

MPS Orchestra 2015-16 School Year
Instructor: Mr. Mike Miele
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Syllabus

Course Description:

This course is designed for any student in grades 9 through 12 who owns his/her own instrument and has some proficiency on it. The department does not have the resources to handle beginning instrumentalists and lessons. The students will be performing pieces from a wide variety of genres with the director arranging parts for as many individuals as possible.

Course Requirements and Expectations:

- ♪ A willingness to learn, produce, and participate is a must.
- ♪ Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals and performances.
- ♪ Each student is responsible for the assigned music. Improper deterioration or marking of said music will result in the purchase of the entire score by the student in order to replace the damaged art.
- ♪ Music is to be kept in the provided folder and each student must have their own pencil.
Unless otherwise indicated, bring ALL of your music to class each day.
- ♪ At home practice is a must if a student is expected to perform at a level of excellence.
- ♪ Additional evening rehearsals will be required of the students during the preparation time before the school musicals.

Dress Code:

The following attire will be required for all performance events occurring outside the school day.

- **Fall/Spring Musicals:** Like any pit orchestra, dress is all black (pants, shirts, skirts, etc).
- **Christmas and Spring Concerts:** Dress for girls is black pants or skirt, black shoes, and a white blouse. Dress for guys is black pants, black shoes, white dress shirt, and a tie.

Basis for Grading:

- ☞ The student's grade will be determined by knowledge and execution of the music according to individual talent and ability level.
- ☞ The students will be frequently assessed on their knowledge through individual execution of a given piece or section therein.
- ☞ The final assessment will be the effort and execution put forth by the students during the public performances throughout the school year including the school musicals, Christmas concert, and spring concert.
- ☞ **Failure to appear at one of these performances or the after school rehearsals associated with them may cause the reduction of a letter grade.**
- ☞ The students are also required to participate in the all-school liturgies when called upon.
- ☞ **Total and sincere participation is the key to success and fulfillment.**

Although the number of graded events varies from term to term, grading categories and their point totals follow.

Daily Rehearsal Technique = 10pts. each day

*Includes participation, attitude, and execution

- PARTICIPATION not only refers to having your instrument and being ready to play when it is time. It ALSO means – PRACTICING your music and playing it to the best of your ability!
- To a certain degree your ability to perform the music in class is related to whether or not you practiced outside of rehearsal.
- Furthermore, being a distraction to others during rehearsal inhibits participation.

Major Scale Proficiency – DON'T PANIC!!! = 60pts. each term (15 points per scale)

Musical Dress Rehearsals = 50pts. each rehearsal

Musical Performances = 100pts. each show

Concert Performances = 100pts. each concert

Attendance at pre-scheduled afterschool rehearsals & performances is NOT OPTIONAL.

Failure to attend one of these events will result in a zero for that graded event.

The burden of responsibility lies with the student.

If the student knows of a PLANNED absence, it MUST BE COMMUNICATED to Mr. Miele no later than TWO WEEKS prior to the rehearsal or performance date.

This notification must be expressed both verbally by the student and in the form of a note signed by a parent/guardian explaining the nature of the absence. Mr. Miele will have the right to make the final decision on whether the absence is deemed worthy of negating the consequence of the zero grade. This will be done on a case specific basis.

Grading Scale:

A = 93-100

B+ = 90-92

B = 85-89

C+ = 82-84

C = 75-81

D = 70-74

Mercyhurst Prep Orchestra

2015-2016 Performance Schedule

TERM 1

September

September 24th Spirit of Mercy Liturgy

October

October 12th Musical Run-Through 7:00-9:30 PM (orchestra only)

October 20th All School Liturgy

October 26th Musical Run-Through 7:00-9:30 PM (orchestra only)

November

November 9th Musical Run-Through 7:00-9:30 PM (orchestra only)

November 15th – 18th *Cinderella* Dress Rehearsals

November 19th – 22nd *Cinderella* Performances

November 24th Thanksgiving Liturgy

TERM 2

December

December 8th Immaculate Conception Liturgy

December 23rd Christmas Assembly

January

January 29th All School Liturgy

February

February 10th Ash Wednesday Liturgy

February 29th Musical Run-Through 7:00-9:30 PM (orchestra only)

TERM 3

March

March 21st Musical Run-Through 7:00-9:30 PM (orchestra only)

March 23rd Holy Week Liturgy

April

April 11th Musical Run-Through 7:00-9:30 PM (orchestra only)

April 12th All School Liturgy

April 17th – 20th Spring Musical Dress Rehearsals

April 21st – 24th Spring Musical Performances

May

May 5th Ascension Thursday Liturgy

May 15th Circle of Mercy Banquet (seniors only)

May 18th Spring Concert – 7:00 PM

May 26th Baccalaureate Mass – O.L.P. 7:00 PM (liturgical ensemble)

Bold = Event that happens outside of the school day!