

NHS Music Curriculum

Nordonia High School's Music Curriculum is designed to meet the needs of both the student who intends to major in music as a career as well as the student whose interest in music is for leisure-time fulfillment. Students who plan to pursue a college degree in music should take course work in both choral and instrumental music.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Symphonic Chorale

Ars Vocem

Bel Canto

Vox Fortis

Vocal Jazz/A Cappella

Band

Jazz Ensemble

Bel Canto

Course Number: 7050

Credit: 1

Length: year

Prerequisite: None (non-audition)

Grades: 9 – 12

Bel Canto is open to any Soprano/Alto voice in grades 9-12. Proper vocal techniques, vowel alignment, breath control, sight-reading and performance practice will be stressed. Music performed ranges from all musical time periods—Renaissance through the 21st century. Students are evaluated through vocal tests which consist of singing alone or with small groups for the director, written assignments and performances. This ensemble performs a minimum of 4 concerts a year and will take part in OMEA Adjudicated Events. All performances are mandatory and graded.

Vox Fortis

Course Number: 7051

Credit: 1

Length: year

Grades: 9 – 12

Any Tenor/Bass voice in grades 9 - 12 is eligible for this ensemble. Proper vocal techniques, vowel alignment, breath control, sight-reading and performance practice will be stressed. Music performed ranges from all musical time periods—Renaissance through the 21st century. Students are evaluated through vocal tests which consist of singing alone or with small groups for the director, written assignments and performances. This ensemble performs a minimum of 4 concerts a year and will take part in OMEA Adjudicated Events. All performances are mandatory and graded.

Ars Vocem

Course Number: TBD

Credit: 1

Length: year

Prerequisite: audition

Grades: 9 – 12

Ars Vocem (Artistic Voices) is a select, auditioned, Soprano/Alto ensemble of singers in grades 9-12. Proper vocal techniques, vowel alignment, breath control, sight-reading, and performance practice will be stressed. This ensemble performs a wide variety of musical styles and will have at least 4 concerts a year and will take part in OMEA Adjudicated Events.

Symphonic Chorale

Course Number: 7052

Credit: 1

Length: year

Prerequisite: audition

Grades: 9 – 12

Symphonic Chorale is a select mixed ensemble of auditioned singers in grades 9 – 12. Proper vocal techniques, vowel alignment, breath control, sight-reading, and performance practice will be stressed. Music performed ranges from all musical time periods— Renaissance through the 21st century. Students are evaluated through vocal tests, which consist of singing alone or with small groups for the director, written assignments and performances. This ensemble performs a minimum of 4 concerts a year and will take part in OMEA Adjudicated Events. All performances are mandatory and graded. Auditions will be held each spring.

Vocal Jazz/A Cappella

Course Number: 7054

Credit: 1

Length: year

Grades: 9 - 12

Prerequisite: Audition by Director & Enrollment in Curricular Choir (Vox Fortis, Bel Canto, Ars Vocem or Symphonic Chorale).

The vocal jazz/a cappella groups, Synergy & Momentum, are highly select performing ensembles of auditioned singers in grades 9-12. These ensembles will perform *extensively* throughout the year. They focus on the performance of many styles of music from vocal jazz to the contemporary a cappella genre. There may be monetary responsibilities in the form of purchasing performance attire and possible trip costs. This class is considered a “B” period class as it meets outside of the normal school day.

Band

Course Number: 7020

Credit: 1

Length: year

Prerequisite: Director consent

Grades: 9 – 12

Band class consists of performance in marching band and one of two curricular concert bands.

Marching Band begins with summer rehearsals in June, July, and August, and continues with in-school and extracurricular rehearsals from August through November. Marching band performance obligations include Nordonia football games as well as four or more competitions. A schedule of all rehearsals and performances will be communicated prior to the summer, and all such scheduled events are mandatory for all enrolled students. Marching band performances encompass a variety of popular and classical music with contemporary and traditional choreography and marching drill.

The concert bands begin meeting in early to mid-November and continue through May.

Extracurricular obligations include at least three concerts and at least one OMEA adjudicated event, and possible out-of-school rehearsals. The concert band program consists of Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. All 9th-12th grade students will be placed by audition into either the Concert Band or Wind Ensemble. Concert Band will continue to introduce and refine intermediate and advanced ensemble concepts through performance of high-quality literature of the last four centuries while Wind Ensemble will focus on advanced ensemble concepts through performance of new and old landmarks of the wind band repertoire. Enrollment in Band requires consent of the directors and, with occasional exceptions, prior experience in instrumental music. PE waiver is available for each year of participation.

Colorguard

Course Number: 7021

Credit: 1/2

Length: .5 Year

Prerequisite: auditions in April

Grades: 9 – 12

Colorguard is part of the Marching Band class and begins with summer rehearsals in June, July, August, and continues with in-school and extracurricular rehearsals through November. Colorguard performance obligations include Nordonia football games as well as four or more competitions. A schedule of all rehearsals and performances will be communicated prior to the summer, and all such scheduled events are mandatory for all enrolled students. Colorguard focuses on dance and movement where students learn to spin flags, rifles and other associated equipment. All interested students should contact Mr. Weaver directly at tom.weaver@nordoniaschools.org for more information.

PE waiver is available for each year of participation.

Jazz Ensemble

Course Number: 7030

Credit: 1

Length: year

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in band and placement by audition

Grades: 9 – 12

Jazz Ensemble is a further exploratory into the instrumental music genres of contemporary and traditional jazz, rock, and stage band literature. The course is a continuation of the 7th and 8th grade Jazz Ensembles, developing students' ensemble and individual jazz performance skills at an intermediate to advanced level. Performance obligations may vary but will include at least 5 concerts and additional performances as communicated in advance by the director. Enrollment in Jazz Ensemble requires concurrent enrollment in Band Class and selection following a successful audition; auditions will be held annually in May.