchestra (I-IV)

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Purpose and Summary of Course Content:

There are five different orchestra levels to accommodate all levels of experience. In orchestra, instrumental technique, creative expression and musical interpretation are taught as each relates to performance. Music is varied to expose students to different contemporary, modern and classical literature. Students have the opportunities to perform in individual and group competition as well as travel. The orchestra is allowed one out of state trip per the student's four year tenure. Performance requirements vary depending on the orchestra assigned and placement in all orchestras is by audition.

Grading Procedures:

Learning objectives are based on performance skills, responsibility, and participation, and written work. Therefore, students are expected to fulfill individual as well as group responsibilities. Because orchestra is performance based and is a team activity, it is imperative that members participate in all rehearsals and performances.

Expected Outcomes:

The student will gain a higher level of proficiency with the instrument and will gain more confidence to tackle and succeed in future competitions through team and individual effort.

The learning triangle consists of the teacher, the student and the parent. **Below are suggestions for how the parent can help his or her student be successful in this course.**

- Encourage the student to take **private lessons** from a qualified professional for the particular instrument. Private lessons are offered after school. They aid in tremendous learning for the student in specific areas of the instrument and provide additional help for preparation of U.I.L. solos and T.M.E.A. All-State music. *Everyone in the Honors Orchestra should be taking private lessons.*
- **Monitor** the frequency of **student practice at home** and have the student demonstrate the music currently being performed in class.
- Note the upcoming events for contests and concerts and attend these events to aid in encouragement and help promote future success.
- Encourage the student to prepare and audition for the Texas Music Educators Association **All-State** music events. Students generate greater acceleration in musicianship and proficiency on their instrument through preparation of this music.
- Encourage the student to prepare and perform a solo or participate in an ensemble for the University Interscholastic League Solo and Ensemble Competition. Having a critique of the student's performance by a specialist on the instrument enhances the student's perspective in his musical development.

Tutorial Schedule: Tue-Thurs: 7:00-7:20 or after school

Conference Time: 12:45-1:35, M-F.