



**ADVANCED ORCHESTRA  
GRADES 9-12  
ONE CREDIT PER YEAR**

*Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

These courses give students the opportunity to develop high standards of musicianship. Emphasis is placed on artistic performance commensurate with the standard of the finest professional groups. Students become acquainted with the great heritage of symphonic literature. After-school rehearsals and performances are required of all students.

**PREREQUISITE**

Audition and director's approval

**OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**

Continue to next ability level in the curriculum

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK**

None

**THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES THAT COMPRISE THE ADVANCED ORHCESTRA COURSES ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS FROM THE PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM:**

**TOPICS OF STUDY**

**ORCHESTRA**

**LEVEL F**

**FUNDAMENTALS**

- 6.1 Demonstrate appropriate knowledge of musical notation
  - E 6.1.1 Identify gradation of dynamics encountered in the literature of Level F (SOL – IAR.9)
  - E 6.1.2 Identify gradations of tempo encountered in the literature of Level F (SOL – IAR.4)
  - E 6.1.3 Identify all major and minor key signatures up to four sharps and four flats (SOL – IAR.6)
  - E 6.1.4 Identify notes and rest values encountered in the literature of Level F (SOL – IAR.4)
  - E 6.1.5 Identify signs and technical terms encountered in the literature of Level F
- 6.2 Demonstrate knowledge of major and melodic minor scale structure
  - E 6.2.1 Identify location of half and whole steps in major and melodic minor scales

**INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS**

- 6.3 Demonstrate an awareness of appropriate bowing techniques
  - E 6.3.1 Demonstrate bowing techniques appropriate to music encountered in the literature of Level F (SOL – II.5)
- 6.4 Demonstrate an awareness of left-hand techniques
  - E 6.4.1 Play in 2nd position (violin and viola) and 4th position (cello and bass) and appropriate shifting techniques
  - E 6.4.2 Demonstrate 2 octave finger patterns for all major and melodic minor scales up to four sharps and four flats
- 6.5 Refine previously learned tuning skills
  - E 6.5.1 Demonstrate an ability to aurally identify octaves and fifths

**PERFORMANCE AND REHEARSAL SKILLS**

- 6.6 Participate in ensemble experiences
  - E 6.6.1 Demonstrate musical phrasing technique appropriate to music encountered in the literature of Level F (SOL – IAD.10)

- E 6.6.2 Respond to appropriate conducting gestures (SOL – IAD.11)
  - E 6.6.3 Demonstrate a sensitivity to balance, blend, and intonation commensurate with the individual level of experience and ability
- 6.7 Demonstrate the ability to sight-read music at the F competency level
    - E 6.7.1 Sight-read, with the class, music equivalent to Grade II or III in VBODA manual (SOL – IAD.12)

**LITERATURE**

- 6.8 Demonstrate knowledge of musical literature appropriate to F competency level
  - E 6.8.1 Demonstrate the ability to play Grade IV or V literature as found in the VBODA manual (SOL – II.21, IAD.21)
  - E 6.8.2 Demonstrate an awareness of the stylistic characteristics of Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th Century music
  - E 6.8.3 Critique performances of Grade IV or V musical compositions (SOL – II.19, IAD.19)

**INVESTIGATE**

- 6.9 Identify minor instrument repair problems and with guidance repair those problems (SOL – II.17, IAD.17)

**LEVEL G**

**FUNDAMENTALS**

- 7.1 Demonstrate an appropriate knowledge of musical notation
  - E 7.1.1 Identify double sharps and double flats
  - E 7.1.2 Identify notes and rest values encountered in the music of Level G
  - E 7.1.3 Identify signs and technical terms encountered in the music of Level G
  - E 7.1.4 Identify the treble clef notes (viola players) and tenor clef notes (cello players)
  - E 7.1.5 Identify all major and minor key signatures up to five sharps and five flats (SOL – IAD.6)

**INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS**

- 7.2 Demonstrate an awareness of appropriate bowing techniques (SOL – IAD.5)
  - E 7.2.1 Demonstrate bowing technique appropriate to the literature

as encountered in the music of Level G

- 7.3 Demonstrate an awareness of left-hand technique
  - E 7.3.1 Demonstrate the ability to translate tenor clef (cello) and treble clef (viola) into musical sounds on the instrument
  - E 7.3.2 Demonstrate finger patterns for all major and minor scales up to five sharps and five flats (two octaves—one octave for bass) (SOL – II.6)
  - E 7.3.3 Demonstrate practical application of fingerings and positions encountered in the music of Level G

### PERFORMANCE AND REHEARSAL SKILLS

- 7.4 Participate in ensemble experiences
  - E 7.4.1 Demonstrate musical phrasing techniques commensurate with the literature encountered in Level G (SOL – IAD.10)
  - E 7.4.2 Demonstrate a sensitivity to balance, blend, and intonation commensurate with the individual level of experience and ability as found in the literature of Level G
  - E 7.4.3 Demonstrate the ability to recognize and respond to irregular and mixed meters (e.g. 5/4, 6/4, 7/8, 3/8, and 5/8) (SOL – IAR.4)
- 7.5 Demonstrate the ability to sight-read music at the G competency level
  - E 7.5.1 Sight-read, with the class, music equivalent to Grade III or IV in the VBODA manual (SOL – IAR.12)

