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MUSIC

CHS History of Jazz

1 semester .5 credit

Prerequisite:
None

Fees and Costs:

No fee if taking for general high school credit. If taking for CWU credit the cost is \$275 (5 college credits)

Course Overview

Open to all college bound (2-year or 4-year) juniors and seniors. Sophomore students are welcome to take the course with permission from the instructor. This course explores the area of jazz as a musical genre and historical topic from its roots at the start of the 20 th century through today. Students learn to identify jazz greats from their style and sound and to trace the development of jazz throughout the years. The study of race, civil rights, and the fusion of musical and American culture is a constant theme in this course. College credit is available through CWU.

Color Guard 201

Students wishing to participate in Color Guard register for Marching Band 201

Course meets outside of the regular school day (August - October) each fall

No credit

Prerequisite

None. All participating students must attend the August Marching Band Camp before the beginning of the school year.

Fees and Costs

The fee for marching band at WVHS is \$175. \$50 will be paid as a deposit in the Spring; the remainder will be due in the fall.

Course Overview

Open to all students. The West Valley High School Ram Marching Band is a competitive marching band participating in 3-4 regional marching competitions during the first semester of the year. Additionally, the marching band performs at all West Valley High School home football games and at two local parades (Yakima Sunfair Parade - September, and the Yakima VFW Veteran's Day Parade - November). The marching season begins in August with the required marching band camp and continues through the end of the month of October. Students are required to also be enrolled in the Freshman Concert Band, High School Concert Band, or the High School Wind Ensemble. Once the school year begins, the Ram Marching Band rehearses on Tuesday Evenings (5:30 - 8:00) and on Thursday Afternoons (2:45 - 5:00). The Color Guard meets for a weekly section practice on Wednesday afternoons (2:45 - 4:00).

Freshman Concert Band 098 and 099

1 semester .5 credit

Prerequisite
None

Fees and Costs

\$40 district activity fee per semester

Course Overview

This is a performance-based class which is a continuation of the 8th grade band experience. A varied and more advanced level of music is performed (i.e. classical and modern), and continued mastery of technical studies of each instrument is emphasized. Attendance at performances is required for all members. Because this is a performance-based class, students will be expected to practice their instrument at home and will need to have a means to transport it to and from school regularly. Students in Freshmen Band have the option of participating in high school marching band and pep band, although they are not required to do so.

Concert Band 101 and 102

2 semesters - 1 credit

Prerequisite

Previous successful participation in band. Beginning students may register for Concert Band with permission by the director.

Fees and Costs

\$30 per semester West Valley School District participation fee

Course Overview

Open to band students in grades 10 - 12 in a large group setting. Music literature includes concert band music grades III -V, solo and small ensemble literature, and exercises to build individual musicianship skills through performance in band. Traditionally, there are 3-4 public performances per semester. Attendance at all performances is required for credit. Participation in regional solo and ensemble festival (or alternative assignment) is required. All students are required to make adequate musical progress on their instruments in attempt to be capable of being members of the WVHS Wind Ensemble by the time of their senior year (if not sooner). Participation in the Concert Band (or Wind Ensemble) is a pre-requisite for participation in Jazz Band, Marching Band, and/or Pep Band.

Concert Chamber Choir 301 and 302

Prerequisite

Students must audition to be part of this ensemble. Ability to read music is preferred. Prior enrollment in choir preferred.

Fees and Costs

Members of this ensemble will need to purchase performance attire. There is a \$20 per semester fee as implemented by the WV School Board in August of 2011. For those who qualify, there is help available to cover this cost. Please see your School Counselor for details.

Course Overview

The Chamber Choir is an auditioned smaller choir. There will be a strong emphasis on performances as well as learning proper vocal and choral techniques, music theory and sight singing. Students will be learning upper level music and musical concepts as well as performing in smaller ensembles. This ensemble will focus primarily on classical literature but will explore other genres throughout the school year. Students in this ensemble will be working on their fundamental musical theory and history.

Special Requirements of Students

Students are required to participate in performances during and after-school hours. For performances, choir uniform is choir dresses for girls, tuxedos for boys. They can be purchased, or borrowed from the music department. Students are required to enroll for the full school year to be part of this ensemble to allow for continuity of musicianship.

Student Learning Objectives

As a result of required instruction, the student will be able to:

1. To sing and understand a variety of choral literature.
2. Learn to think, listen, and sing in musical ways. (This will involve learning basics of music theory, ear-training, sight-singing, and vocal sound production.)
3. Participate in concerts and other performances.

Concert Choir 201 and 202

1 semester .5 credit

Prerequisite
None

Fees and Costs

Ladies are charged a \$15 dry cleaning fee for use of our choir dresses. For those who qualify, there is help available to cover this cost. Please see your School Counselor for details.

