

Course Syllabus
Correia Middle School
Instrumental Music for Band, Orchestra, and Guitar

Room: 601

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Course Description

The Correia Middle School Instrumental Program offers students the opportunity to learn cooperation, responsibility and self-discipline through musical expression in a group activity. Students have fun meeting new friends and participating in exciting activities. In addition, the music programs at Correia challenge students in areas of personal growth as they achieve musical appreciation that will last a lifetime. In class, students first review fundamental knowledge of instruments and music, and then study and perform music of all styles. Classical music is emphasized in the course of study as are show tunes, pop music, and jazz. Festivals, programs, and tours are a large part of the course and participation is a requirement. In addition, commitment to extra rehearsals is occasionally required.

Course Goals

Students enrolled in music classes at Correia Middle School learn and review fundamental knowledge of band instruments. Students will also learn to advance rudimentary skills in ensemble playing through focus on tone production, note reading, balance, blend, intonation, rhythm, articulation, and music literature. Also included are opportunities for public performance, school service, and the encouragement for students to attend community cultural events.

Grading

25% Performance Participation

- Instrumental music classes at Correia are *performance-based classes*. All performances during or after school are required. Students and parents will be informed of these dates well in advance. The performance calendar is updated regularly and is available at correiamusic.com and posted in the classroom. Students and their parents may request exception from performance participation by submitting a request in writing (email or written note) at least 48 hours prior to the assigned performance. Unexcused absences of any performance, for any reason, may affect a student's grade for the semester.

25% Class Participation

Students will earn participation points every six weeks based on the following criteria:

- Students must have their instrument, music and stand ready and be seated within three minutes of the class tardy bell. Failure to do so will result in a tardy for the day.
- Students must play their instrument to the best of their ability and positively participate at all times. Students must have completed necessary practice reports and submitted them through Smartmusic.

25% Tests, Assignments, and Projects

- Students may be required to complete written tests and assignments throughout any given 6-week grading period. Students are responsible for bringing the necessary supplies needed for the specific tests, including pencils, instruments, and music.
- Students are required to complete three (3) SmartMusic Skill Assignments once a week. Assignments assess student ability in the areas of Scales, Rhythm, and Sight-Reading. Skill Assignments are issued on Monday of a given week and are due on Sunday of the assigned week. Students complete and submit assignments using the SmartMusic System. *SmartMusic is made available as needed for every student before or after school, at lunch time, or in class for some ensembles.*

25% Performance Tests

- Students are required to perform for tests either in class or using the SmartMusic system to assess their level of playing ability. Students must submit test materials via e-mail using SmartMusic. *SmartMusic is made available as needed for every student before or after school, at lunch time, or in class for some ensembles.*

Extra Credit

- Students can earn extra credit through special projects assigned by the teacher, or through extra-curricular music activities such as private lessons, outside music ensembles, participation in honor ensembles and/or district solo and ensemble festivals. Students participating in these activities should make arrangements with the teacher to obtain extra credit points, unless it has otherwise been specified as an 'extra credit opportunity.'

Student Responsibilities

1. Class Supplies: Students are responsible for bringing their music binder (a 1-inch, 3-ring binder with optional plastic sheet protectors), their instrument, necessary instrument supplies (see next page), a pencil, and any forms requiring a parent signature to class every day. Daily participation points are given and deducted if items are missing. Students are supplied with one copy of their music throughout the year. Students must have their own music even if they share a stand. It is the student's responsibility to replace lost music, at 25 cents per page. This should be done on the student's own time, NOT DURING CLASS.

2. Instrument Safety: Correia makes every effort to keep instruments safe and secure in the music room. Lockers and locks are provided for the students, but it is the student's responsibility to secure his/her equipment. It is also the student's responsibility to take care of the locks. Lost, stolen, or broken locks (due to negligence) will be replaced at \$5.00 billed to the student.

CORREIA AND CIMA CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS INCLUDING LOCKS. It is also a good idea to take your instrument to the room in the morning and then home every day at the end of school.

NEVER LEAVE YOUR INSTRUMENT UNATTENDED IF YOU CARRY IT AROUND CAMPUS. Only open your case in the music room or at home – never on the bus or around campus. Most cases look alike, so be sure to affix provided name tags to your instrument with your name, class period, school, and home address.

