

ORCHESTRA 2-3-4 Syllabus

RCAS Policies/Procedures

Students will be required to follow all RCAS policies and procedures. To view the RCAS High School Student Handbook, click [handbook](#).

Course Description

Educational emphasis in Orchestra is placed on the advancement of instrumental technique, further development of music reading and comprehension skills, independent musicianship, style, and a deeper understanding of ensemble music and orchestral literature. Students will perform both in small group ensemble projects and as a large group. Extra-curricular: All-State Orchestra, All-State Band, Region 8 Solo & Ensemble Performance, and large ensemble festivals and clinics.

Grading

30% Participation and Technique Building:

- Participation in class: Does student have a usable instrument; is student on time and ready to go; is student actively participating in class

30% Performances:

- Concert Participation
- Attending Concerts:
 - o Student will attend one performance per quarter and provide feedback on the performance.

30% Progress and Effort:

- Practicing
- Tests and Quizzes
- Chair Auditions

10% Written Quizzes:

EXTRA CREDIT:

- Student can earn extra credit the following ways:
 - o Attending additional concerts beyond the one required
 - o Performing for an outside event (church, organizations, quartet gigs, etc.)
 - o Private Lessons

Textbook

Music to be performed at the concert. All music is picked based upon state prescribed lists, such as [Florida](#) and [Texas](#).

Reading

The students will read and notate language in the musical form. They will learn musical terms based upon the SD High School Activities Association's approved list of musical terms.

Optional Reading

Students may decide to read music that they find on their own. In addition, the use of programs such as Muscore and Smart Music can be used to facilitate a better understand of the music.

Instructional Resources

Advanced Techniques for Strings, University String Orchestra Album, Expressive Techniques for Orchestra

Essential Questions

K-12.Cr.1

3: K-12.Cr.3

5: K-12.Pr.5

6: K12.Pr.6

7: k12.Re.7

10: K12.Cn.10

1. ***What techniques must be developed to adequately prepare the state assigned All State Literature***
2. ***How does the advance literature require competency of the assigned 3 octave scales***
3. ***How does full orchestra performance present additional tuning issues***
4. ***How does full orchestra performance introduce additionally ensemble issues; i.e blend, balance, timbre, rhythm, etc.***
5. ***How do you approach performing in and reacting to an audition?***

Essential Learning Intentions

- Learning and practicing all 3 Octave Scales
- Sight Reading advanced literature.
- Learning and playing in advanced key signatures
- Refining ensemble skills i.e. listening, intonation, tone, dynamics
- Tuning independently to perfect intervals
- Improvising complex rhythm patterns.
- Working with advanced bow placement to perform with refined nuance appropriate to literature