

El Dorado High School Music Department

Levi Cambridge, Instructor

(2009-2010)

Instructor: Levi Cambridge

Office Phone Number: 530-622-3634 ext. 1196

Web posting: www.edhscougarmusic.org

Email: lcambridge@eduhd.k12.ca.us

Values

Discipline Before Instruction

We Are Better if We Work Harder

Behavior Before Performance

We Serve the Team First and Ourselves Second

Description

These courses focus on a student's Artistic Perception, Creative Expression, Historical and Cultural Context, Aesthetic Valuing, Connection, Relationships, and Applications of music.

Text and Supplies

Instrument – Pencil – Music – Handouts – Paper. Band students will also need a flip book and a lyre in addition to their instruments. Guitar & Bass will be using the Mel Bay Books "Mastering the Guitar Class Method" (ISBN 0786659696), and "Electric Bass Method" book 1 (ISBN 0871667851) and book 2 (ISBN 087166786X).

Evaluation

Daily Classroom Work

Music Knowledge/Tests/Assignments

Performances

Bands/Choir

25%

25%

50%

Guitar

20%

70%

10%

Grading

A = 100%-90%, B = 89%-80%, C = 79%-70%, D = 69%-60%, F = 59% and below

Daily Classroom Work

25% Five points are given daily for the following: Punctuality, Preparation, Participation, Perspiration, and a Pencil.

Punctuality: Students will be in their seats and ready to rehearse at our appointed start time.

Preparation: Students will come to class ready having practiced and will be prepared in everyway to rehearse.

Participation: Students will play when asked, following all instructions, and refraining from talking unless directed.

Perspiration: Students will work hard, be focused, stay on task, and demonstrate an eagerness to succeed.

Pencil: Students will have all the required materials for the rehearsal; a pencil, instrument, music, folder, etc.

10 points are awarded daily and failure to participate, a lack of materials, a lack of preparation, or missing instruction due to tardiness or an unexcused absence will result in the loss of daily points.

Music & Scale Knowledge/Tests/Assignments

10 % Students will be tested (written and performing upon request) on musical passages from the pieces we are studying. Instrumental students will be tested on their ability to play all major and minor scales up to 4 sharps and 4 flats. All vocal students will be tested on their ability to sing a major and minor scale in addition to a major and minor arpeggio. Students will be tested on their music theory knowledge gained through direct instruction and theory homework.

5% Students will practice 100 minutes a week and turn in a practice card weekly.

10% Students will complete written theory assignments each week.

The guitar players will learn and be tested on director and student selected pieces from the above-mentioned books (**40%**) and will reach individual achievement goals within those books (**10%**).

Other assignments may be given.

Performances

50% Students will attend all performances with their instrument and music (5 points), be in full uniform (5 points), and they must be on time and have prepared themselves in every way to perform (5 points) to receive full credit (15 points). All dates and times will be announced in class, posted to the website, written on the classroom board and a hard copy will be provided to each student. Missing a performance will lower the semester grade by a full grade point. Requests for an excused absence will defer to the school guidelines and will be granted at the discretion of the director. Guitar players will complete a number of in class performances each semester. Guitar players (**10%**) will perform 3 times if this is the first time taking the course, 5 if it is the second, 7 if it is the third, and 9 if it is the fourth time taking the course.

Classroom Rules

- 1.) No eating, gum, or drinking (water in a plastic bottle is okay).
- 2.) Do not enter the office or uniform room without an adult present
- 3.) Do not play any instrument or use any amplifier unless it is yours, you're assigned to it, or are otherwise authorized to play it.
- 4.) If you see a piece of trash, pick it up and throw it away.
- 5.) Close the cupboard doors when you are finished with them.
- 6.) Do not draw or write on chairs or stands.
- 7.) Do not run or throw any objects in the room.
- 8.) Ask permission to use the restroom. Any time used will be made up after class.
- 9.) Swearing will not be tolerated.

Classroom Procedures

First 5 minutes

- Set up chairs, stands, instrument, have a pencil, and music, leave all other items in a cubby or on the ramp.

Next 10 minutes

- Warm-ups as directed, percussion should be playing the exercises on mallets or playing rudiments on a snare drum, share if you need to.

Rehearsal

- Be attentive and ready to play/sing when directed.
- Use proper posture, hand position, instrument position, and breathing techniques.
- Set your embouchure before you play, articulate accurately, and play or sing with beautiful tone.
- Use your spit valve and remove moisture from your reed as needed.
- Pour your passion into your music and play or sing expressively.
- Raise your hand if you have question, otherwise be quiet.
- When you are not playing listen for instructions to improve the playing or singing of the music and listen for places in the isolated part that are similar to yours and find ways to apply the instruction to your part. Sing your part in your head and finger your part on your instrument especially sections that are challenging, write in the counts for challenging rhythms, and number the measures in the music. Percussion should play difficult passages on your leg or in the air during down time.

Clean Up

- Stack all chairs and rack the stands
- Put away all percussion.
- Put all instruments in their respective cubbies and pick up all bags and personal items.
- Pick up all loose papers and trash.
- Close all cupboard doors.
- Leave when the bell rings.

El Dorado Band Field Trip Behavior Policy

Contraband

Contraband, which includes but is not limited to cigarettes, alcohol, or drugs, will not be permitted. Possession of contraband material may result in transportation to Placerville at parent expense, plus disciplinary action from the school administration and law enforcement. All appropriate avenues of school and/or legal procedures will be followed regarding behavior of participants. Prescription drugs need to be surrendered to the director at the beginning of the trip and will be dispensed as prescribed.

