

**Orchestra Disclosure**  
**Mr. Bishop    Room 1123**  
801/481-4810 ext. 1123    [mark.bishop@slcschools.org](mailto:mark.bishop@slcschools.org)

**Course Description**

This course is designed to help students become better musicians through the continued learning of basic fundamentals of musical performance using a musical instrument. The use of technique books, individual practice, classroom practice, and performance participation will be used as our conditioning mediums.

**Course Goals and Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 1) Continue learning notes, fingerings and rhythms on their instrument, by sight and from memory;
- 2) Produce tones and a characteristic sound on their individual instrument;
- 3) Learn individual parts of music for concerts and festivals;
- 4) learn the 12 major scales and their key signatures, as well as the relative minor scales;
- 5) understand and use individual practice strategies;
- 6) understand their significance to the whole group

**Course Materials**

The text for this course will be Strictly Strings Book 2, Strictly Strings Book 3 (for returning students), and additional sheet music to be distributed during the year. Students that are new to orchestra will also need to use Strictly Strings Book 1.

**Format and Procedures**

Students need to be prepared every day with a pencil, their planner, instrument, and music. Students will be given a home practice log that will be due every Tuesday. They are expected to practice at least two hours, outside of school, each week. Students are expected to be in their seats with music and instrument, no more than two minutes after the tardy bell rings. Failure to be prepared may result in a tardy.

**Course Requirements (Assignments, Attendance, Tardies, Discipline, etc.)**

Due to the group nature of this course, students are expected to attend school regularly, be on time, and be prepared to learn. Each instrument section adds "meaning" to a piece of music, and when a student is missing, the group does not function as well.

Assignments for this class include outside individual practice, in-class practice and participation, playing tests, written tests, and concerts. Students will be asked to perform in front of their peers during playing tests. Students that are not testing are expected to sit quietly and "finger" through their own performance, listen to their classmates, or may read silently. A practice card may be used to help monitor the practice habits of students, and help in giving support in proper practice techniques. Concerts are graded, and attendance is mandatory. Dates for concerts can be found at the end of this document.

Students are expected to be attentive during rehearsals and lectures. Restroom and drinking privileges are at the discretion of the teacher. Wandering during class or speaking out during a lecture or rehearsal are not appropriate. Instruments, books, music, and a pencil are expected in class daily, unless otherwise stated by the teacher. "I forgot my instrument" is not acceptable, and participation points will be deducted. If an instrument is in the shop, please send written notice, and an expected return date.

**Grading Procedures**

- Grades are based upon a percentage scale. Work, practice, tests, and concerts will be given a value, and the total percentage at the end of the quarter will help dictate a student's grade.
- Students are allowed by district Policy S-4 to make-up work with excused absences (illness, extracurricular activities, religious observance, family activities,). Late work, missed assignments, homework, tests, or quizzes may be made up and graded. The student will normally have a week to make up any missed work or tests. This may include a student coming in before school, or staying after school. In some cases, I can make up a test immediately after class.