

**Windham High School Orchestra**

**~ Handbook ~**

**2015-2016**

## Instructor Information

**Instructor:** Hanna Flewelling  
**Email:** [hflewelling@grsu14.org](mailto:hflewelling@grsu14.org)  
**Location/Time:** Rm 308 during Per 8  
**Late Nights:** By Appointment only

## Philosophy/Course Objectives

Music revolves around the ability to influence and express emotions through sound. Musicians must fill many roles in order to meet this demand: listener, interpreter, performer, and creator. Furthermore, these same musicians spend many years, sometimes a lifetime, honing their craft and striving to reach new levels of excellence.

The overall goal of this class is to assist students in developing the knowledge and skills to appreciate and/or pursue music far beyond their high school years. In order to achieve this goal the following areas will be emphasized in class:

- Development of higher technical ability through varied repertoire and exercises
- Exploration of musical interpretation and emotive qualities
- Expansion of students' understanding of musical terminology, theory, and history
- Analysis of student and professional recordings for musical concepts, interpretation, and reflection.
- Discussion and development of good practice and rehearsal techniques
- Student application of musical concepts through performance and composition

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## Class Overview

### Class Expectations

Students are expected to be on-time to class with all materials.

Preparation of music prior to classroom rehearsal time is expected. Rehearsal time is for ensemble work and instruction, not individual practice. At a minimum, students should be spending 45 - 60 minutes a week working on music outside of class time.

Students are expected to check their school email and class website regularly. All communication will be done in class, via email, or through the class website.

Students will be provided with a theory textbook, notebook of staff paper, and sheet music. These must be well maintained, and the sheet music should be written on *only* in pencil. All music and books will be collected at the end of the year. Students will be expected to replace any missing or damaged music

Finally, students are expected to maintain a well-organized folder and binder with their music, class notes, worksheets, and compositions.

## **Class Rules**

- 1) Do your best.
- 2) ***Treat everyone and everything with respect.*** First offenses will result in a verbal warning. Further offenses will result in removal from class, detention, call home, and/or meeting with the parents.
- 3) Cell phones, iPods/iPads, and other electronic devices (other than netbooks) are not to be used in the classroom without express instruction to do so. Inappropriately used devices will be confiscated.
- 4) No gum, hats, or food during rehearsal time. Water is allowed during rehearsal.
- 5) Instrument/Folder Storage - Music and instruments must be taken home during long weekends and over vacation. Students are responsible for replacing lost or damaged music.

## **Attendance Policy**

In accordance with school policy, any student who misses 15 classes, either excused or unexcused, per academic year will not receive credit for the course. Absent students are responsible for work missed during an absence. Unexcused absences will result in a zero for the work missed.

Tardiness is considered arriving any time after the class bell has rung. Tardy students must provide a pass from the front office upon arrival. Students without a pass will be sent to the office.

## **Materials**

- Instrument/bow/case
- Instrument Supplies: Rosin, shoulder rest, endpin stop or anchor, handkerchief or cleaning cloth, spare strings
- For Class: music folder, technique book, Theory Textbook, pencil, laptop, and class binder.
- Class Binder: 1" Binder with 5 tabs: Technique Materials, Practice Log, Music Theory, Music History, and Compositions.

## **Grading Policy**

- All assignments are expected to be submitted completely and on time.
  - Assignments submitted on time may be retaken up until the end of the quarter.
  - Late assignments will lose 10% per day for the first week after the due date, and will be only worth up to half-credit after that week.
  - Incomplete assignments will count as half-credit until completed.
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## Event Schedule 2015 - 2016

### Concerts

Concert attendance is mandatory and will only be excused for family emergency or serious illness. Any conflicts must be reported as soon as possible. Concerts are held at the Windham High School Performing Arts Center.

Concert attire is as follows. Clothing should look professional and follow dress code.

**Men:** black dress pants, white collared shirt with dark tie, and black dress shoes

**Women:** black dress pants, dress, or skirt, white blouse, and black dress shoes

Thurs October 8 - District II Honors Orchestra Audition Enrollment Deadline

Thurs October 22 - District II Auditions at Edward Little High School in Auburn  
(Snow Date is Thurs October 29th)

Sat November 21 - All State Auditions

***Tue December 8 - Winter Concert at 7pm. Student arrival at 6:30.***

Fri-Sat January 22-23 - District II Instrumental Festival. Snow Date is Wed January 27.

***Tues March 8, 15, or 22 - Specific date TBD All-Strings Concert at 7pm.***

***Fri April 8 - Possible Boston Symphony Orchestra Field Trip***

***Tue May 17 - Spring Concert at 7pm. Student arrival at 6:30***

Thurs-Sat May 19-21 - Maine All-State Festival

Sun June 12 - WHS Graduation

### In Class Schedule

**Mondays** - Rehearsal

**Tuesdays** - Rehearsal

**EVEN Wednesdays** - 12:35 - 1:15 - Sectionals  
1:15 - 1:55 - TBD time

**Thursdays** - Theory

## Class Assessments

### Performance

**Practice Logs** - A record of practice time will be submitted each quarter.

**Recordings** - There will be 2-3 recordings per quarter. These include short excerpts from ensemble repertoire or technique work.

**Playing Tests** - Multiple excerpts from ensemble repertoire or technique work. These will be completed in person once per quarter.

**Concerts** - The orchestra performs three public concerts over the course of the year.

**Exams** - Two performance exams will be given over the year, once during Midterms and the other during Finals.

### Written Work

**Worksheets/Reflections** - Short weekly assignments covering the material in class.

**Quick Quizzes** - A short quiz will be given at the beginning of each theory or history class covering the material from the previous class.

**Test** - A test will be given at the end of each theory and history unit.

### Composition

**Programmatic Music Project** - Students will spend the first semester composing a short piece utilizing Garageband.

**Chamber Composers Project** - Students will spend the second semester arranging a folk song for strings. These pieces will be rehearsed and presented in small groups at the end of the school year.

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**Please detach and return to Ms. Flewelling by Friday September 18th**

**We have read through the Windham High School Orchestra Handbook. We understand and agree to the expectations and policies outlined.**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Information - I can be best reached by \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ phone.