

## **Instrumental**

Concert Band  
Concert Orchestra  
Guitar - Beginning & Intermediate  
Jazz Ensemble  
Symphonic Band  
Symphony Orchestra  
Wind Ensemble  
Sinfonietta

## **Vocal**

Concert Choir  
Freshman Boys Chorus  
Freshman Girls Chorus  
Freshman Chorus & Vocal Techniques  
Senior Madrigals  
Sophomore Mixed Chorus  
Treble Choir  
Varsity Choir  
Advanced Vocal Techniques

## **Related Courses**

Adaptive Music Leaders (2025-2026)  
AP Music Theory  
Music Design and Technology  
Career Internship Program

# *Music*



**Mr. Gerry James, Division Chair**  
TEL: SC (708) 579-6585, NC (708) 579-6488  
FAX: (708) 579-6786  
EMAIL: gjames@lths.net

**Mr. Mark Dahl, Assistant Division Chair**  
TEL: NC (708) 579-6368  
EMAIL: mdahl@lths.net

## Fine Arts Division Philosophy

Departments of the Fine Arts Division include the Visual Arts, Music, and World Languages. They all focus on the need for individual expression and communication with others. Each area nurtures the internal development of creativity, intuition, reasoning, and imagination and offers a unique means by which thoughts and feelings can be conveyed to familiar and foreign societies. It is the belief of the Division that through these timeless disciplines, students will come to appreciate civilizations past and to contribute to the future advancement of the individual and society.

## Music Department Philosophy

Focusing on the production, understanding, and value of music, students will come to understand the written piece within its time and context and apply such to their own realities. The skills, knowledge, and habits formed will enrich students' life experiences.

### Instrumental Courses

- Beginning Guitar
- Intermediate Guitar
- Concert Band
- Concert Orchestra
- Symphonic Band
- Symphony Orchestra
- Jazz Ensemble
- Wind Ensemble
- Sinfonietta

### Related Courses

- Music Design and Technology
- AP Music Theory
- Adaptive Music Leader

### Vocal Courses

- Freshman Boys Chorus
- Freshman Girls Chorus
- Freshman Chorus & Vocal Techniques
- Sophomore Mixed Chorus
- Concert Choir
- Treble Choir
- Varsity Choir
- Advanced Vocal Techniques (12)
- Senior Madrigals

## Music Department Standards

### Standard I

#### Music Performance

- A. The student will demonstrate the ability to read music notation.
- B. The student will demonstrate basic elements of tone production for voice and/or instrument.
- C. The student will demonstrate well-developed ensemble skills.
- D. The student will perform in a variety of venues and configurations.

### Standard II

#### Music Appreciation and History

- A. The student will understand and explain music in relation to history and culture.
- B. The student will critically listen to, analyze, and describe music.
- C. The student will appreciate the creative process to express emotions and feelings.

All courses listed under Music apply toward the Creative Arts graduation requirement.

- The Music Theory AP course will prepare students for the AP examination in music.
- **Independent Study** Under specific conditions as outlined on p. 25 of the **Guide**, students may make application for Independent Study. In all cases, students must secure parent, teacher, counselor, divisional, and building administration approval. Independent Study may not be taken as an 8th semester/annual course.

## Related Courses

### Adaptive Music Leader (offered 2025-2026)

Credit: 1/2	Level: III
Grade Offered: 10	Fall MU7106
11, 12	Fall MU7101
Prerequisite: None	

This is a one semester course designed for any student who is interested in working alongside special education peers within a culinary arts/art/music/Applied Tech course. Students will develop an understanding and gain experience in: modifying activities to meet individual needs, developing lessons and assisting with instruction, and working alongside peers with special needs to develop meaningful connections. Students will be involved in partnering with and assisting students in acquiring skills through a variety of engaging activities. This course fulfills a creative/practical art elective requirement.

