Music Appreciation - Course Syllabus

Description:
The purpose of this Music Appreciation course is to deepen the student’s awareness and understanding of the different ways the human experience is reflected in the musical arts and will emphasize the development of skills necessary to appreciate western music in a meaningful way. This course introduces basic musical terminology and notation, identifies many different musical instruments, and highlights the different periods of musical development from The Middle Ages, to the Classical Era.

Course objectives:
• Learn basic musical terminology and notation
• Learn standard formal designs used within western musical repertoire
• Explore stylistic elements that characterize historical periods and their composers
• Analyze relationships between music and society
• Develop effective listening techniques
• Consider prominent composers and selected musical masterpieces

Contents:
Semester A
1 – Melody, Harmony, and Scales
2 – Rhythm and Meter
3 – Textures and Forms
4 – Tempo and Dynamics
5 – Classification of Human Voices
6 – Musical Instrument Families
7 – Musical Ensembles
8 – The Middle Ages

Semester B
9 – The Renaissance
10 – The Baroque Era
11 – Baroque Opera
12 – Baroque Instrumental
13 – The Classical Era
14 – Classical Opera/Choral Music
15 – Classical Instrumentation

Grading Scale
A = 90-100%
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
F = under 59%

Grade Weighting
Chapter Quizzes ............ 70%
Cumulative Exam .......... 30%

100%