3. Instrument Care: Learning to play an instrument is a challenging task. An instrument in poor condition can lead to frustration and is often the reason for a student falling behind the rest of the class. Keep your instrument maintained, and if it needs repair, check with Mr. Dwyer or contact a reputable music store that can complete the repair. Never attempt to repair an instrument yourself.

4. Responsibilities Beyond the Classroom: Music classes at Correia are performing arts classes. Several times during the year, students will have performances in the evenings and on the weekends. All performances are required and part of the students' semester grades. Students with unexcused performance absences will receive a grade deduction for each absence. All excused absence requests must be submitted in writing (e-mail OK) 48 hours prior to the performance date. Baby-sitting, shopping, lack of transportation, too much homework, a sports event or practice, etc. are not considered excused absences. Please consult the calendar at correiamiddle.com for up-to-date performance information.

5. Concert Dress: Concert dress is required during all performances. Unless stated otherwise, there are two types of uniforms: field-trip dress, which includes the blue field-trip shirt; and concert dress, which includes the formal uniform. Students must be in full acceptable uniform for all performances or they will not be allowed to perform (see dress form). New and used uniforms are available for purchase or loan.

6. Private Instruction: Private lessons are highly recommended. The majority of the students who take lessons are currently sitting in the top level ensembles and sit first or second chair. Lessons can help students advance quickly in the music program by providing individual instruction and attention. Students can also request individual help after school on most days.

7. Home Practice: Students are required to practice at home a minimum of five days a week for at least 30 minutes each session. Occasionally, required practice logs must be submitted to Mr. Dwyer through SmartMusic. It soon becomes obvious who is really practicing, so it only hurts you if you don't treat this time seriously.

8. Instrument Switches: Great bands sometimes require rare instruments. Some students will be given the opportunity to switch to some of these rare instruments. These instruments, when added to the band, make a HUGE difference in the quality of our program and give students an opportunity to play an important role in the band. If your student is asked to make a switch, please give it serious consideration.

9. School Instruments: If you are using a school instrument, you are responsible for its care and safety. If your instrument becomes lost, stolen, or falls into disrepair, you must tell Mr. Dwyer **immediately**. Students not properly caring for a school instrument will have their rental agreements revoked with no refund of the usage donation (see Usage Form).

10. Good Conduct: As a member of the CMS Instrumental Music Program, you symbolize the "best of the best" that Correia has to offer. The choices you make reflect on the music program and the school as a whole. Your obligation is to uphold Correia's schoolwide P.R.I.D.E expectations and the Correia Music Code of Conduct both while in rehearsal and while on field trips. Traveling and field trip participation is a privilege. Any student who misbehaves during rehearsals or school performances will not be allowed to participate in traveling activities. Furthermore, students must obtain a 2.5 grade point average and a citizenship GPA of 3.0 or better in all classes to participate on any CIMA field trip.

Parent Responsibilities

1. Make sure instruments are in good working order, supplies are purchased and concert dress is ready (ironed, looking good and fitting well).
2. Ask your students often if anything was handed out in band. (Search those back packs!)
3. Make sure your child is practicing a minimum of 5 days a week at least 30 minutes per session. If your child is not practicing or seems disinterested, contact Mr. Dwyer immediately for intervention. Encourage your child to take private lessons and/or ask Mr. Dwyer for help if they need it.
4. **Be involved.** All parents should consider volunteering a minimum of once a semester. This includes volunteering for events and fundraisers, helping out with field trips, or taking a leadership position with CIMA. CIMA meetings are held once a month.
5. **Stay informed.** Having an e-mail account is required for both students and parents. All communication and announcements come directly to parents via e-mail, Facebook, and Remind. Stay up-to-date by joining the e-mail distribution list, read the weekly e-mails for announcements, and check the website, Facebook, and the department calendar often.

SmartMusic Software (All classes except Intermediate Guitar)

All students must register for a SmartMusic *Account* (email and password required). Accounts are free however, it is recommended that families purchase a 1 year home *Subscription* for \$40.00 so students can complete assignments at home. If a home computer is not accessible, then students can use the class computer labs and ipads to complete tests and assignments free of charge.

Google Classroom (All Classes)

All students must sign-up for the Google Classroom specific to their class section. Google Classroom will be used to complete assignments, tests, online discussions, and some assessment.

Class Codes

Class	Code
Advanced Band	mjzpxw
Beginning Band	v916x2s
Jazz Band	4ej0e3
Intermediate Guitar	nf56ruh
Orchestra	788976

Uniform Expectations (Varies by Ensemble)

At Correia, we take pride in our musical ensembles. Our director and students work very hard to bring high quality performances that wow audiences and impress judges at festivals and competitions. Flaws in uniforms and appearance detract from the overall performance, the music we perform, and the quality of our hard work.

