

MVLA  
2019-20  
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

Course Title: String Orchestra

School: MVHS

UC/CSU requirement: Yes

Textbook and/or other learning resources: Sheet music will be provided by the instructor

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

As a result of instruction, students will be able to:

- **Standard 1 – Artistic Perception**  
*Listen to and analyze music, describe music and the use of musical elements.*
- **Standard 2 – Creative Expression**  
*Create, perform, and participate in music. Play various genres, styles, and cultures with expression, tone quality, and articulation by oneself and in ensembles.*

**Course Description:**

String Orchestra is designed as both a performing class and a training group. Musicians of all levels are welcome to participate. Older students may take this course to practice and develop their leadership skills.

**Assessment and Grading** ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories, percentage weights, and collected evidence:
  - Artistic Perception – 20%**  
*Listen to and analyze music, describe music and the use of musical elements.* Students will be expected to observe three performances outside of the MVHS Instrumental Music Program each semester. They must submit a two-paragraph analysis of each performance.
  - Creative Expression – 60%**  
*Create, perform, and participate in music. Play various genres, styles, and cultures with expression, tone quality, and articulation, by oneself and in ensembles.* Students will be assigned regular practice quizzes and will be asked to perform an excerpt individually or within a small group. Students will be assessed according to the Performance Rubric.
  - Ensemble Skills – 20%**  
*Rehearsal work ethic, sectional preparation, listening, live adjustments, blending, and professionalism are all part of the grading in an ensemble class where individual skills impact group performance.* Students will be assessed on their participation based on the guidelines and expectations distributed during the first week of each semester. Students will occasionally self-assess their behavior.
2. Grading scales:  
Grading scale: 100 - 90% = A, 89.99 - 80% = B, 79.99 - 70% = C, 69.99% - 60% = D, 59.99% & Below = Incomplete  
**Note:** Dropping this course mid-season may result in a Withdrawal (W)
3. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)):  
*Instrumental Music Students are expected to practice an appropriate amount of time each week in order to achieve proficiency on their instrument individually and as a member of the ensemble.*
4. Excused absence make up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):  
*Students with an excused absence will have the opportunity to make up a missed practice quiz. They must schedule an appointment with me during tutorial or after school to make-up a performance quiz.*
5. Academic integrity violation practices ([MVHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):

There are no course-specific guidelines for academic integrity violation. Please see the MVHS Academic Integrity Policy: *Honesty, trust and integrity are vital components of the education process. The Governing Board believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. There are three categories for violations of academic integrity based on the severity of the offense (Categories A, B, and C). Examples of academic integrity violations include, but are not limited to, copying homework, allowing someone else to copy your work, plagiarism (taking or passing off another's ideas as one's own, including using Internet sources without documentation), copying from another's exam, improperly obtaining and/or using tests, and using unauthorized notes/materials. Check with your teachers if you are unsure of their expectations.*

6. Late work practices:

*Our department believes that all work must be of an excellent quality which means that constant improvement is a necessity. Students are expected to practice until they master their musical part. Late or missing assignments will be marked as 'Incomplete' until requirements have been satisfied.*

7. Revision practices:

*See number seven above. Specifically, students will have the opportunity to retake practice quizzes before the deadline of: Monday before each concert.*

8. Extra credit practices:

*Extra credit will not be available for this course.*

9. Additional grading practices:

*Students will be provided a performance rubric as well as criteria for participation at the beginning of each semester. This will allow the students to participate in self and peer assessment.*

**Instructors' email addresses:**

Website: mvspartanmusic.net  
Email: anna.linde@mvla.net  
Phone: 650.940.4647

**Additional information:**

**Performing Arts Department Expectations:**

**Attendance:** *It is important that students attend all rehearsals and performances.* This is in alignment with the 'Creative Expression' Standard.

**Outside Performances:** *"Students will observe performances of suitable genres that they are not actively participating in."* Quantity and follow-up will be determined by individual teachers.

**Performance Proficiency Assessments:** *"Students will be given multiple opportunities to achieve A-Level work."* For performance-based assessments, students will achieve A-Level work or be given the opportunity to retest.

**Course Specific Information:**

**Concert Attire:** *Option 1 – Black dress shoes and socks, black slacks, white dress shirt, black bow tie and black dress jacket.*

*Option 2- All black dress, skirt and black blouse, or slacks and black blouse. Dress or skirt must be at or below the knee when seated. Black dress shoes.*

**Fundraising/Fair Share:** *The department relies on donations of time and funds in order to provide the quality and scope of experiences for all students. All accounting information is located on a 24/7 internet accessible Charms account.*

**Digital Device Policy:**

*Devices can only be used in class at the teacher's discretion and should use them in line with the MVLA Digital Device and Behavior Policies. If distraction becomes an issue, the teachers will manage the situation as they would with any other distraction and in line with the relevant policies.*

**Additional Resources:**

Website: <https://www.mvspartanmusic.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MV SpartanMusic/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mvspartanmusic/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/mvspartanmusic>