



FAMS Orchestra

Syllabus 2021-2022

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Welcome

Welcome to the FAMS Orchestra! This is going to be an incredible year of music making, exploration, and creation. Please read through this document carefully as it contains all the important information to be ready for the school year. It is going to be a great year!

Communication

- Our main form of communication is through Google Classroom. All students will join the Google Classroom for their class. Parents will also have access to the Google Classroom to stay up to date on announcements, student assignments, and other information.
- Occasional emails will be sent throughout the year as well.
- If you ever have any questions, comments, concerns, or needs, please reach out via phone or email so that we can connect.

Supplies

Students/Families need to obtain and maintain their own instruments through rental or purchase. One option is Breber Music. They come to Fort Atkinson schools on Thursdays to deliver materials as needed. Of course, there are other companies to rent or purchase from as well. Please contact us for more information.

GEO BREBER MUSIC, INC.
1-800-686-8737
brebermusic.net
sales@brebermusic.net

Performance Schedule

Performances are an extension of the class and attendance is required. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

FAMS Fall Orchestra Concert

Monday, October 25th, 2021 at 7:00 PM

In the FAHS Auditorium

Only 7th and 8th grade orchestra students

FAMS Winter Orchestra Concert

Monday, December 20th, 2021 at 7:00 PM

In the FAHS Auditorium

SDFA Orchestra Dessert Concert

Sunday, March 6th, 2022 at 1:00 PM

In the FAHS Auditorium

SDFA Performing Arts Festival

Saturday, April 4th, 2022 at FAHS

Each student event will get a 10-15 minute time slot

SDFA Orchestra String Festival

Thursday, June 2nd, 2022 at 7:00 PM

In the FAHS Gymnasium

Each Day in Orchestra

Students must bring their instrument, folder, backpack, and Chromebook to class each day. Throughout the year we will explore a variety of topics including performing concert music, advancing technique on our instruments, creating music compositions, playing in small 'chamber' ensembles, and learning about music theory.

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Grading

The orchestra grade is comprised of three parts, weighed as follows:

- 1) **Ensemble Assessments** = 50%
- 2) **Summative Concert Assessment** = 30%
- 3) **Assignments/Assessments** = 20%

VIEWING GRADEBOOK

Please check PowerSchool for grades. Google Classroom grades are not final.

ENSEMBLE ASSESSMENTS

Ensemble Assessment is the work you do each day in class: punctuality, responsibility, engagement, attitude and effort. Bringing all materials to class consistently is one example of how to earn points toward this grade.

ASSIGNMENTS

Orchestra students will complete most assignments using the online platforms MusicFirst and Flat. Assignments are due most weeks at midnight on Sundays (this is when they are "time stamped" which gives students the weekend to finish). Some assignments in Music First are playing assignments. There is a powerful recording feature that can assess the accuracy of a student's pitch, rhythm, and tempo and give immediate feedback. Playing assignments will be graded as follows:

85-100% = **4** (advanced)

70-84% = **3** (proficient)

50-69% = **2** (basic)

0-49% = **1** (below-basic)

In most cases, students will have unlimited playing attempts, and may redo assignments. Assignments may be turned in late for credit, though turning all assignments in on time over the course of a quarter will drop the lowest grade.

We will communicate any changes to grading during the school year in advance.

Concert Attire

Students will dress for concerts as follows unless otherwise notified:

- Black bottoms (socks, shoes, pants, and/or long skirt)
- White top (polo or button-down)

All clothing must be in accordance with school dress code policy. Ask your teachers if you have questions or need assistance in acquiring this clothing.

Practicing

- The expectation for any student in music is practice outside of class. Students with consistent practice habits will make the most growth. Ideally, students are practicing multiple times a week.
- Setting aside a consistent time and place to practice is helpful. Whether it's right after school, right after dinner, or before video games, a consistent schedule helps.
- Students have the opportunity to practice at school during 'quiet work day' homeroom time, after they eat lunch, or after school until 3:30 PM
- Students will learn how to build helpful habits on how to practice effectively and efficiently throughout the year.

Thank You!

To students and parents, thank you for choosing music! If you ever have any questions, please reach out via phone call or email. We look forward to working with you this year and making great music!

Mr. Callaway and Mr. Finnegan