

**World Drumming Syllabus
2020-2021
ONE SEMESTER**

Instructor

Mr. Steve Schmitz

A110

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*E-mail is my preferred form of contact.

Course Goals

1. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation for several different styles of drumming; mostly focusing on those of African and Latinx cultures.
2. Students will analyze a wide range of musical types through performance, listening, analysis, and discussion.
3. Students will develop basic composition and improvisation skills.
4. Students will develop ensemble and teamwork skills to improve performance
5. Students will become better, more well-rounded people through the class

Course Expectations

1. Students are expected to give their best effort at all times. No gum, food or beverages (besides plain water with a cover/cap) are allowed in any music classrooms for student safety, upkeep of the equipment and pest control.
2. Students are to respect themselves, others, and all school property. Most equipment was NEW from a grant won in 2019! Replacing or repairing broken equipment caused by vandalism or negligence beyond "normal wear and tear" will be the responsibility of the student/parent/guardian. A bill will be mailed to your home and a hold placed on your report card/diploma until paid.
3. Students are to support one another to encourage musical growth both on individual and group levels. In the drumming circle, all are equal and all are respected. Bullying and disrespect of any kind will not be tolerated.
4. As per SLPSH policy, electronics are only allowed during breaks and if a project requires them.

Grading

Grading will be based on total points received. There are no weighted categories. All points will be factored equally, a 10-point playing quiz will count the same as a 10-point assignment. Daily participation points, potential concerts, compositions, and projects are all important ways to earn points.

Grading Scale

100-90%	A
89-80%	B
79-70%	C
69-60%	D

Below 60% F

***The only reason any student has ever earned less than an A in this class has stemmed from unexcused absences (skipping class/virtual meetings) and missing our daily activities!**

Due Dates and Late Work

There are few assignments and almost all are completed during class. All due dates for assignments will be made clear in class. Late assignments will be accepted. Late points will be taken off for each subsequent day late, however even a very late assignment is still worth 50% credit. All assignments due on days with excused absences will be due on the day you return to class.

Have Fun!

This class is very hands-on and does not involve much written work or homework. There is no high-pressure exam at the end of this class. Drumming and music are a natural part of life in every culture throughout time, so please enjoy the opportunity we have to participate in a drumming ensemble for academic credit. **You will earn an A if they come to class/virtual meetings, give your best effort, act as part of the team, and turn in assignments.**

TO BE IN THE CLASS, STUDENTS MUST READ THE COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND FILL OUT/SIGN/DATE BELOW IF THEY AGREE TO THIS CONTRACT.

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STUDENT SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, _____(full printed student name), have read this entire document and I completely understand the rules and regulations of the class. **I agree to do my best to abide by them so that all will have a positive experience. I understand there is a long waiting list for the class repeated infractions may lead to conversations with parents/guardians, in school suspension and removal from the course.**

_____ Student Signature

_____ Date