

Estudiantina Course Syllabus 2023 – 2024

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Room H110
5th Period Conference
12:05pm–12:50pm

Goals and Objectives

The goal of this course is to prepare students for performance artistry. This includes styles of Mexican popular and traditional songs as well as folkloric music. Students have the opportunity to sing and learn various instruments such as guitar, mandolin, accordion, upright bass, and percussion.

Students will be taught to use correct singing and playing position. They will develop proper technique, and music reading skills.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts

Music Literacy - The student describes and analyzes music. The student reads and notates music using an appropriate notation system.

Creative Expression - The student demonstrates music artistry by singing or playing an instrument individually and in groups. The student sight reads, individually and in groups, by singing or playing an instrument.

Historical Cultural Relevance - The student relates music to history, culture, and the world.

Critical Evaluation and Response - The student responds to and evaluates written music and musical performance in formal and informal settings.

Rules and Expectations

Basic classroom rules are:

Be respectful to everyone, yourself, and everything at all times.

Listen and follow directions accurately.

Ask for a pass to go to the restroom.

Raise your hand if you have a question or concern.

Be on time and prepared for class. (always have your music, pencil, and guitar ready to start rehearsal.)

The forever NO's of this class

NO gum, food, or beverages allowed during class

NO foul language or rough physical activity

NO use of cell phones or electronic devices

NO headwear or sunglasses in class

NO use of picks unless requested by the director

Breaking rules has consequences such as referrals, calling parents, or teacher-parent conference.

Class Focus

Students will study many styles and genres. This includes styles of: Bolero, Ranchera Valseada, Cumbia, Son, and Huapango. Other styles we may include are: Corrido, Rancheras, Bachata, and Pop Songs.

Students will have rehearsals and sectionals where they will work collaboratively. Practice is very important, as this is what will help students flourish with ease and success through this course. It is recommended that students practice at least 30 minutes daily minimum outside of class in order to be ready for assignments/tests.

Classroom Procedures

1. Get your footstool setup. If we are rehearsing standing you will need your tali instead.
2. Place your sheet music and needed items like pencil and notes on your music stand.
3. Move your backpack and/or other items under your chair.
4. Get your guitar; there is a guitar with a number that will be assigned to you.

Grading Policy

This class is structured to build a solid, confident, and successful performing group. Therefore tests (***67% of six weeks grade***) and daily grades (***33% of six weeks grade***) will be given on a weekly basis to measure your performance. Grades will be mostly performance-based with some occasional written tests. Retests are available upon request if needed. ***Tests will be conducted in groups or solos at teacher's discretion.***

If you know you will be absent on test day due to sports or other school related activities, please make arrangements BEFORE. Not doing so will result in a failing grade with no make up as most grades are performance based on stage.

In some occasions, the top ensembles will be required to perform around the community and for special events. All these events are considered project test grades and DO NOT have a RETEST.

The final exam is a major school event where all members of the program are involved. There is NO RETEST for this event, unless it is an emergency discussed with the director.

Concert Dates (Tentative) - refer to website/event dates

Fall Concert: December ?, 2023 7:00pm – 8:00pm
Spring Concert: May ?, 2024 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Participation in the Estudiantina Program

Music programs are a privilege, playing an instrument is a privilege. Continuation of participation in a music program is at the director's discretion.

Competitions and Field Trips

In order to participate in competitions/festivals and UIL events, you MUST be passing all your classes at all times to avoid 6 weeks or 3 weeks qualifications.

I look forward to be of assistance with your pursuit to accomplish a positive and fun learning experience. Thank you for joining this wonderful and unique program.

Six Weeks Assignments

1. Footstool/ Tali
2. Music
3. Backpack
4. Position
5. Practice
6. Nail Care
7. Song 1
8. Song 2
9. Notebook
10. Practice (Test Grade)
11. Group Performance (Test Grade)
12. Notebook (Test Grade)

Parent Signature _____

Date _____