



Chamber Strings 8-12

Instructor: Miss Charlene Lee

Course Description:

Welcome to Windsor's Instrumental Music Program! All courses in Chamber Strings are designed to provide students with a progressive training in instrumental music. This training includes technical aspects of instrumental performance, basic history and theory as related to the repertoire and guided exploration of many different genres of music. The difference between the ensemble levels is based primarily on the difficulty and complexity of repertoire studied. This class is performance-based and the students will complete several full-scale concerts throughout the year as well as a variety of performance activities.

Big Ideas:

- Music is a unique language for creating and communicating
- Music provides opportunities to gain insight into perspectives and experiences of people from a variety of times, places and cultures
- Growth as a musician requires perseverance, resilience and reflection
- Collaborative music experiences can build community and nurture relationships with others
- Through music making, one's sense of identity and community continually evolves

Course Content & Goals:

- Develop sufficient mastery of the necessary performance techniques on their chosen instrument
- Develop techniques required to play in a variety of orchestral ensemble contexts, demonstrating technical competence and stylistic interpretation
- Perform diverse repertoire
- Develop refined reading, listening and critical thinking skills regarding performance

Teachers will expect:

- *Full participation from students in terms of positive attitude, punctual attendance, respectfulness and teamwork*
- *Students to come to class with an open mind and a desire to learn*

Students can expect:

- *To train and perform at a high standard*
- *To have access to resources, extra coaching, and opportunities for personal development*

Assessment & Evaluation:

Students will receive ongoing assessment and evaluation of their progress during each semester through a variety of assessment methods (rubrics, criterion, quizzes, performances and self-assessments) - both formative and summative. It is expected that students will take pride in their work and that any work submitted will reveal a high level of preparation, thought and care.

Assessment Breakdown:

100% - Musicianship, Performance and Participation

- **40% Concerts** *** full participation from set up to take down
Note: concert performances are treated as performance-based examinations and are considered the most important exams of each semester.
- **20% Personal Musicianship** – *personal preparation and musical self-discipline (evidence of regular practice as well as testing of content and technique).*
- **30% Daily Rehearsals & Assignments** – *ensemble protocol and expectations contribute positively to the safe learning environment. Equipment care and maintenance, social responsibility, team awareness, regular and punctual attendance.*

Course Guidelines:

Practice & Self-Discipline:

It is expected that students show up to rehearsal having practiced and spent time on the music. Class time is for rehearsing the music as a full ensemble – students are expected to prepare their individual parts on their own time or in sectionals.

Attendance Policy & Lateness:

Regular attendance is required for success. As music is a performance-based course, absences will influence assessment and evaluation. Attendance at the ***concerts which are performance-based examinations is mandatory. An unexcused absence from one of these performances is equivalent to missing a term exam.

For morning X Block classes: arrive at 7:55AM, be seated and warming up, downbeat is at 8:00AM

For after school X Block classes: arrive at 3:10, be seated and warming, downbeat is at 3:15PM

***lateness is noted and may affect your mark*

2024/2025 X Block Schedule

Mondays 8:00am-9:05am

Wednesdays 3:10-4:30pm

all X Blocks start on Monday, September 9th

Required Uniform:

Option 1	Option 2
WHITE DRESS shirt Black DRESS pants Black DRESS socks Black DRESS shoes WM Music Blazer **Green bowtie	WM Music Dress Black DRESS shoes **Green sash

A Program Focused on Performance:

Windsor Band & Strings performs multiple times throughout the year in a formal setting. Concerts count as a performance-based exam and participation is required. **Please take note of the full annual performance calendar** (lime green paper) and save the dates in your family calendar!

Graded Chamber Strings Performances:

1. **Fall Band & Strings Concert @ Kay Meek Theatre**
Thursday, November 14th , 7:00pm
2. **Winter Windsor Music Concert @ Kay Meek Theatre**
Tuesday, December 10th 7:00pm
3. **NVSD Band & Strings Festival Performance @ Centennial Theatre**
Tuesday, February 18th 6:30pm
4. **June Finale Band & Strings Concert @ Kay Meek Theatre**
Wednesday, June 4th 7:00pm

Additional Performances

1. Windsor Remembrance Day Ceremony – Friday, November
2. FOS Strings Fest Performance – spring TBD (April)