### Music Design and Technology

Credit: 1/2 (cr/nc)	Level: III
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Fall MU3701
	Spring MU3702
Prerequisite: None	

Designed for the student with no previous musical experience, in this course students will explore and understand music through the lens of creativity and self-expression. Initially, the course will focus on the elements of music, the nature of sound, and basic music notation. Next, students will explore a large variety of musical genres (including rock, pop, blues, world, classical and modern). Finally, with the aid of technology, students will manipulate pre-recorded sounds and create a variety of projects utilizing looping, sequencing, recording and composing.

### AP Music Theory

Credit: 1 (cr/nc)	Level: V
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual MU5811
	MU5812
Prerequisite: Previous music training necessary	

AP Music Theory is a course of study for the serious musician who aspires to a career in the music field. Students learn tonal harmonic functions through analysis, dictation, and some composition. The course includes ear training,

melodic and rhythmic dictation, listening to a variety of styles of music, and analyzing representative music compositions. AP Music Theory utilizes Sibelius software to further student skills in composition and in arranging for all music genres.

### Career Internship Program

Credit: 1/2 (dc)	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Fall MU5551
	Spring MU5552
	Summer MU5558, MU5559

This course is designed for a student who has already secured an internship in partnership with their LT teacher in this department. Detailed information about qualifying for a Career Internship Program class can be found on page 10 of the Guide. It is the sole discretion of each department team to recommend a student for a career internship. An application does not guarantee admission.

## Instrumental Courses

### Beginning Guitar

Credit: 1/2 (cr/nc)	Level: III
Grade Offered: 9, 10	Fall MU6616
	Spring MU6617
11, 12	Fall MU6611
	Spring MU6612

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to develop beginning guitar techniques including flat picking and finger picking. Students will learn basic first position chords and first position notes. Each unit includes both playing activities and written assignments. Students will learn to read music and guitar tablature. Each student should have access to a personal instrument for home practice.

## Intermediate Guitar

---

Credit: 1/2 (cr/nc) Level: III  
Grade Offered: 11, 12 Spring MU6622  
Prerequisite: Beginning Folk Guitar

---

This course is a continuation of Beginning Guitar. Emphasis is placed on understanding music theory, learning moveable chords, and reading notes in fifth, seventh, and ninth position. The goals of the class are both performance-based and written. Students should have access to a personal instrument for home practice and should be able to read music, read guitar tablature, and play basic chord progressions.

## Concert Band

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc) Level: III  
Grade Offered: 9, 10 Annual MU5016  
MU5017

Prerequisite: Junior high/middle school band experience or audition with instructor

---

Students in Concert Band study standard band literature, music fundamentals, and elementary theory. They continually strive to improve their performance in the areas of tone, intonation, technique, and musicianship. The band performs at home football games, parades, and concerts. The marching band component during the first quarter results in some required after school/night rehearsals. During the concert season, students are encouraged to prepare solos and participate in small ensembles for the class, and if they wish, for competition. Performance participation is mandatory.

## Concert Orchestra

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc) Level: III  
Grade Offered: 9, 10 Annual MU5226  
MU5227

Prerequisite: Experience with orchestral string instrument and ability to read music

---

This course is open to freshman and sophomore players of the violin, viola, cello, string bass, and harp. Class activities include the study of music fundamentals, sight-reading, standard orchestral literature, and public performance. The Concert Orchestra members are encouraged to prepare solos and small ensembles for concerts, community programs, and the state festivals and competitions. Concert participation is mandatory.

## Symphonic Band

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc) Level: IV  
Grade Offered: 10 (audition), 11, 12 Annual MU5031  
MU5032

Prerequisite: Participation in the Concert Band or audition with instructor

---

Students in this course study music fundamentals and standard band literature. They continually strive to improve their performance in the area of tone, intonation, technique, and musicianship. The band performs at home football games, parades, and concerts. The marching band component during first quarter results in some required after school/night rehearsals. There is opportunity to audition for All State organizations. Band members are encouraged to prepare solos and small ensembles for concerts, community programs, and the state contest. Concert attendance/participation is mandatory.

