Seycove Concert Band 8 to 12 Course Outline

2019 / 2020

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**Course Objectives**

# **In this course, students will learn about *music*, and concert 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**

We will pursue the above goals through the following activities:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Practicing**  **Techniques**  required to play instruments; | **Performing**  **Diverse** **Repertoire in Concert**  exploring music across cultures and throughout history; | **Refining**  stylistic musical playing and interpretation; | **Advancing**  **an Understanding of the Elements of Music**  *(pitch, rhythm, melody, harmony*, and *timbre*); | **Reading**  music notation and developing other music theory skills; |
| **Developing**  **Listening** **and** **Critical Thinking** **Skills**  in regards to performance and rehearsal; | **Expanding**  **Rehearsal** **Skills** (*concentration, following direction, listening, critical thinking, preparing through practicing, punctuality, and initiative*); | **Realizing**  the significance and function of their individual roles and responsibilities within the ensemble; | **Discovering**  **Skills in Applying Production Elements** (*setting up, taking down, demonstrating stage presence, using lighting and sound equipment*); | **Examining**  the various roles and purposes of music in society, exploring career opportunities related to music, and developing skills for pursuing those options. |

###### Announcements

**seycovemusic.ca**

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.

**Course Outline Continued**

**Sectionals and Section Leaders**

There will be a section leader chosen for your section, who is responsible for leading the sectional and taking attendance.

###### Uniform

###### Grade 8’s wear: black dress pants or long black skirt, black socks or tights, black dress shoes and Seycove Grade 8 T-Shirt, which costs $15 and is theirs to keep.

**Grade 9 to Grade 12’s wear:** All black dress uniform (black shoes, black pants and black shirt or a black skirt/dress) and blue tie if you’re wearing a dress shirt (the tie is $25 and theirs to keep)

An order form is attached for the uniform.

**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%)

***Each term* your mark is divided as follows:**

**Term I**

Rehearsal Etiquette and Effort: 50%

Performances and Playing evaluations 50%

###### Term II

Rehearsal Etiquette and Effort: 50%

Performances and Playing evaluations 50%

###### Term III

Rehearsal Etiquette and Effort: 50%

Performances and Playing evaluations 50%

**Seycove Music Program Attendance Policies**

**ATTENDANCE IN CLASS, AND AT CONCERTS, IS MANDATORY.** Although your class may take place outside of school hours, it is no less important than in-timetable classes**.** Everyone depends on each other’s full participation at every rehearsal and every performance in order to succeed. A high number of absences, late arrivals and early departures brings down the morale of the whole group and holds everyone back from achieving excellence. **It is your responsibility to ensure that you are available for *all* of the major performances for your ensemble, which are treated like exams. Significant marks will be deducted for any unexcused absences or lateness from classes, dress rehearsals, sectionals, sound checks or performances, which may result in a failing grade for the term**.

If you are *severely* ill (i.e. much worse than the common cold) or have another legitimate reason for missing a performance, parents are asked to reach the school immediately, so that arrangements can be made to hire a professional musician in your place, if necessary. You may see many students in the class, but there is often only *one* person who can fulfill your role, and that’s *you*!

**Regarding missing classes (not concerts), if you have…**

1. **a regularly occurring conflict between this course and another activity, such as an outside-of-school team,** speak with your instructor about it in September. If you are not available for most of the classes, it’s just not fair to others and you may not be allowed to take this course.
2. **a medical appointment, illness or emergency,** your absence will be excused. Because any absence impacts the rehearsal plan, please let your instructor know as soon as you know about an upcoming absence. Please make sure your parents call the office to excuse your absence. Please make your best effort not to schedule these appointments during our class time.
3. **a field trip,** your absence will be excused. Because any absence impacts the rehearsal plan, please let your instructor know as soon as you know about an upcoming absence. The office will mark you absent.
4. **a *game* for a Seycove team**, your absence will be excused. Because any absence impacts the rehearsal plan, please bring your instructor an official team schedule at the start of the season and you and your instructor will plan which, if any, classes/rehearsals you may miss. The office will mark you absent.
5. **a *practice* or team meeting, these do NOT take precedence over class time and you should not miss class for them, generally.** If you absolutely must attend an important practice that conflicts with band, bring your instructor your official team schedule at the start of the season and you and your instructor will plan which, if any, classes/rehearsals you may miss.
6. **a project or a make-up test to do, volunteering or a club meeting.** These do not take precedence over our class time and you should not miss rehearsal for these things, generally. If you ask permission at least a day ahead of time, it might be possible depending on the rehearsal plan.
7. **a family event, such as a birthday, vacation, tickets to a game or concert or other events of a personal nature.** Your parents have the right to call the school to excuse you in these instances, however please be aware that all absences impact the group negatively and impede progress. All students have made personal sacrifices in order to attend and have a great experience, including planning their personal time to happen later. Whenever possible, book personal events outside of class time. Your parents must call the office to excuse you in these instances.
8. **a part time job. You should never miss any class, even x-block classes, for a part-time job.** Employers cannot insist that you miss school, whether in x-block or in-timetable. Give employers your school schedule early to avoid conflicts later**.** If it happens, I wouldn’t want you to lose your job, but let’s talk about how we can ensure it never happens again.

**A preliminary list of performances and events is posted to**

**seycovemusic.ca**

###### Seycove Bands Rehearsal Expectations

**Attendance**

Attendance will be taken at the start of every class (for Senior Concert Band, this is 5:15pm, not 5:30pm). See the Seycove Music Program Attendance Policies for expectations regarding attendance.

**Preparation**

Your homework is to practice for a minimum of one hour, outside of class, each week, so that you will arrive at rehearsal prepared to move the ensemble forward in learning the music. Ideally, you should spend some time every day playing your instrument.

