

Springtown High School

Jazz Band Syllabus:

Course Description:

Jazz Band will focus on the musical, historical, cultural, and philosophical influence of jazz music on the world. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a jazz ensemble and be able to appreciate and understand jazz music.

Students must provide:

- a positive and willing attitude
- a spirit of adventure (improv will happen!!)
- their instrument (with exceptions upon director approval)
- supplies needed to play the instrument (such as valve oil, reeds, cables, amps)
- a pencil for marking music

Director will provide:

- a commitment to provide a quality jazz education
- music
- performance opportunities (I will give you a calendar during the beginning of each semester, but it is a "living document" that will probably gain new performances as the year progresses)
- encouragement and expectations (I expect students to work hard and to achieve musical excellence)

Students will be Assessed on:

- performances (concerts and festivals must be attended and participation is mandatory)
- playing tests
- daily participation (including materials student and director provided)
- writing assignments (listening journals and transcriptions)
- periodic "sight-reading" assignments
- periodic melodic interpretations
- periodic improvisation assignments

Each member of the Ensemble is Expected to:

- practice their music until it is executed to their best ability
- take the study of jazz music seriously
- give respect to their peers and directors
- participation in the Jazz Festival(s) we attend
- find ways to incorporate jazz music into their musical vocabulary:
 - listen to jazz music
 - try to mimic or playback what you hear

Performance Dates:

- Region Jazz Auditions 9/20
- Area Jazz Recording (if qualified) 9/27
- Fall Jazz Concert 10/20
- ATSSB Region Jazz Clinic & Concert (if qualified) 11/14-11/15
- Christmas Jazz Concert 12/1
- Winter Wonderland Program (select ensemble) 12/12
- I Love You Concert (final name to be determined) 2/14
- Jazz Festival March (to be determined)
- April Poetry Slam (to be determined)
- NHS Inductions (select group) 5/9
- Spring Concert 5/12

Philosophy:

I strongly believe in the study of jazz music. I think it is a vital part of a contemporary music education. I am committed to giving you the best jazz education I can. I believe that jazz music is every American's birth-right and that it is deeply intertwined in what it is to be an American.

My conference time is from: 2:57-3:45

My office phone is: (817) 220-BAND

My email is: scmcphetrige@springtownisd.net