CMS Music

Fall 2020

0nline (remote)

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General syllabus - all grades

The goal of music class at CMS is to understand and appreciate music. Music is an important part of all our lives. We will learn about many aspects, elements and contexts of music and hopefully learn how to apply that knowledge in useful ways.

General areas of study in music can include:

* Listening to music - understanding what is being heard.
* Learning about music in different historical times. How music intersects with history.
* Music in different cultures here and everywhere else.
* Music theory - elements of music including melody, harmony, rhythm.
* Music composition - how music is constructed including notation.
* Music literature - studying important musicians and their music. Genres.
* Music and science. Acoustics, sound reinforcement, sound waves, the nature of sound, biology, psychology, physiology.
* Music and other subjects including math, literature, art, drama, etc.
* The business of music.
* Music and well-being.
* Music performance, vocal and instrumental
* and more …

There will be an emphasis on performing music, whether it is singing, playing an instrument, or even just clapping hands. If a student can play an instrument and/or sing, they will be strongly encouraged to share their talents with the class. If they do not play an instrument or sing, they will have an opportunity to learn about music. Help will be available.

There will be modules and topics that students will study and learn that do not require singing or playing, so everyone can be involved in music class.

Music class meets once a week online on Zoom (zoom.us). It will be a recurring meeting and a link will be provided.

Weekly class meetings will be for introducing and clarifying assignments, and activities including learning songs and instrumental music pieces.

Assignments and Grading:

Grades will be based on several things including:

* Participation
* Attitude/behavior
* Demonstrated knowledge of subject matter (assignments and quizzes)
* There will be activities to do, and assignments to complete that will help me determine grades.
* Assignments will be presented one week at a time.
* Assignments can be activities such as listening to music or viewing a video and associated questions, and more.
* There can be quizzes on written materials that are presented.
* Quiz/survey questions can consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, long answer, matching, etc.
* Points will be assigned for quizzes and grading will be based on a percentage scale.

Please keep in mind that the listed items above are things that can *possibly* be presented - in reality each class level will have an appropriate amount of material presented in units (not too much!) Hopefully the number of items demonstrates the broad nature of the subject matter (Music) as well.

I am looking forward to a fun semester! Best wishes, Jonny Beckett