

# High School Orchestra Syllabus

**Course Description/Goals:**

Orchestra I, II, III and IV Through large group, small group, and individual instruction, students are taught instrumental technique, creative self-expression, perception skills, and historical/cultural heritage in a performance based classroom. Students participate in UIL activities and local concerts.

**Course TEKS/Objectives:**

High School Orchestra challenges students to achieve advanced levels of technical mastery, musical expression, and artistic interpretation while fostering leadership and independence as musicians. High School Orchestra equips students not only for continued musical growth but also for the discipline, collaboration, and creativity that carry over into all areas of life. Each category contains specific standards (TEKS) that students are expected to master. [Chapter 117. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts Subchapter C. High School](#)

**Course Outline:**

| Semester 1   | Semester 2  |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Demonstrate advanced technical skills</b> including shifting into higher positions, vibrato, complex bowing techniques, and refined tone production.</p> <p><b>Perform advanced scales and arpeggios</b> across all keys, with varied bowings, tempos, and styles.</p> <p><b>Interpret and perform diverse repertoire</b> spanning classical masterworks, contemporary compositions, and culturally diverse music.</p> <p><b>Apply advanced ensemble skills,</b> balancing individual artistry with precise coordination in a large group setting.</p> | <p><b>Analyze and discuss music</b> in terms of form, style, and historical context.</p> <p><b>Develop sight-reading proficiency</b> at an advanced level for both solo and ensemble music.</p> <p><b>Model leadership</b> through section work, mentoring younger players, and contributing to the orchestra community.</p> <p><b>Prepare for post-secondary opportunities</b> in music, including auditions, festivals, and continued participation in community or collegiate ensembles.</p> |