



## Grading Policy

Mr. Stoughton



Our Values:  
Show Respect  
Communicate  
Do Your Best



## Grading

**Daily Work: (50 percent)** This category includes daily activities and assignments. This may involve items such as regular assignments, written reflections, group work, etc.

**Quizzes: (25 percent)** Quizzes normally occur on a weekly to monthly basis to check student understanding and progress.

**Projects/Exams: (25 percent)** Projects and/or exams occur 2-4 times per quarter and are the culmination of a unit.



### **A couple important things to know...**

**Redo's:** All assignments in Mr. Stoughton's classroom, unless specified in advance, may be "redone" until you earn the grade with which you are comfortable. For example, if you take a quiz and receive a 75%, you may take the quiz again – and as many times as you like – until you receive a score with which you are content. The questions and/or format of the assignment may change, but the content will remain the same. In addition, your score will never go down. All "redo's" must be completed by an announced date and time (normally about one week before the end of the term).

**Late Work:** Unless specified in advance, late work will be accepted for full credit up until the last week of the grading term.

## In Performance Classes...

**Performances (Category: Project & Exam):** Performances are oftentimes the “final exams” of our ensembles, and represent a central part of this course. Members of the ensemble are expected to be at each and every scheduled performance of the group - an experience that is difficult, if not impossible, to duplicate. If a student is unable to attend a performance for any reason, they will be required to “make-up” the absence by selecting three of the items from the “Fun List.”

**Pep Band Performances (Category: Daily Work):** Students are asked to perform for all pep band performances at cross country meets, volleyball, football, and basketball games. Students who are involved in the sports being played that evening, or other school-sponsored activities, are not penalized for missing these performances. Missed performances may be made up by doing a task on the “Fun List.”

**Lessons (Where applicable) (Category: Daily Work)** Students will be scheduled for weekly/bi-weekly lessons; more lessons are encouraged. Most lessons will be held in small groups, unless an individualized lesson is requested by either the student or music faculty, or makes sense due to scheduling. Students’ lessons out of study halls or other music classes. You may make-up any lessons by either scheduling a make-up lesson with Mr. Stoughton or Mrs. Lau, or by selecting one item from the “Fun List.”

## **THE FUN LIST!**

All tasks must be pre-approved by Mr. Stoughton. Also, just “doing” is not enough - these items are still subject to evaluation according to the project scoring rubric.

- **Composition** – write a musical composition, to be performed by solo instrument, small ensemble, or electronic media. You may use any compositional techniques and notation methods you wish.
- **Dear Diary Project** - Write an introspective message to yourself based upon a preselected topic.
- **Write a Paper** – The classic research paper. Choose your topic and go. Must be at least two pages, double-spaced with size 12 font. Be legal and cite your references.
- **Cartoon** – Get a blank cartoon form from Mr. Stoughton, and create your own cartoon based upon the topic at hand.
- **Be a Poet** – Compose an original piece of poetry or prose. Rhyming is not required!
- **Lyricist** – Write new lyrics to an already composed work. The lyrics should relate to a topic currently being discussed in rehearsals.
- **Choreographer** – Choreograph movements in conjunction with a piece of band repertoire. Perform the work either solo, small ensemble, or with the entire group.
- **Videographer**– Create a video documentary of some aspect of our musical experiences!
- **Role Play** – Assign characters, select a topic, and play out a role play in front of Mr. Stoughton and/or the class. A written reflection will also be part of this assignment.
- **Social Media** - Help create a website, Facebook page, Twitter account, Instagram, etc. for our music department – See Mr. Stoughton for more details.
- **Art** – Create a piece of 2-D or 3-D art (i.e. sculpture, painting, poster, collage, drawing, etc.) that represents the band and/or our music. Be prepared to explain your creation to the ensemble.
- **Clerical/Maintenance** – There’s always something to be done around the band room, such as writing a press release/news article, counting money, building something, taking out the garbage, etc. Help make the music area better by doing your part and understanding all of the many systems that are at work in the department!
- **Attend a performance** – Go to a concert, bring back a concert program, and write a one-page reflection on the experience.
- **Take private lessons** – Let Mr. Stoughton know if you are taking any private music lessons outside of school, and you might just qualify for some “Fun List” extra credit! Oh boy!
- **Have an idea for another type of project? Just see Mr. Stoughton!**