

Seycove Jazz Band 8 to 12 Course Outline
2015 / 2016

Instructor: Risa McDonell, Band Director
Phone: (604) 903-3666
E-mail: rmcdonell@sd44.ca
Website: seycoovemusic.weebly.com

Course Objectives

In this course, students will learn about *music*, and jazz band happens to be the medium we use. The goals of this course are as follows:

- to nurture students to become lifelong lovers of music;
- to empower students to become independent musicians, who can create music on their own;
- to become critical thinkers, who can objectively evaluate their own work and improve upon it;
- to understand their importance as members of a team who are greater than the sum of their parts.

Course Description

Jazz Band is a co-curricular course intended to further the learning you are doing in Concert Band. As such, students in this class must be enrolled in the corresponding Concert Band Course. Students in this ensemble will experience all of the same activities as outlined in the Concert Band course outline, but with the addition of the following activities, which are unique to the Jazz Band setting:

performing repertoire written for Jazz Band in various styles such as swing, rock, and the many varied Latin grooves	understanding the roles and relationships between the rhythm section and the various "horn" sections (saxes, trumpets, trombones)	discovering the significance of jazz and of the historical context from which it emerged	expanding knowledge of music theory and ear training specific to jazz harmonies	developing improvising skills
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------

Announcements

seycoovemusic.weebly.com

Visit our website frequently for more information about Seycove's choral and band programs and to keep up-to-date with announcements, dates and times, and other pertinent information. **Jazz Band students are also recommended to follow @seycovebands on Twitter for any early-morning announcements about sectionals.**

Course Outline Continued

Sectionals and Section Leaders

Some early morning rehearsals will be a sectional rehearsal, which your instructor will lead. From time to time you will be asked to organize a sectional on your own at lunch. There will be a section leader chosen for your section, who is responsible for leading sectionals and taking attendance. The band room is booked at the following times for sectionals and sign-up sheets will be posted each week to reserve the space:

Mondays at lunch	Tuesdays at lunch	Wednesdays at lunch	Thursdays at Lunch	Fridays at Lunch
woodwind sectionals	rhythm section sectionals	open time	brass sectionals	chamber groups & jazz combos

Uniform

Grade 8 to 12 boys wear: black dress pants, black socks, black dress shoes, black dress shirt with a collar and Seycove Blue Tie, which costs \$25 and is theirs to keep. (Grade 8 boys wear their t-shirt in Concert Band and a dress shirt and tie in Jazz Band).

Grade 8 to 12 girls wear: black socks or tights and black dress shoes; and black dress pants or a black skirt, black blouse or sweater with sleeves or a black skirt. Skirts and dresses should be at least knee-length. Tops should not be strappy or strapless, but have sleeves (short sleeves are ok).

Attendance and Rehearsal Expectations

Missing class, arriving late or departing early always has a negative effect on the ensemble. **These disruptions particularly impact Jazz Band because we have much less time together in x-block classes than in-timetable ones, therefore you should take *extra care* not to miss these classes.** Please take a moment to review the attendance policies and rehearsal expectations again and plan accordingly by:

- letting part-time employers know that you are not available during the times you are in Jazz Band;
- bringing your official team schedule to the instructor and discussing which times, if any, you may miss Jazz Band;
- letting parents know when you will be in class and asking them not to schedule appointments or other things of a personal nature during Jazz Band (whenever possible);
- discussing any other concerns about attendance, such as arriving late from academies with your instructor right away.

Assessment

The *entire course* is split into three terms, with each contributing equally to the final mark:

Term I (33.33%)

Term II (33.33%)

Term III (33.33%)

Every term your mark is divided as follows:

Rehearsal Etiquette and Effort:

60%

Performances and Playing evaluations

40%