



# Huron High School Music Department

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## Jazz Band – Course Syllabus

*Spring 2011*

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### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday from 12:20 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This ensemble will focus on playing with expression and technical accuracy in the jazz style. This ensemble will be setup in standard big band format requiring students playing saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass guitar, piano, and drums. A wide variety of styles will be utilized as students study the practices common across different genres of music. Students will learn how to gain information about the dynamics, style, and technical demands as they are pertinent to the jazz era. They will also learn how a musical phrase is constructed, as well as the technical vocabulary most often used by composers. Students will explore the wide variety of careers available in the field of music, as well as study contemporary popular music to discover how to produce the sounds that make this genre so recognizable. Activities for this ensemble will include performing at various concerts, festivals, and venues throughout the duration of the course. THIS IS A PERFORMANCE BASED CLASS AND WILL THEREFORE REQUIRE DEDICATION TO THE PREPARATION OF THE MUSIC ASSIGNED AS WELL AS COMMITMENT TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE ABOVE STATED MUSIC.

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

All required materials for this course can be found online at <http://www.huronbands.com/jazzband.html> or will be handed out in class.



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### EXTRA CURRICULAR ATTENDANCE

The Huron High School Jazz Band is a performance based ensemble. Much like any other group, preparing with the entire unit and then performing with one or more people in absence is detrimental to the success of the group. It is imperative that all members of the Huron High School Jazz Band make the commitment to the ensemble to be in attendance not only during school, but outside of school hours for rehearsals and performances as well.

### PREPARATION & PERFORMANCE

If at any point throughout the trimester a student is unprepared for an upcoming performance (as so deemed by the instructor) then that student may be required to sit out for the duration of the performance that they are unprepared for. Issues that would cause a student to be unprepared for a performance include but are not limited to:

- Lack of knowledge of the music assigned
- Incomplete or inappropriate uniform for the performance

### GRADING SCALE (numbers in percentages)

100.0 and above = A+

99.5-92.5 = A

92-89.5 = A-

89-86.5 = B+

86-82.5 = B

82-79.5 = B-

79-76.5 = C+

76-72.5 = C

72-69.5 = C-

69-66.5 = D+

66-62.5 = D

62-59.5 = D-

59 and below = E

### ASSIGNMENTS

- **Syllabus (25 points)**
  - At the beginning of the trimester each student will be asked to read over this syllabus with their parent/guardian and then will be required to have the last page completed in full for submission by the end of the first week of the trimester.
- **Music Part Testing**
  - Throughout the trimester each student will be tested multiple times to determine whether or not the music assigned is at an appropriate level of preparedness as so deemed by the instructor.



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### ASSIGNMENTS (cont.)

- **Preparation Points**
  - During the entire trimester, students will be expected to come to class prepared with all music, a pencil, a music folder, as well as the appropriate instrument and all components to make that instrument play properly.
- **Performances**
  - At different times throughout the course of the trimester, opportunities will arise for the Huron High School Jazz Band to perform. Attendance at these events is **MANDATORY AND WILL BE FOR A GRADE**. All mandatory events will be announced at least a week in advance. Any performance that is announced with less than a week's notice will be counted as extra credit.
- **Final Exam**
  - At the end of the trimester there will be a final exam. Any material covered over the course of the trimester may be used on this exam.
- **Alternate Final Exam**
  - Any student carrying an overall course grade of 100% or better will be given the option of taking an alternate final exam. More details regarding this alternate final exam will be given in class.
- **Extra Credit**
  - Extra credit will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor. All extra credit details will be given in class.

### ACADEMIC HONESTY

You are expected to do your own work in this course, and to submit only that work which you have completed. I take cheating, plagiarism, etc. extremely seriously and I have no tolerance for it. Academic misconduct on any segment of this course may result in a failing grade for the course and referral for additional disciplinary action. You are strongly advised to carefully review the Huron High School policies on academic misconduct. I will provide you with these resources upon your request.

### HELPFUL WEBSITES

<http://www.huronbands.com>  
<http://www.huronbands.com/jazzband.html>  
<http://www.itunes.com>  
<http://www.rhapsody.com>



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I have read and understand all terms to the above course syllabus.

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Student Name (Print Please)

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Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Name (Print Please)

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Parent/Guardian E-Mail Address (Print Please)

3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester  
3<sup>rd</sup> Period