- Students must be in full uniform for all performances. Uniforms should look neat and be complete from head to toe. New and used uniforms are available for purchase or CIMA can provide a clean, used uniform for loan if necessary. Information and forms will be sent home and explained at our required parent meeting.
- Unacceptable pants, skirts, shoes, or incomplete uniforms may result in the removal of a student from the performance and may affect a student's grade for the semester.

Field Trips

During the course of the year, the teacher will include various forms of educational enrichment opportunities that will give students a well-rounded musical experience. These include entering music festivals, guest performer demonstrations, educational tours and on or off-campus performances and workshops.

IMPORTANT!

Students must maintain a 2.5 or above GPA in academics and a 3.0 in citizenship in all courses to remain eligible for music field trips. Students with poor attendance or who have been suspended from Correia Middle School or academic activities for any reason, WILL NOT be eligible for music field trips or special events.

Classroom Expectations

The expectations for this class are simple. Every student is expected to uphold Correia's schoolwide P.R.I.D.E expectations and the Correia Music Code of Conduct both while in rehearsal and while on field trips.. Because you will be responsible for the care and handling of expensive equipment and materials it is important to follow all of these expectations and they will be enforced without negotiation. Safety with and care of all music equipment is a zero tolerance item as is respect for your peers and their contribution to Correia Music.

Correia Music Code of Conduct

As a student involved in making music at Correia Middle School I will:

I. treat everyone with courtesy and respect.

- 1.1 I will support my classmates in making music.
- 1.2 I will listen carefully for instruction.
- 1.3 I will raise my hand when I want to contribute.
- 1.4 I will not talk while the band is in rehearsal.

II. treat personal and school property with respect.

- 2.1 The instruments and music I use are the tools I need to learn.
- 2.2 Borrowing these tools is a privilege that has been entrusted to me by my instructor and my school.
- 2.3 I will care for these tools as if they are my own.
- 2.4 I will not eat, drink, or chew gum in the classroom.

III. create and maintain a positive and safe environment.

- 3.1 I will help everyone in this class feel capable, connected, and contributing.
- 3.2 I will volunteer and be helpful to my classmates, and instructors.
- 3.3 I will keep my hands to myself.

IV. come to class prepared and on time for learning.

- 4.1 I am part of a team and my classmates depend on me.
- 4.2 I will be on time
- 4.3 I will have all of my materials and music needed to make music successfully.
- 4.4 I will be open-minded to new ideas.
- 4.5 I will learn my music to the best of my ability.
- 4.6 I will strive to do better everyday.
- 4.7 I will ask for help when I need it.

V. act responsible and accept consequences for my actions.

- 5.1 I am human and will make mistakes.
- 5.2 As a young adult, I will be honest and admit my mistakes when I make them.
- 5.3 I will accept the consequences for these actions and always learn from my mistakes.

Consequences

- 1) Violation of any of the above rules results in a verbal warning.
- 2) 2nd violation of the above rules within the same class period will result in a time-out and processing form. *Three or more time-outs within an eight-week grading period will result in an unsatisfactory citizenship grade.**
- 3) 3rd violation of the above rules within the same class period will result in the above, plus a phone call home, and an after-school detention with Dwyer.
- 4) 4th violation of the above rules within the same class period will result in the above plus removal from class, *a school-wide after school detention* and a lowering of the citizenship grade.*
- 5) 5th violation of the above rules will result in a referral and an unsatisfactory citizenship grade.*

SEVERE DISRUPTION – Immediate referral to the office, and an unsatisfactory citizenship grade.

***REMINDER* Students earning a citizenship grade of NI (needs improvement) or U (unsatisfactory) in any class cannot participate in class field trips. (see below)**

Department Communication

Noteworthy and Constant Contact

Correia Instrumental Music Department and Mr. Dwyer use several digital systems to aid in communication throughout the year. Using Constant Contact Mr. Dwyer sends a weekly newsletter called *Noteworthy* to parents so that they always know what is going on in the classroom. The newsletter includes general information, rehearsal schedules, assignment information, and vital information and links to activities in which the students participate. In addition, reminders and general announcements are sent using Constant Contact. Please be sure to provide a useable email on the attached Parent Contact Form so Mr. Dwyer can add you to his mailing list. Your email will not be shared for any reason.

