



South County High School  
**Orchestra Syllabus for 2021-2022**  
Concert Orchestra, Symphonic Orchestra,  
Philharmonic Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra

**TEACHER CONTACT INFO**

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*Office Hours (by appointment):*

- M-F (7:30-8AM)
- M/W (3-4PM)

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the SCHS Orchestra program, and the 2021-2022 school year. Please refer to the information below, as it clearly outlines the expectations and guidelines for Orchestra this year. In addition, please be sure to read the SCHS Orchestra Handbook in its' entirety. The handbook contains more in-depth details about the Orchestra program and the expectations for all members. After reviewing both documents, please complete the Parent and Student links at the end of this Syllabus by Friday, 9/10. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns as the year progresses. I look forward to working with you all this year!

**1. VIRTUAL LEARNING**

Parents, please follow this [link](#) to give permission for your student to access supplemental tech tools. These tools are critical to creating an effective, engaging virtual classroom experience.

**2. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

One Year Course	1 Credit (Fees required)
Objective	Performance in Orchestra
Prerequisite	Audition with Director of Orchestra (Advanced Level Only)

**3. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Students will learn how to produce characteristic tone quality on their instrument, develop skills in note and rhythm reading and demonstrate the ability to perform with proper intonation, articulation, balance, blend and musicianship through participation in orchestra. Please note, rehearsals and performances outside of normal school hours will be required as part of this course.

**4. MATERIALS**

<i>Required Materials</i>	Instrument and bow in good working condition, rosin, tuning app, metronome, shoulder rest (violin, viola), end pin stop (cello, bass)
<i>Suggested Materials</i>	Music stand, practice mute, extra set of strings
<i>Software Used</i>	Schoology, Zoom, Smart Music, Flipgrid, Sight Reading Factory

**5. GRADING SCALE**

A (93-100) = 4.0	C (73-76) = 2.0
A- (90-92) = 3.7	C- (70-72) = 1.7
B+ (87-89) = 3.3	D+ (67-69) = 1.3
B (83-86) = 3.0	D (64-66) = 1.0
B- (80-82) = 2.7	F (0-63) = 0.0
C+ (77-79) = 2.3	

**6. GRADEBOOK INFORMATION**

All teachers will be using a rolling (*cumulative*) gradebook, which allows for progress towards a final mark that captures the total picture of student grades, regardless of length of quarter or number of assignments in each quarter. A rolling gradebook allows for *flexibility and equitable grading practices* given the uncertainty of schedules & likelihood of distance learning for some or all students during the 2020-21SY.

- **Cumulative** - Grades from each quarter carry over and build upon the previous quarter
- **Quarter grades** are a snapshot of a student's current progress in the course and demonstrate performance to that date, not just the quarter.

- **Final grades** are determined by a combination of all assignments and assessments throughout the year, regardless of the quarter the work was completed.

A 60 is the minimum grade with an assignment that has been turned in with reasonable effort as determined by the CT.

Homework for practice or preparation for instruction may account for no more than 10% of the grade.

Teachers are expected to grade assignments and post grades within seven school days after the due date with the understanding that major projects/papers may require additional time to ensure quality feedback.

FCPS requires teachers to record a minimum of 9 grades over the course of a quarter.

### Grade Breakdown for Orchestra:

- **10% - Rehearsal/Class Etiquette** – All students are expected to participate properly during all classes. Students must have their instrument and other materials available as instructed.
- **40% - Individual Performance Assessments (IPAs)** - All assessments will be assigned via Schoology. IPAs will be completed in SmartMusic, Flipgrid and Schoology. IPAs will be video and/or audio. Students may use their school issued laptop or personal recording device to submit.
- **30% - Ensemble Performance Assessments (EPAs)** – As per FCPS Regulation 3866, all rehearsals and concerts are considered part of the course requirements for orchestra. All students are required to participate in all Orchestra Concerts throughout the school year.
- **20% - Classwork and Written Assignments** - All students will be required to complete written classwork during class time. These assignments include, but are not limited to music theory, dictation and musical listening, and critical music analysis. Any work not completed during class time may be completed by the next class period for full credit.

### 7. COMMENT CODES FOR SIS

**NTI (Not Turned In)** - Student has not yet turned in the assignment. This comment carries a score of 50. The comment is removed when the assignment is turned in. If a student never turns in the assignment, the grade earned will be a 50%.

- **LA (Late)** - The student handed in the assignment late. There is a 10% penalty for late work. All late work must be turned in within two weeks of the due date. There will be no late work accepted the last week of the quarter.
- **AB (Absent)** - The student was not present in class, and the missing work must be completed. This comment code carries no penalty and can be changed to a grade or NTI if the assignment does not get turned in.
- **EXC (Excused)** - The student has been excused from doing this assignment. There is no penalty associated with this code.
- **NYG (Not Yet Graded)** - The student has turned in the assignment, but the assignment has not yet been graded. This comment code is removed when scored.

### 8. ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

At South County High School, students will no longer be afforded the opportunity to earn extra credit for tasks that are not related to the curriculum. We will allow students to participate in Enrichment Activities. Enrichment activities are for a student who has completed an activity during the course of study that is beyond the required work in the classroom in order to further his or her understanding of a concept. It is counted as a separate grade and ties to a skill in that content area. Students will not be given extra points or grades for activities such as bringing in classroom materials, providing parent signatures, participating in fundraising/charitable events or participating in non-curricular activities. Enrichment Activities should always benefit a student. If a student does poorly on the optional Enrichment Activity, no grade should be entered.

### 9. LATE WORK POLICY

Teachers expect students to complete and turn in assignments even when late. Students have two weeks from the due date to turn in late work.

- If a student does not turn in an assignment, the placeholder NTI (Not Turned In) should be entered into the grade book.
- There is a 10% penalty associated with late assignments.

- If a student has been given multiple opportunities to complete work and has not done so, a 50% will be entered into the gradebook.

#### **10. MAKE UP WORK POLICY**

Students have one school day for each excused absence to make up missed work for full credit.

#### **11. RETAKE POLICY**

A student has up to 10 school days to retake a summative assessment.

- For summative/major assessments, as determined by the teacher, one new opportunity to demonstrate proficiency shall be provided to any student who completes corrective action determined by the collaborative team. The highest score that can be earned is an 89%.

#### **12. FINAL EXAM**

This year, a final assessment will be given in place of a multiple choice final exam. A student who has earned an A at the end of the year for a course can be exempt from taking the final assessment. Students enrolled in courses that have a culminating project/activity (i.e. a portfolio project) that lasts over the course of multiple units or quarters will still be required to complete the final assessment.

#### **13. SOUTH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CODE**

The South County Honor Code is based on and reflects the fundamental beliefs that:

- Every student has the right to learn in an academic environment free from any form of intellectual dishonesty;
- Honesty and integrity of all members of the school community are crucial in sustaining academic excellence.

The functions of the South County Honor Code are to:

- Communicate the meaning and importance of intellectual honesty to all members of the school community
- Explain and support the highest standards of conduct in academic and co-curricular affairs; and
- Educate, identify, and sanction those who do not follow these standards.

The Honor Council is the faculty panel charged with supporting the Honor Code should a student appeal the decision made by the administrator.

[South County High School Honor Code Guidelines](#)

#### **14. TECHNOLOGY/CELL PHONE EXPECTATIONS**

Students are expected to participate properly during all classes. During class time, all technology/devices should be stowed under the student's chair unless directed otherwise by the teacher. Failure to comply may result in administrative intervention.

### **STUDENT COURSE AGREEMENT**