This course is designed to explore the ways music enriches our lives. Through listening, performing, creating, and moving to music, students investigate the many ways humans express themselves through the language of music.

Using the textbook series “Alfred’s Essentials of Music Theory” students will gain a basic understanding of music theory (how to identify and write basic music notation). This will provide a foundation for the student’s understanding of music in various cultures from around the world. Music theory will encompass 75% of the class time.

By using various audio and visual recordings taken from different regions of the world, students will get a crash course on world music, and how it has influenced popular music today. Students will gain an appreciation for music rooted in different world cultures. They will develop tolerance and respect for various cultures, and gain an understanding of music as a universal language. This will encompass 25% of class time.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Please refer to the Student Handbook for specific information on attendance under the “Attendance Policy” Section R5200.

If a student is in school the day they were absent from this class, they will be marked down as cutting **unless a note is presented from a parent or teacher regarding the absence.** If you know you need to make up a test in another class for any reason, ask the teacher to please call the orchestra room at extension 3144.

**MAKEUP ASSIGNMENTS/TESTS:**

Every student is entitled to obtaining potential full credit for work received during a date of absence with an excuse note. Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the teacher to request make-up work. The student must
complete make-up work within the time specified by the teacher. The student will be
given the same amount of time to make up the work as the student was absent unless
other arrangements are mutually agreed upon. The student will receive the actual grade of
the make-up work if the absence was “excused”. Make-up work for “unexcused”
absences such as cutting a class will not be accepted. In such case, a zero will be given
for the participation and homework grade. Make-up work submitted late will receive a
zero.

TARDINESS:

“Any pupil over 15 minutes late to class or assigned area without a pass will be recorded
as absent for the entire class” (See Tardiness to Class under Attendance Policy R5200
in the Student Handbook).

You must present a pass if you are late to class. No exceptions. If you do not, or cannot
procure a pass from your previous teacher (or have a medical excuse in writing), I will
mark you tardy. You will be assigned detention if you are chronically late more than
three times without a pass or an excuse.

Please refer to the student handbook for more detailed information on attendance and
tardiness.

ASSESSMENT:

Quizzes and homework will be given on topics as they are covered in class. A midterm
and a final will be given. It has yet to be determined whether the midterm or final will be
projects or tests. Please check my website for more information as it becomes available.
The grading breakdown is as follows:

Daily Participation (attendance and class work): 60%

Homework and Quizzes: 20%

Midterm: 10%

Final: 10%

CLASSROOM RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Students are expected to follow all school and classroom rules and procedures. Please
refer to the “Expectations for Pupil Conduct R5500” section in the Student Handbook for
more information. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action as delineated below.

Classroom Rules:

1. Raise your hand and wait to be called on.
2. Only one person may talk at a time.
3. Treat others with respect!
4. Food and drink is prohibited (with the exception of certain medical cases)
5. No electronic equipment (ie. Cell phones or iPods) may be in use.
   a. You are allowed to have such electronic devices in school, however you may not USE them in class. Cell phones and iPods will be confiscated after a failure to comply with a verbal warning to put the item away/turn them off. See the student handbook for more details.

If any of such rules are broken, the following consequences will be enforced:

1. Verbal Warning (ie. Aquila, please turn off your cell phone and put it in your bag. Cell phones may not be used in school.”)
2. Parental Contact and if applicable, confiscation of electronic device.
3. Detention and a write up
4. Administrative Referral

I have designed the curriculum of this class to be open to suggestions/input from the students. If you have a particular interest in a certain style of music and would like to learn more, I would be happy to work this into the curriculum (given that it is appropriate for school). I would like this class to be as much of a collaborative learning experience for you as it is for me as well. By learning about world music and having a solid musical foundation, you become a well-rounded individual and a more cultured member of society.

Please continue to check my teacher website for more information. I look forward to meeting all of you and together, making wonderful discoveries through music!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Horne

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN!

The student along with a parent/guardian must sign below and complete the form. By signing this document, you agree that you have read and understood the terms of the Fisher Middle School General Music Syllabus and are aware of the course content.

STUDENT NAME (PRINTED): ________________________________

STUDENT SIGNATURE: ________________________________  DATE: __________

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: ________________________  DATE: __________

PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE: (______) _______--__________

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL ADDRESS: ________________________________