

JAZZ BAND I - MIDDLE SCHOOL 1540, HIGH SCHOOL 5550

Course Scope:

This one-year course is designed to introduce the instrumental music student to contemporary stage band literature and techniques. A student will receive direction in solving interpretation problems and will be given an opportunity to experiment in the area of improvisation. The importance of sustained effort and practice is stressed for technical proficiency. A variety of performing experiences will be provided. This course may be repeated. If this course is taken in grades nine to twelve, the student will fulfill either the one arts or humanities credit or one of the elective credits required for graduation.

Course Goals:

1. To continue the development of skills that are common to both Varsity Band and Jazz Band.
2. To interpret jazz rhythms, phrasing, and stylistic markings.
3. To produce a variety of ensemble sounds characteristic of contemporary jazz band literature.
4. To utilize electronic equipment effectively in conjunction with the jazz ensemble.
5. To identify and perform basic chord and scale structure.
6. To improvise melodies and variations.
7. To utilize required musical skills through public performances.
8. To recognize the possibility of continued involvement and life-long learning in music.