



RCTCM Orchestra Class Syllabus, 2018-19 School Year

Instructor Dr. Barry Garman E-mail (best way to contact me):
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Location Room 140E (last room on left)

Course Requirement: Participation in one of the **Richmond County Orchestras**. The seating audition and weekly evening rehearsals are at Tubman Education Center on Walton Way.

6th Grade—Richmond County **Prelude** Orchestra.

Audition: Monday, September 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Rehearsals: Monday evenings, 6:00-7:15, starting October 16th.

7th & 8th Grade—Richmond County **Filarmonico** Orchestra.

Audition: Monday, September 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Rehearsals: Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:20, starting October 17th.

High School

Richmond County **High School Symphony** (or)

Richmond County **High School Chamber** Orchestra.

Group placement will be based on the audition score.

Audition: Tuesday, September 4, 2018.

Rehearsals: Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:20, starting September 18th. Directors may extend certain rehearsals as needed.

Class Schedule Dr. Garman teaches multiple schools on the same day, and normally is not in the building until shortly before your class period starts.

Grades 6-8 6th period

Grades 9-12 5th period

Teacher Absence, Irregular Schedule Whenever Dr. Garman is out, report to Mr. Moss next door. Do this also if our class period starts at an irregular time, even if the difference is only a few minutes.

Instrument Storage

Upon entering school in the morning have a school safety officer open the room for you to drop off your instrument. Do not leave your instrument at school between class days.

Course content includes orchestra music that will be performed, music for technical development, small ensembles, and solo player.

New Class Books

(Grades 6-8) Habits of a Successful Middle Level String Musician by Selby & Rush

(Grades 9-12) Expressive Techniques for Orchestra by Brungard (and others)
Habits of a Successful String Musician by Selby, Rush & Moon

Class Rules

ARRIVAL

- Take care of restroom needs before class. You are counted tardy when the tardy bell rings unless you are in the room.
- Be set up and completely ready by the time instruction starts. Do not socialize when you should be setting up.

DURING CLASS

- Listen at all times, respond to directions promptly, and otherwise judge your behavior and comments by how helpful they are.
- Handle and store your instrument and materials responsibly at all times.

AFTER CLASS

- Please listen to all closing remarks without packing up. Then remove all of your materials from your work area. In anticipation of the bell, do not congregate by the door.

GRADING

WRITTEN (50%): One grade will be posted for class attendance as described below. Also posted are grades for written assignments (for example music theory and music history worksheets or special research) and written quizzes and tests.

Class Attendance

without instrument*8 points deducted from Attendance grade*

without instrument, excused*0 points deducted from Attendance grade*

The excuse requires either (a) direct contact from a parent or (b) a photocopy of a work order for repair showing the date and description of the needed repair.

without needed materials*5 points deducted for repeated occurrences*

This includes printed materials (class book, sheet music, class handouts) to be used in the lesson activities, accessories (shoulder pad, rosin).

Maintenance check points

Instrument and bow are kept clean and are in good working condition with all strings.

Timely instrument adjustments are carried out by a qualified repair person, as the instructor deems necessary.

Spare, new strings (Violin E, A, Viola A) stored in the case are highly recommended.

PERFORMANCE (50%): Grades are posted for orchestra participation as described below. There will be graded observations of student performance in class (playing position and assigned music) using the rubric on the next page.

Orchestra participation

Playing the scheduled **audition** earns a grade of 100. Playing an audition for chair challenge in a Richmond County Orchestra group will earn 3 additional points for the nine weeks.

If there are extenuating circumstances affecting the following on a specific date, a parent can notify the orchestra director (not Dr. Garman) by email.

Attending **rehearsal** earns a grade of 100 with no more absences than allowed under the orchestra attendance policy. Each additional absence will deduct 15 points unless a parent has properly notified the director of extenuating circumstances.

For each **concert** performed, a grade of 100 is posted. If a concert event is missed, a grade of 60 is posted. At the discretion of the director, this grade may be dropped from the average.

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE RUBRIC

Playing position, instrument & bow hold

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ body posture ➤ instrument placement elbow ➤ left arm & wrist ➤ left thumb & fingers, right thumb & fingers 	<p>100 points Consistently correct in all areas.</p>	<p>90 points Minor corrections are needed in some areas, while other areas show no problems.</p>	<p>85 points</p>	<p>73 points The observer noted a major problem or a number of smaller problems, all previously noted.</p>
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Playing assignments

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ technical facility ➤ tone, vibrato ➤ rhythm & meter ➤ pitch center ➤ tonal patterns ➤ interpretation, expression 	<p>100 points The student's performance of an assignment is strong in all areas.</p>	<p>90 points Minor improvements are needed in some areas, _ While other areas show thorough preparation.</p>	<p>85 points Although there is clear evidence of preparation, improvement is still needed in certain areas.</p>	<p>73 points There is little or no evidence that the student has practiced the assignment.</p>
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