



Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Intermediate Orchestra
(MU 9238)
One Credit Per Year
Grades 9-12

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

Intermediate Orchestra continues to develop and extend musicianship and music literacy. This course is an extension of the Beginning class. Instruction is continued in the basics of music performance. Emphasis is placed on developing the concepts of tone production, stylistic performance, and ensemble awareness. After-school rehearsals and performances are required of all students. Content in this course changes annually; therefore, this course may be repeated.

The standards for High School Instrumental Music, Intermediate Level enable students to continue to develop musicianship and music literacy. Students use more articulations and bowings, perform scales and music in a wider range of keys, and perform music at Solo Literature Grade Levels 2–4 of the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association (VBODA). Ensemble skills become more developed as students participate in intermediate-level ensemble settings. Through playing, improvising, and writing, students create melodic and rhythmic variations. Students compare and contrast career options in music. They describe musical concepts, respond to music, investigate music's relationship to other disciplines, and analyze various cultures, musical styles, composers, and historical periods. Students are provided with opportunities to participate in local, district, regional, and state events.

PREREQUISITE

Beginning Orchestra and/or director's approval

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

Advanced Orchestra

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

Muller-Rusch String Method, Book 3, 4 & 5

Essentials for Strings – A Systematic Approach to Technical Development

Excellence in Theory, Book 2 for *Nowlin & Pearson*

**VIRGINIA BEACH STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES
FOR INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA**

MUSIC THEORY/LITERACY

- HII.1 The student will echo, read, and notate music, including
1. Identifying, defining, and applying standard notation for pitch, rhythm, meter, articulation, dynamics, and other elements of music; and
 2. Singing similar and contrasting parts from the music being studied.
- HII.2 The student will echo, read, and perform rhythms and rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth notes, dotted eighth notes, quarter-note triplets, half-note triplets, and corresponding rests.
- HII.3 The student will identify, read, compare, contrast, and perform music in $\frac{3}{8}$, $\frac{5}{8}$, $\frac{5}{4}$, $\frac{6}{4}$, and $\frac{2}{2}$ (alla breve or cut time) meters.
- HII.4 The student will identify and notate key signatures of scales and literature being performed.
- HII.5 The student will read, perform, and notate scales, including
1. Wind/mallet student—ascending and descending concert C, F, B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, D-flat, G, D, A, and E major scales; G and D harmonic minor scales; a chromatic scale, in eighth notes with M.M. quarter note = 100; and
 2. String student—two-octave C, F, B-flat, E-Flat, G, D, and A major scales and G and A harmonic minor scales (double bass: one octave), in eighth notes with M.M. quarter note = 100.
- HII.6 The student will identify, compare, contrast, and perform music written in sonata, theme-and-variations, and compound binary forms.
- HII.7 The student will use music composition as a means of expression by
1. Composing an eight-measure rhythmic-melodic variation; and
 2. Notating the composition in standard notation, using contemporary technology.
- HII.8 The student will define and apply music terminology found in the music literature being studied.

PERFORMANCE

- HII.9 The student will demonstrate preparatory playing procedures, including
1. Care and basic maintenance of the instrument;
 2. Identifying and repairing minor problems of the instrument;
 3. Basic tuning of the instrument, with and without an electronic tuner;
 4. Describing and demonstrating proper posture, instrument position, and hand positions;
 5. Wind student—describing and demonstrating proper embouchure; and
 6. Percussion student—stick grip for snare drum and mallets; basic tuning of timpani; setup of timpani, mallet instruments, and auxiliary instruments.
- HII.10 The student will demonstrate and describe proper instrumental techniques, including
1. Adjusting and perfecting intonation while playing;
 2. Producing tones that are clear, free of tension, sustained, and unwavering in pitch;

3. Wind student—proper breathing techniques and consistent embouchure; contrasting articulations (marcato, sforzando, forte-piano, tenuto);
4. String student—proper bow placement, weight, angle, speed, and pressure; contrasting articulations (accents, hooked bowing, multiple-note slurs, slurred staccato, sforzando, martelé, spiccato); and
5. Percussion student—13 standard rudiments and lesson 25, open-close-open, on snare drum (pas); tuning timpani while playing; playing techniques on timpani, mallet, and auxiliary instruments, including single-stroke roll.

- HII.11 The student will demonstrate and describe ensemble skills at an intermediate level, including
1. Balancing and blending instrumental timbres;
 2. Making adjustments to facilitate correct intonation;
 3. Matching dynamic levels and playing style;
 4. Responding to conducting patterns and gestures; and
 5. Maintaining a steady beat at various tempos in the music literature being studied.
- HII.12 The student will read and interpret standard music notation while performing music of varying styles and levels of difficulty, in accordance with VBODA Levels 2–4.
- HII.13 The student will apply articulations, dynamic contrasts, phrasing, various tempos, and tempo changes as means of expression.
- HII.14 The student will create and perform simple rhythmic and melodic examples, using call-and-response and basic improvisation.
- HII.15 The student will compose and perform rhythmic and melodic variations based upon original ideas or folk songs, exercises, or etudes.
- HII.16 The student will demonstrate musicianship and personal engagement by
1. Making adjustments to facilitate correct intonation;
 2. Identifying and producing the characteristic sound of the instrument being studied;
 3. Monitoring individual practice with a level of refinement that reflects specific musical goals;
 4. Participating in curricular and co-curricular events (e.g., concerts, other performances); ensembles such as symphonic ensembles, chamber ensembles, marching band, jazz ensembles; all-county, all-district, all-region, and all-virginia events; and
 5. Describing and demonstrating rehearsal and concert etiquette as a performer (e.g., using critical aural skills, following conducting gestures, maintaining attention in rest position).
- HII.17 The student will sight-read music of varying styles and levels of difficulty, in accordance with VBODA Levels 2–4.

MUSIC HISTORY AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

- HII.18 The student will explore historical and cultural aspects of music by
1. Describing the cultures, musical styles, composers, and historical periods associated with the music literature being studied;
 2. Comparing and contrasting a variety of musical styles, using music terminology;
 3. Comparing and contrasting the functions of instrumental music in a variety of cultures;
 4. Describing how musicians, consumers of music, and music advocates impact the community;
 5. Comparing and contrasting career options in music;
 6. Relating the relationship of instrumental music to the other fine arts;
 7. Applying ethical standards to the use of social media and copyrighted materials; and
 8. Consistently demonstrating concert etiquette as an active listener.

ANALYSIS, EVALUATION, AND CRITIQUE

- HII.19 The student will analyze and evaluate music by
1. Explaining the importance of composers' use of style, cultural influences, and historical context for the interpretation of works of music;
 2. Interpreting works of music, using inquiry skills and music terminology;
 3. Applying accepted criteria for analyzing and evaluating works of music;
 4. Describing performances of music, using music terminology; and
 5. Applying accepted criteria for critiquing musical performances of self and others.

AESTHETICS

- HII.20 The student will investigate aesthetic concepts related to music by
1. Analyzing and explaining how the factors of time and place influence characteristics that give meaning and value to a work of music;
 2. Describing personal emotional and intellectual responses to works of music, using music terminology;
 3. Analyzing ways in which music can evoke emotion and be persuasive;
 4. Applying aesthetic criteria for determining the quality of a work of music or importance of a musical style; and
 5. Explaining the value of musical performance to the community.

Dr. Aaron C. Spence, Superintendent
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For further information please call (757) 263-1070.

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