

# THEO Instrumental Ensemble

## Syllabus

### *Philosophy*

Our goal with the THEO Instrumental Ensemble is to provide an opportunity for homeschool students to play in an instrumental group in order to use and refine the talents God has given them for His glory, and to challenge them to use those gifts to minister to others. We endeavor to create a team atmosphere where we encourage and support one another, not compete against each other. We seek to grow as Christians as we interact within the group.

### *Class Structure*

The instrumental ensemble is composed of wind, string, percussion and rhythm instruments. Our primary focus is learning to play in a group setting. We also touch on conducting, music history, performance techniques, theory and anything else interesting that comes along. We play 3-4 concerts per semester and opportunity is given for solo and ensemble work. We also strive to make students aware of outside opportunities to observe and participate in music performances in the area.

### *Grading*

Participation – 50%

This includes class time and concerts. It also includes being prepared for class by bringing instrument (in good working condition), all necessary supplies (reeds, valve oil, etc.), music, stand and pencil.

Written & Playing Tests – 25%

Practice Charts – 25%

Extra credit is given for students who attend other music concerts and recitals. To receive credit, the student needs to bring a program from the concert and answer questions about pieces performed at the concert. If a program is not available, a signed note from the parent is acceptable.

A mid-term grade report will be emailed after 8 weeks of class. At the end of the semester, a report card is mailed to the parents. If at any time a student's grade falls below a 70, the instructor will contact the parent and together with the parent form a plan to raise the grade.

### *Practice Charts*

A minimum of 30 minutes a day, 5 days a week of practice is required as homework for this class. Our rehearsal time does not count as practice time. Practice Charts are due each week and must be signed by a parent to verify the times. The practice charts will be turned in 15 times and the lowest 2 grades will be dropped. On weeks when the class does not meet because of holidays, practice times are not required.

Grading is as follows:

150 minutes = 100  
120-149 minutes = 89  
90-119 minutes = 79  
60-89 minutes = 69  
30-59 minutes = 59  
1-29 minutes = 49  
0 minutes = 0

Five extra credit points will be awarded for every 30 minutes per week above the minimum of 150 minutes, up to a maximum of 20 extra points per week.

*Required Books & Music*

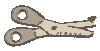
The instructor will provide all necessary books & music. All books & music are to be brought to each rehearsal. The books are checked out to each student & must be returned at the end of the school year. There is a \$40 supply fee per family per year to help purchase music & equipment. The supply fee will be collected in October

For all class meetings, students need to bring their own music stands & pencils. Each student will be provided with a black folder for concert music.

Students in pep band also need a flop folder & lyre for their music. Percussionists may choose instead to use their black folder & a music stand.

*Performance Attire*

For Pep Band performances, we wear the THEO t-shirt, jeans and shoes of choice. THEO t-shirts are approximately \$10 and may be purchased from the THEO director. For Concert performances, we typically wear white dress shirts, black bottoms (no jeans) and black shoes (no flip flops or tennis shoes). This will change occasionally at the director's discretion.



I have read the THEO Instrumental Ensemble syllabus and understand the class requirements.

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Parent Signature

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Student Signature