

Piano Lab Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Murray/Mr. Ebersold
Credit: .5 Fine Arts
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Office Hours: Mr. Murray: Block 3 and 4; before and after school by appointment
Mr. Ebersold:
Room: B-120

Overview and Goals:

Piano Lab provides an introduction to playing and reading music on the piano with an emphasis on practice and rehearsal skills through which students can eventually learn to play on their own.

General Rehearsal Expectations

Be in your assigned seat, on time and ready to work. Be prepared to improve on your skills and knowledge every time you enter the room. Students may only leave class with a previously issued pass or for other unique circumstances. Food, gum and drinks (except water) are not permitted in class.

Be here...on time.

Unexcused absences and tardiness are unacceptable and will be dealt with in accordance with school policy, which is clearly defined in the student handbook (pages 10-12 and 18-20).

Assessment:

Piano Lab is a standards based course. Students will be held accountable for meeting each of the three graduation standards over the span of the term. Instead of traditional “grades” or percentages, a number for each standard will be given: 1 (does not meet the standard), 2 (partially meets the standard), 3 (meets the standard) or 4 (exceeds the standard).

For the purposes of reporting grades to the Progress Report and Report Card, your letter grade will be based on what they have achieved in the indicators. All 3s and 4s will result in a grade that is in the “A” range. More than one or two 2s or lower will reduce the grade from there accordingly.

When you look at your grades in Infinite Campus, please remember that IC will interpret the 1-4 scores as percentages (2 = 50, 3 = 75). PLEASE IGNORE THIS PERCENTAGE! At progress reports and report cards, this percentage will be overridden to reflect the actual score based on the student’s progress in meeting each graduation standard.

Graduation Standards and Outcomes

Graduation Standard 1: Disciplinary Literacy

Students show literacy in the arts by explaining or demonstrating concepts, skills, terminology, and processes.

Students will show proficiency through:

- Written identification of music theory concepts
- Online identification of music theory concepts (musictheory.net)

Graduation Standard 2: Creation, Performance and Expression

Students create, perform, and express ideas through the arts.

Students will show proficiency through:

- Performance assessments (playing quizzes)

Graduation Standard 3: Creative Problem Solving

Students approach artistic problem solving using multiple solutions and the creative process.

Students will show proficiency through:

- Independently learning given songs (the problem) in preparation for playing quizzes

Dear Parents:

Please sign below indicating that you have read and understand the above explanation of Piano Lab expectations and assessments.

This is unique to other classes at GHS so if you have any questions, PLEASE do not hesitate to reach out for clarification. Email is the best way to contact me (matthew.murray@gorhamschools.org).

Thank you

Parent/Guardian Signature