## Symphony Orchestra

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc) Level: IV  
Grade Offered: 10 (audition), 11, 12 Annual MU5211  
MU5212

Prerequisite: Experience with orchestral string instrument and ability to read music

---

This course is open to junior, senior and auditioned sophomores who play the violin, viola, cello, string bass and harp. Wind and percussion players are selected from the Wind Ensemble. Class activities include a more advanced study of music fundamentals, sight-reading, standard orchestral literature, and public performance. The Symphony Orchestra members are encouraged to prepare solos and small ensembles for concerts, community programs, and local/state festivals and competitions. Performance participation is mandatory.

## Jazz Ensemble

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc) Level: IV  
Grade Offered: 11, 12 Annual MU6111  
MU6112

Prerequisite: Audition

---

This course offers an advanced instrumental jazz experience through the study of works by master jazz artists. The ensemble experience will focus on the performance of a variety of jazz styles within the jazz genre. Significant time will be devoted to the study of improvisation through the study of jazz standards and the building of a jazz vocabulary. Private study is strongly recommended. **Participation is determined by audition.**

## Wind Ensemble

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc)  
Grade Offered: 10, 11, 12

Level: IV  
Annual MU5321  
MU5322

Prerequisite: Audition or consent of the instructor

---

Wind Ensemble offers an advanced instrumental experience through the study and performance of complex high school and college level works for winds and percussion. The course emphasizes advanced performance skills, musical interpretation and techniques. Through rehearsals, clinics and performances, students will broaden the musical repertoire with advanced literature of many styles and periods. Due to the soloistic nature of part assignments, there is a strong emphasis on individual preparation for rehearsals and performances. Private study on principal instrument is strongly recommended. The marching band component during the first quarter results in some required after school/evening rehearsals. **Participation is determined by audition.**

## Sinfonietta

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc)  
Grade Offered: 11, 12

Level: IV  
Annual MU5231  
MU5232

Prerequisite: Audition

---

Sinfonietta is determined by audition and is open to junior and senior students who play the violin, viola, cello, or bass. This course offers study and performance of advanced string orchestra literature and chamber music. Repertoire will be performed without a conductor, so soloistic playing and independent part mastery is expected. Private study on one's principal instrument is strongly recommended.

## Vocal Courses

### Freshman Boys Chorus

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc)  
Grade Offered: 9

Level: III  
Annual MU4316  
MU4317

Prerequisite: None

---

This is an introductory course for freshman boys wanting to be involved in choral singing. All boys, regardless of previous musical experience, are welcome to enroll. Choral music from different cultures and historical periods is studied, as well as basic musical terminology and technique. In order to accommodate the unique attributes of male voices, the boys participate in both a mixed voice ensemble and a male chorus on alternating days. The Freshman Chorus performs during the school

day as well as in the evenings. Concert participation is mandatory

### Freshman Girls Chorus

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc)  
Grade Offered: 9

Level: III  
Annual MU4416  
MU4417

Prerequisite: None

---

This is an introductory course for freshman girls wanting to be involved in choral singing. All girls, regardless of previous musical experience, are welcome to enroll. Choral music from different cultures and historical periods is studied, as well as basic musical terminology and technique. In order to accommodate the unique attributes of female voices, the girls participate in both a mixed voice ensemble and a female chorus on alternating days. The Freshman Chorus performs during the school day as well as in the evenings. Concert participation is mandatory.

### Freshman Chorus and Vocal Techniques

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc)  
Grade Offered: 9

Level III  
Annual MU4216  
MU4217

Prerequisite: None

---

This is an introductory course for freshman girls wanting to be involved in both ensemble and solo vocal music. All girls, regardless of previous musical experience, are welcome to enroll. The girls will rehearse choral music from different cultures and historical periods as well as learn basic musical terminology and technique. The large ensemble will present concerts along with the Freshman Boys and Freshman Girls Choruses. Concert participation is mandatory. The solo component of the class will involve individual monitored rehearsals with performances evaluated by class members and the instructor. Participation in the spring Solo and Ensemble Festival is encouraged.