**Instrument**

You will provide your own instrument. Information is attached about how to rent one**.** It must be in good condition**.** A broken or dirty instrument will cause further damage, frustration and bad habits and disrupt the rehearsal. If you suspect that you have a problem with your instrument, please get it fixed right away. Have your supplies such as valve oil, slide grease, cork grease, reeds, cleaning cloths and rods, etc next to you in rehearsal.

**Music and Band Folder**

Look after your music, even if it is *just* a photocopy. If you lose your sheet music, you will not be prepared for class, making others wait for you to get a new copy. If you lose books and/or sheet music, you may be charged for it at the end of the year. An order form is enclosed for a personalized band folder.

**Pencil and Eraser**

A pencil is a necessity in this class. Have it ready and make markings as soon as you think of them or get instructed to by the director. Marking your music the first time saves valuable rehearsal time for everyone.Mark down troublesome passages to look at later on your own or in rehearsal, so that you make best use of your practice time.

**Rehearsal Set-Up and Take Down**

At the beginning of every class, get your own chair and music stand. Percussionists must take out and set up all of the equipment you will need for the music. The rehearsal schedule will be posted on the board so that you can put your music in order and plan any equipment you need. At the end of class, please put music stands, chairs and all of the auxiliary instruments, sticks and mallets, mutes and instrument stands away.

**Warm-Up and Tuning**

At the start of class, begin warming up on your instrument as soon as you are set up. This is an important part of getting ready to rehearse. The rehearsal begins with tuning to a concert Bb. Listen to the tuning note and match pitch. Do not talk, play excessively loudly or quietly or play any other notes. The senior concert band starts at 5:15, so that you have 15 minutes of warm-up time on your own before the rehearsal portion of class begins.

**Rehearsal Deportment**

During the rehearsal, always listen to everything that is going on. Everything the director says is relevant to the music and therefore to your part as well. Listening and engaging in the rehearsal process allows us all to achieve excellence. Distracted and distracting behaviors, such as talking, using a cell phone, playing out of turn, doing other homework, etc., are disrespectful to others and break the trust which is necessary to be musically expressive.

**Food and Drinks**

Food and drinks are never allowed in the band room during regular rehearsals. Please clean up all messes and garbage.

###### Seycove Bands Information about Instruments

**All band students are responsible for acquiring an instrument, whether you purchase your own, rent on from a local retailer or from the school.** Percussionists - must provide their own drum-sticks, timpani mallets, soft mallets, hard mallets, a practice pad and a gig bag labeled with his or her name. Guitarists must supply their own patch cord. **Please label your instrument case with your name and phone number with a luggage tag** (not a sticker or duct tape, which damage the case).

**String Basses (shared by all bass players at school) $50 per year**

Bassists are expected to make the transition to upright acoustic bass by the end of Grade 10, and most borrow the school’s upright basses. The rental fee just covers the cost to maintain these instruments through normal use (strings and bow hair replacement, repairs to scratches and cracks, and loose knobs and wiring on amps).

**Woodwind and Brass Instruments Belonging to Seycove $150 per year**

The rental fee just covers the cost to sterilize, repair and maintain these instruments each year through normal use. Instruments are limited and priority is given to senior students.

**Percussion and Keyboard Instruments Belonging to Seycove No charge**

Keyboardists and percussionists are welcome to use the school instruments at no charge, however percussionists must supply their own sticks, mallets and practice pad. You may purchase your own percussion kit through Seycove (see below).

**Percussion Starter Kit $125**

Includes: gig bag, drum sticks, timpani mallets, hard mallets, and soft mallets. Does not include a practice pad, which you must supply on your own. An order form is attached for percussion kits.

**Repairs and Maintenance**

If a Seycove instrument needs repair or adjustment through normal use, please bring it in immediately to be fixed. **If any Seycove instrument is damaged due to misuse or carelessness, parents will be expected to get it repaired at their own expense (in addition to the rental fee).**

**Storage**

There is an instrument storage room available for students to use throughout the year. It is locked overnight and you may leave your instrument there overnight. **North Vancouver School District #44 will not be held responsible if an instrument goes missing from school grounds, so please check your home insurance policy and make sure the instrument is covered by it.** **Please don’t leave your instrument in the hallway – anyone could take it!**

**Seycove Bands Start-of-Year Order Form**

**Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Item*** | ***Quantity*** | ***Price*** | ***Subtotal*** |
| ***Supplies*** |  |  |  |
| ***Course Fee***  *You will receive an invoice in September for all of the course fees. The Main Office collects course fees, please DO NOT include them in this order. Thank you.* | *n/a* | ***$40*** | *n/a* |
| **Personalized Band Folder** (yours to keep) |  | **$20** |  |
| **Bass Rental Fee** (yearly) |  | **$20** |  |
| **Woodwind or Brass Instrument Rental Fee** (yearly) |  | **$150** |  |
| **Percussion Starter Set** (yours to keep) |  | **$125** |  |
| ***Uniforms*** |  |  |  |
| **Grade 8 T-Shirt** (yours to keep) |  | **$15** |  |
| **Grade 9 to 12 Blue Tie** (yours to keep) |  | **$25** |  |
| **TOTAL:** | **$** | | |

**Please check off any of the items your child needs and return this sheet to Mr Barnes. All items can be paid for on School Cash Online. You can also pay by cheque if you would like but please include your child’s name in the memo line of the cheque.**

There are programs available for any family whose financial circumstances make these fees unaffordable. Please speak with me in confidence or send me an e-mail chrisbarnes@sd44.ca

Please note that band folders, t-shirts, ties and dresses each take a minimum of two weeks to arrive. Thank you for your patience.