### LITERATURE

- 7.6 Demonstrate knowledge of musical literature appropriate to G competency level
  - E 7.6.1 Demonstrate the ability to play Grade V and VI literature such as that found in VBODA manual
  - E 7.6.2 Demonstrate an awareness of stylistic characteristics and form found in Baroque, Classical, Romantic and 20th Century music
  - E 7.6.3 Critique performances of Grade V and VI musical compositions (SOL – IAR.19)

## LEVEL H

### FUNDAMENTALS

- 8.1 Demonstrate appropriate knowledge of musical notation
  - E 8.1.1 Identify note and rest values encountered in the music of Level H

- E 8.1.2 Identify signs and technical terms encountered in the music of Level H
- E 8.1.3 Identify all major and minor key signatures up to six sharps and six flats (SOL – IAD.6)

- 8.2 Demonstrate knowledge of harmonic minor scale structure
  - E 8.2.1 Identify the location of half and whole steps in the harmonic minor scale

### INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS

- 8.3 Demonstrate an awareness of appropriate bowing techniques
  - E 8.3.1 Demonstrate bowing techniques appropriate to the music found in Level H
- 8.4 Demonstrate an awareness of left-hand techniques (SOL – IAD.9)
  - E 8.4.1 Play in 5th position (violin)
  - E 8.4.2 Play artificial harmonics (violin, viola, cello)
  - E 8.4.3 Demonstrate finger patterns for all major and minor scales up to six sharps and six flats (two octaves for violin, viola, and cello—one octave for bass)

### PERFORMANCE AND REHEARSAL SKILLS

- 8.5 Participate in ensemble experiences
  - E 8.5.1 Demonstrate musical phrasing technique commensurate with the literature encountered in Level H
  - E 8.5.2 Demonstrate a sensitivity to balance, blend, and intonation commensurate with the individual level of experience and ability
- 8.6 Demonstrate the ability to sight-read music at the H competency level
  - E 8.6.1 Sight-read, with the class, music equivalent to Grade IV or V in the VBODA manual (SOL – IAD.12)

### LITERATURE

- 8.7 Demonstrate knowledge of music appropriate to H competency level
  - E 8.7.1 Demonstrate the ability to play Grade V and VI literature such as that found in the VBODA manual
  - E 8.7.2 Demonstrate an awareness of stylistic characteristics and form of Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th Century music such as those found in Grade V and VI literature
  - E 8.7.3 Critique performances of Grades V and VI musical compositions

## **INVESTIGATE**

- 8.8 Associate aural examples of music with a variety of culture, style, and historical performances (SOL – IAR.24)
- 8.9 Analyze a specific work and discuss how the music elements are used to create expression (SOL – IAR.25)
- 8.10 Harmonize a teacher specified melody using available technology

## **LEVEL I**

### **FUNDAMENTALS**

- 9.1 Demonstrate a superior understanding of musical notation
  - E 9.1.1 Identify diminished, augmented, and compound intervals
  - E 9.1.2 Identify note and rest values encountered in the music of Level I (SOL – IAD.18)
  - E 9.1.3 Identify signs and technical terms encountered in the music of Level I
  - E 9.1.4 Identify key signatures of all major and minor keys (SOL – IAD.6)
  - E 9.1.5 Compose or arrange music for a string ensemble

### **INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS**

- 9.2 Demonstrate an awareness of appropriate bowing techniques
  - E 9.2.1 Demonstrate bowing techniques appropriate to the literature as encountered in the music of Level I

- 9.3 Demonstrate an awareness of left-hand techniques
  - E 9.3.1 Demonstrate finger patterns for all major and minor scales (three octaves for violin, viola, and cello and two octaves for bass) (SOL – IAD.6, IAR.6)
  - E 9.3.2 Play in all upper positions (violin and viola) and thumb position (cello and bass) and appropriate shifting techniques (SOL – IAR.9)
  - E 9.3.3 Demonstrate varying speeds of vibrato, artificial harmonies, and a variety of timbres (SOL – IAR.9)
  - E 9.3.4 Improvise a melody to a 12 bar blues progression (SOL – IAR.15)

### **PERFORMANCE AND REHEARSAL SKILLS**

- 9.4 Demonstrate a superior level of ensemble rehearsal and performance skills
  - E 9.4.1 Assist director as needed with musical and administrative duties
  - E 9.4.2 Rehearse and conduct in performance a concert selection equivalent to a Grade IV or above in the VBODA manual
  - E 9.4.3 Rehearse and perform one's own composition or arrangement of a string ensemble (SOL – IAR.15, IAR.16, IAD.15, IAD.16)
  - E 9.4.4 Sight-read, with the class, music equivalent to Grade V or VI

### **LITERATURE**

- 9.5 Demonstrate a superior awareness of literature
  - E 9.5.1 Perform from memory a solo or concerto movement equivalent to Grade IV in the VBODA manual



# **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

A H E A D O F T H E C U R V E

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**The Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.**

## **DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**2512 George Mason Drive P.O. Box 6038**

**Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038**

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