Course Overview

The Ram Choir is a large mixed chorus. There will be a strong emphasis on performances as well as learning proper vocal and choral techniques, music theory and sight singing. Students will have the opportunity to sing in a variety of styles and will sing in large groups as well as have opportunities to sing in small ensembles and as individuals.

Special Requirements of Students

Students are required to participate in performances during and after-school hours. For performances, choir uniform is choir dresses for girls, tuxedos for boys. They can be purchased, or borrowed from the music department. Students are strongly encouraged to participate for 2 or 3 trimesters to allow for continuity of musicianship.

Student Learning Objectives

As a result of required instruction, the student will be able to:

1. To sing and understand a variety of choral literature.
2. Learn to think, listen, and sing in musical ways. (This will involve learning basics of music theory, ear-training, sight-singing, and vocal sound production.)
3. Participate in Ram Choir concerts and other performances.

Jazz Band 201 and 202

.5 credits per semester

Prerequisite:
Year-long class by audition only

Fees and Costs

Some cost associated with traveling to regional jazz festivals

Course Overview

Open to band students in grades 9-12 by audition only. Auditions take place during the first two weeks of the fall semester for acceptance and placement in the jazz program. Student performers on saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, guitar, and drum set are eligible for audition. Jazz band I and II meet daily during zero hour (6:55 - 7:40am). All students in the jazz band must also be enrolled in the Freshman Concert Band, High School Concert Band, or High School Wind Ensemble. The jazz bands perform at all West valley High School evening instrumental music concerts, 3-4 regional jazz festivals each winter / spring, and at selected community events - TBA. Invited students must remain in the jazz band for the entire school year.

Marching Band 201

Course meets outside of the regular school day (August - October) each fall
No credit

Prerequisite

Previous successful participation in band. Beginning students are welcome to register for Marching Band with permission by the director. All participating students must attend the August Marching Band Camp before the beginning of the school year.

Fees and Costs

The fee for marching band at WVHS is \$175. \$50 will be paid as a deposit in the Spring; the remainder will be due in the fall.

Course Overview

Open to all band students in the West Valley School District band program grades 9-12 without audition. The West Valley High School Ram Marching Band is a competitive marching band participating in 3-4 regional marching competitions during the first semester of the year. Additionally, the marching band performs at all West Valley High School home football games and at two local parades (Yakima Sunfair Parade - September, and the Yakima VFW Veteran's Day Parade - November). The marching season begins in August with the required marching band camp and continues through the end of the month of October. Students are required to also be enrolled in the Freshman Concert Band, High School Concert Band, or the High School Wind Ensemble. Once the school year begins, the Ram Marching Band rehearses on Tuesday Evenings (5:30 - 8:00) and on Thursday Afternoons (2:45 - 5:00). The Color Guard meets for a weekly section practice on Wednesday afternoons (2:45 - 4:00).

Wind Ensemble 101 & 102

2 semesters - 1 credit

Prerequisite

Previous successful participation in band . Students are only eligible for participation in Wind Ensemble through audition and / or invitation of the director.

Fees and Costs

\$30 per semester West Valley School District participation fee

Course Overview

Open to band students in grades 10 - 12 in a large group setting by audition / invitation only. Music literature includes concert band music grades III -V, solo and small ensemble literature, and exercises to build individual musicianship skills through performance in band. Traditionally, there are 4 - 5 public performances per semester. Attendance at all performances is required for credit. Participation in regional solo and ensemble festival is required. Musical excellence is expected from all members of the Wind Ensemble. Members of the Wind Ensemble frequently qualify as selected students for the State Solo and Ensemble competition, and WIBC or All-State Honor Bands Those desiring to participate in music at the collegiate level, or as part of their career choice, are encouraged to participate in the Wind Ensemble and to take private instruction on their instrument of choice. Participation in the Wind Ensemble (or Concert Band) is a pre-requisite for participation in Jazz Band, Marching Band, and/or Pep Band.

Percussion Ensemble

1 semester .5 credit

Prerequisite

None

Fees and Costs

\$40 district activity fee

Course Overview

This course offers group instruction for percussionists in an ensemble setting. Content for this course will focus on improved playing techniques, hand and stick control, rhythm reading, strengthening of sight-reading skills, musicianship, and rudimental drumming. Percussionists (battery and front ensemble) associated with the marching band will be instructed during Percussion Ensemble 101. Additionally, students will learn music and skills associated with the concert percussion requirements for the following musical ensembles: freshman concert band, high school concert band, and the high school wind ensemble. Instruction is focused solely on the percussionist and skill development for the percussion performer. During the spring semester, students will participate in their respective concert band course.

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