Remind (Text and email reminders) (See attachment)

In addition to Constant Contact, Mr. Dwyer sends reminders using the Remind System. Throughout the year, students will receive text reminders to their phones or email using this service. Students are asked to sign-up for this free service to either receive texts or emails. Standard messaging rates apply so if students don't have phones or would rather receive free emails they can sign up for that service instead. This is intended for the students, but parents are welcome to sign-up as well.

Correiamusic.com

This is the home base of all information pertaining to Correia Instrumental Music. Visit anytime!

Supplies

All items on this list are strongly recommended (unless specified) for participation in Correia Instrumental Music.

BAND

Flute

Cleaning Rod; Soft Cloth

Clarinet

Cleaning Swab

3 Reeds: 2.5 or 3 (beginners use 2.5) (Van Doren recommended)

Cork Grease

Saxophone

Cleaning Swab

3 Reeds: 2.5 or 3 (beginners use 2.5) (Van Doren recommended)

Trumpet

Valve Oil (Al Cass recommended)

Schielke Tuning Slide Cream

Beginners: Bach 7C Mouthpiece (optional)

Advanced: Bach 5C Mouthpiece (optional)

Baritone/Trombone

Valve oil – Baritone

(Al Cass recommended)

Schielke Tuning Slide Cream

Slide-o-mix – Trombone

Beginners: Bach 12C

Mouthpiece (optional)

Advanced: Bach 61/2 AL

Mouthpiece (optional)

French Horn

Valve oil (Al Cass recommended)

Schielke Tuning Slide Cream

Holton Farkas MC Mouthpiece (recommended)

Tuba

Valve oil (Al Cass recommended)

Schielke Tuning Slide Cream

Beginners: Bach 30E

Mouthpiece (recommended)

Advanced: Bach 25

Mouthpiece(recommended)

Percussion

Drum Sticks

(VIC FIRTH SD-1 General recommended)

Practice Pad

Roland Rhythm Coach

(Optional)

ORCHESTRA

Violin/Viola

Soft cloth; Dark Rosin; Shoulder Rest (KUN Bar recommended);

1 Set of strings (dominant recommended)

Cello

Soft Cloth; Rock Stop; Dark Rosin;

1 set of strings (dominant recommended)

Bass

Soft Cloth; Rock Stop; Pop's bass

Guitar

Soft cloth; tuner;

Several picks (medium)

Classical Guitars:

1 set of Nylon strings

D'Addario EJ45C

Folk Guitars:

1 Set of steel strings

Any brand Medium Gauge

All Students

3-Ring 1-inch

BLACK Binder

Sheet protectors

Pencil

SmartMusic

How to Sign-up for Remind

Remind offers teachers a free, safe, and simple way to instantly text student and parents reminders, assignments, assessments, or motivational messages directly to the students and parents phones. Messaging is safe because phone numbers are kept private. Teachers save time because they can send quick, one-way announcements. For students and parents, Remind provides an easier way to stay informed outside of the classroom.

Throughout the year, students will receive text reminders to their phones or email using this system. Students are required to sign-up for this free service and can choose to either receive texts or emails. Standard messaging rates apply so if students don't have phones or would rather receive free emails they can choose this delivery method instead. Parents are encouraged to sign-up for this system as well.

Please follow the steps below to sign up for Remind Text Messaging:

1. FOR TEXT MESSAGING - For the appropriate class enter into your phone:

Class	Text the number	Enter the message
Advanced Band	81010	@adv-band
Jazz Band	81010	@int-band
Beginning Band	81010	@corjazz
Orchestra	81010	@cor-orch
Intermediate Guitar	81010	@int-guitar
Beginning Guitar	81010	@guitarcms
Choir	81010	@choir92107

2. Then follow the instructions you receive for verification

Please follow the steps below for Remind Email Messaging

1. FOR EMAIL MESSAGING – For the appropriate class email the following:

Class	Enter the message
Advanced Band	adv-band@mail.remind.com
Jazz Band	corjazz@mail.remind.com
Beginning Band	beg-band@mail.remind.com
Orchestra	cor-band@mail.remind.com
Intermediate Guitar	int-guitar@mail.remind.com
Beginning Guitar	guitarcms@mail.remind.com
Choir	Choir92107@mail.remind.com

2. You can leave the subject line blank and you do not need to type a message.
3. Ask Mr. Dwyer if you need any help with this process