### Sophomore Mixed Chorus

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc)  
Grade Offered: 10

Level: III  
Annual MU4516  
MU4517

Sophomore Mixed Chorus is open to all sophomore boys and girls regardless of previous choral experience. Maturing vocal production and musical skills are developed through the rehearsal and performance of a wide variety of choral music from many cultures and historical periods. Public performances in the school and community during the school year require mandatory concert participation. Sophomore Chorus members may choose to audition for the IMEA District Chorus





in the fall and participate in the Solo/Ensemble Festival in the spring. The Chorus presents its annual Chorus Assemblies in May.

## Concert Choir

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc)	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual MU5411 MU5412

---

Prerequisite: None

Concert Choir is open to junior and senior men. Students in this class study and perform advanced male chorus literature (TTBB) of a variety of styles and historical periods. A developing sense of tone production, sight-reading skills, and musicianship are stressed in this course, resulting in growing confidence and musical independence. Concert Choir performs in school and in the community frequently during the year. Concert attendance/participation is mandatory for each performance. Students are encouraged to audition for the IMEA Illinois All-State Chorus in the fall, the musical, and Solo/Ensemble Festival in the spring to enhance their musical development.

## Treble Choir

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc) (dc)	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual MU5511 MU5512

---

Prerequisite: None

Treble Choir is open to junior and senior women. Students in this class study and perform advanced treble-voiced literature (SSAA) of a variety of styles and historical periods. The curriculum includes an emphasis on musicianship skills such as sight-reading, ear training, and vocal independence for the maturing female voice. Treble choir performs in school and in the community frequently during the year. Concert attendance/participation is mandatory for each performance. Students are encouraged to audition for the IMEA Illinois All-State Chorus in the fall, the musical, and Solo/Ensemble Festival in the spring to enhance their musical development.

## Varsity Choir

---

Credit: 1 (cr/nc)	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 12	Annual MU5311 MU5312

---

Prerequisite: Audition

Varsity Choir is an auditioned mixed choir that performs advanced SATB literature, both a cappella and accompanied. Frequent assessment of individual vocal skills requires the demonstration and application of advanced musical concepts. Advanced tone production, individual

as well as group musicianship, and choral techniques are stressed. The Varsity Choir performs frequently in the school and in the community with mandatory attendance/participation expected for performances. Additional concert activities are scheduled during the school year such as exchange concerts. Students are encouraged to audition for the IMEA Illinois All-State Chorus in the fall, the musical, and Solo/Ensemble Festival in the spring as enhancements to their musical development. Auditions for Varsity Choir are held in the spring of the junior year.

## Advanced Vocal Techniques

---

Credit: ½ (cr/nc)	Level: III
Grade Offered: 12	Annual MU5911 MU5912

---

Alternate days  
Prerequisite: None

Advanced Vocal Techniques, a class which meets every other day, offers individual students an opportunity to develop their voice through the study and performance of solo literature. Individual and monitored rehearsals are expected with performances evaluated by class members and the instructor. Experience in the spring Solo and Ensemble Festival is strongly encouraged. This class is often taken concurrently with Senior Madrigals. However, participation in Senior Madrigals is not required.

## Senior Madrigals

---

Credit: 0	Level: None
Grade Offered: 12	Annual MU6941 MU6942

---

Prerequisite: Audition

Current junior students in the choral program can audition for Senior Madrigals in the spring of their junior year. Students selected after auditions for the ensemble concurrently enroll in Advanced Vocal Techniques, but do **not** receive credit for Advanced Madrigals. Advanced vocal chamber music is studied, and performances in the school and the community are frequent. These singers are encouraged to audition for the IMEA All-State Chorus in the fall and the vocal Solo/Ensemble Festival in the spring. Performance attendance/participation is mandatory.

