

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS

*General Music*  
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*113*

### *I. Course Overview:*

*Students will understand basic concepts of musical notation through hands-on application, including use of drums, pitched percussion, and the voice.*

### *II. Overall Course Objectives (from curriculum):*

*Students will create, perform, and respond to a variety of material from different time periods and cultures in order to further their understanding of musical notation and the musical heritages of cultures around the world..*

### *III. Material Required:*

*Folder, journal, and pencil required in class.*  
*CD or MP3 player suggested for home use.*

### *IV. Class/Behavior Expectations:*

Music is a participatory art. In order for students to understand and develop their skills, a high level of participation, effort, and focus is necessary on a daily basis. In addition, students must be prepared daily with necessary materials. Since active participation is such a crucial aspect of musical understanding, students will receive a “Rehearsal” grade that will reflect these expectations.

In the case of disruptive or unruly behavior, students will be given one warning. A second offense will result in a blue referral slip. Multiple referrals will impact students’ ability to participate in extracurricular trips and outings. Serious offenses will be referred directly to the administration.

V. *Attendance Policy – as stated in handbook:*

A maximum of twenty (20) absences (excused or unexcused) will be permitted without academic penalty. Students who exceed the maximum twenty (20) days may be considered for non-promotion. In an effort to inform parents/guardians of the importance of regular school attendance the school will:

1. Inform the parent/guardian in writing after ten (10) absences are recorded.
2. A meeting will be scheduled with the parent/guardian after fifteen (15) absences are recorded.
3. A letter will be sent to the parents/guardians after twenty (20) absences have been recorded indicating that the child may be considered for non-promotion.

VI. *Grading Policy (percentages, points, etc.):*

**Rehearsal: 5 points per week**

Earn full points by showing up on time with materials, working hard, remaining focused, and helping the group become better. If there is a reason for a student's low participation on any day (illness, etc.), it is the student's responsibility to communicate with me to consider these circumstances.

**Written Work: Points vary**

This will include homework, announced tests, in-class activities, and take-home projects.

**Performance Assessments: 20 points per assessment**

Students will perform concepts in a variety of ways, using instruments and the voice. Rhythmic and tonal accuracy, technique, and expressiveness will be evaluated according to the Performance Rubric.

**Extra Credit Opportunities**

Opportunities for extra credit will include: Eastern Region participation; Voicemail; Attendance at specified community concerts; Solo performances.

VII. *Academic Integrity Statement:*

The faculty and administration of Wheeler Middle/High School demand high standards of academic performance and academic honesty. Anything less would jeopardize quality education and allow our students to deny themselves needed skills and knowledge. For this reason students who cheat on their assigned work, reports, research papers, quizzes, tests or examination risk prompt and punitive action by both their teacher and the school. Examples of violations may include, but are not limited to:

- Giving or receiving aid on tests and graded assignments
- Unauthorized talking during tests
- Copying regular homework/exercises

- Unapproved discussion of examinations/assignments contents
- Cheating on peer reviews of student work
- Misuse of technology

Documentation of all sources is important to avoid plagiarism, which is the stealing of another's ideas, words, writing, or academic work, and implying that it is original. Both quoting and paraphrasing information from an outside source, including any technology without crediting that source is a form of plagiarism. Students who are found cheating or plagiarizing will be subject to the following guidelines:

First offense:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.
- Administration notified (by teachers completing a discipline form).

Subsequent offenses:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.
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Disciplinary action by administration which may include office detention or suspension

*VIII. Teacher Availability for Extra Help (Day and Time):*

I am available most days after school, but please **make an appointment ahead of time**. It is difficult for one student to compose while another student is playing guitar and a third student is playing piano! Making an appointment ensures I will have the space and time to help you.

*IX. Wheeler Academic Expectations met by this course:*

- Take responsibility for their learning and demonstrate independent learning
- Listen and read actively and critically: write and speak effectively: view media perceptively
- Demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique their own work and the work of their peers
- Develop knowledge of world cultures and examine America's role in the world community
- Participate in and be aware of a variety of art forms
- Use appropriate technology in preparation for life-long learning