## Musical Enrichment Groups

Students enrolled in music performance groups have several opportunities to be in special ensembles. These meet outside regular class time. Ensemble members are selected from the larger performing groups. An expanded performance schedule for these groups is maintained in the school and community. There is no credit for these ensembles: Sophomore Madrigals, Junior Madrigals, Senior Madrigals, Jazz Band, Jazz Lab Band, Chamber Orchestra, and A Capella Club.

# Music Classes

When choosing Annual Courses, you will need the first and second semester codes.

## Freshman Courses

### Annual

MU5016/7	Concert Band
MU5226/7	Concert Orchestra
MU4216/7	Freshman Chorus & Vocal Techniques
MU4316/7	Freshman Boys Chorus
MU4416/7	Freshman Girls Chorus

### Fall Only

MU6616	Beginning Guitar
--------	------------------

### Spring Only

MU6617	Beginning Guitar
--------	------------------

## Sophomore Courses

### Annual

MU5016/7	Concert Band
MU5226/7	Concert Orchestra
MU4516/7	Sophomore Mixed Chorus

### Fall Only

MU6616	Beginning Guitar
MU7106	Adaptive Music Leaders (2025-2026)

### Spring Only

MU6617	Beginning Guitar
--------	------------------

### Courses requiring audition\*

MU5321/2	Wind Ensemble
MU5211/2	Symphony Orchestra
MU5031/2	Symphonic Band

## Junior and Senior Courses

### Annual

MU5411/2	Concert Choir
MU5511/2	Treble Choir
MU5031/2	Symphonic Band
MU5211/2	Symphony Orchestra
MU5911/2	Advanced Vocal Techniques (12th Grade Only)
MU5811/2	AP Music Theory

### Fall Only

MU3701	Music Design & Technology
MU6611	Beginning Guitar
MU7101	Adaptive Music Leaders (2025-2026)

### Spring Only

MU3702	Music Design & Technology
MU6612	Beginning Guitar
MU6622	Intermediate Guitar

### Fall or Spring

MU5551/2	Career Internship
----------	-------------------

### Courses requiring audition\*

MU5321/2	Wind Ensemble
MU6111/2	Jazz Ensemble
MU5311/2	Varsity Choir
MU6941/2	Senior Madrigals
MU5231/2	Sinfonietta

*\*When students select a course requiring an audition at registration, they must also indicate alternates they would like if they do not make audition.*



# Did You Know?

**The Arts are exercise for the brain. Scientific studies prove that 30 minutes a day with a creative activity builds dendrites - the brain's connectors.\***

*\*www.artsed.org/Art-Facts*

**After nine months of weekly training in piano or voice, new research shows young students' IQ's rose nearly three points more than their untrained peers.\*\***

*\*\*Yahoo News, HealthDay, July 13, 2004*



**The Arts promote individuality, bolster self-confidence and improve overall academic performance.\*\*\***

*\*\*\*www.artsed.org/Art-Facts*

## Have you ever considered a career in?

### **Performing Arts**

Symphony Orchestra  
Administrative Personnel  
Musician  
Conductor  
Instrumental/Choral/Ballet  
Accompanist  
Armed Forces Music  
Popular Music Performer  
Restaurant/Lounge Performer  
Wedding Performer

### **Music Education**

General Music Specialist  
Music Supervisor  
Private Teacher  
Store Studio Teacher  
Band/Orchestra Director  
College/Conservatory Professor  
Choral Director

### **Business**

Retailing  
Distributing of Instruments  
Sales Representative  
Instrument Maker  
Instrument Repair  
Music Publishing  
Piano Tuning

### **Recording Industry**

Recording Artist  
Producer  
Songwriter  
Studio Musician  
Recording Engineer  
Mechandiser  
Disc Jockey  
Music Industry Attorney

### **Music Theater, Opera, Film**

Performer  
Stage Manager  
Director  
Costume/Set Designer  
Tech Staff

### **Allied Fields**

Music Librarian  
Music Criticism  
Music Communications  
Publicity  
Public Relations  
Music for Worship  
Church Organist  
Concert Manager