Transportation

When being transported by bus or private automobile a number of responsibilities are assumed by the participant. These responsibilities included but are not limited to the following:

Participants are required to keep their area clean by disposing of trash and by keeping personal items contained. Participants are also required to be respectful of their neighbors by limiting noise levels, avoiding encroachment into another person's space, and by maintaining appropriate and sanitary hygiene practices.

Requests and directions by the driver of the vehicle need to be followed at all times. Please respond quickly to all instructions by the driver. Remain seated at all times unless instructed and use all available safe restraint systems while the vehicle is in motion. Remain quiet during arriving or departing from any area as the driver may require additional concentration to maneuver appropriately.

Directions

While on a trip the director, drum major, or chaperones will provide directions and instructions. When the group is directed every participant needs to respond quickly without exception. If the drum major or a chaperone is providing directions be courteous and execute the direction even if there is disagreement with the chaperone then raise the issue with the director for resolution. Do not ask a chaperone to direct the group to do something contrary to established policy. Do not talk back to the director, drum major, or chaperone.

Relationships

Occasionally romantic relationships between members of the group will develop. While on a field trip there should be no visual indication of this relationship. Couples may sit together and visit with each other but no other displays of affection should be seen for the duration of the event. Holding hands does not necessarily indicate a romantic relationship and shall be permitted.

Discipline

Discipline for violations on the field trip will vary with the severity of the infraction from a warning or referral to school administration to removal from the trip and notification of law enforcement.

Any participant on a band trip is a representative of El Dorado High School and the behavior of all participants will reflect the pride and honor of being an El Dorado Cougar. Remember, these rules exist to provide for the safety and enjoyment of the entire group.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Marching Fundamentals

- **Stretch:** 1.) roll head, shoulders, wrists, ankles. 2.) arm circles. 3.) shoulder stretch (hands clasps behind back). 4.) lateral stretches. 5.) hamstring stretch. 6.) posture stretch. 7.) plia with an ace symbol in your hands.
- **Marching Fundamentals:**
- At Ease: Be relaxed, speak softly, the right foot stays planted until dismissed. No response.
- Attention: Heels together, toes at a 45°, stomach in, chest out, back straight, shoulders back, chin up, eyes with pride. When holding an instrument it is held away from the body with elbows out two director fists width. One count, respond “One!”
- Horns up: is a one count move into position with no response.
- Horn Angles: Hands together, or horn, 10° above flat or pointed to the press-box *freshman use a pencil*. In the room on the bottom level point to the directors head for normal and to the clock for to the box. Arms to hands create a 90° angle.
- Parade Rest: Hands punch out, the feet move apart, right hand moves to the sternum in a fist and the left hand moves to the small of the back also in a fist. The rest of the body remains at attention. This is a two count move and the member responds with “One, Two!”
- Haste: The heel matching the direction of the move is pivoted on while the opposing heel pushes the movement. The heels then come together. The horn follows the move and the body remains at attention. This two count move is verbalized with “One, Two!”
- Mark Time: With the body at attention the leg is lifted in tempo to a variety of three levels. Heel to ankle, heel to mid-calf, heel to knee. The toes are pointed down when not on the ground and the ball of the foot rolls when as it touches the ground each time. The feet absorb the shock and there is no verbal count for the remaining movements.
- Pop Step (not used in 2009): The left knee pops out and the foot comes up onto the toe on count 4 of the forward march command.
- Glide Step: after the pop the step is executed from heel to toe like squeezing a tube of toothpaste. The toe lift is exaggerated. The feet do not cross over but march without a space between them down a straight line. The standard step is 8 steps to every 5 yards. We will also practice 6 to 5 and 16 to 5.
- Forward March: pop step into a roll step and ending with a level two step-down. The marcher remains at attention.
- -----
- Backward March: Weight is on the toes, knees are bent slightly and the upper body is elevated. The left foot is brought back and dropped straight down. On every ensuing count the toes will not come off of the ground.
- Flanks: the flank is a quick 90° change of direction while moving and occurs on count one of the count. The right foot is always the pivot foot and the horn follows the direction of the turn.
- Slides: use the same footwork as a flank but the upper body remains facing forward. The slide is most effective with a quick hip shift.
- Tendu: is used to change the direction from the band from a forward to a backward march. The right foot ends on count 8 and is fully extended with no weight placed on it. The right foot holds for two counts and then moves backwards or forwards for count two thus maintaining consistent step placement.
- Breakaway: uses the tendu from a forward direction and instead of moving to a backward march. The marcher pulls the right foot back and pivots on it as the left foot come around for count four.
- Rank, File Cover, Dress, Distance, Interval, Diagonals: these are terms that are used when in a marching block. They are used to maintain the look and design of the parade block.
- Dress Left, Right, Center: dress commands are given to adjust dress. The head snaps to the direction called and then the band adjusts. The person on the far left, far right or center of the rank continues to look forward during the command.
- Peripheral Vision: used to negotiate the dress, cover, and diagonal of the rank and file while looking straight ahead.
- Gate Turns: used to turn an entire rank. The inside file slows to a 16 to 5 while the outside adjusts their steps to a 6 to 5. The rank turns will the dress remains intact.
- Rehearsal Guidelines: always take a step in the new direction and hold for 2 seconds, adjust to your spot and move to your set position.

Values

Discipline Before Instruction
Behavior Before Performance
We Are Better if We Work Harder
We Serve the Team First and Ourselves Second

Band Goals

Play musically
March with precision
Be entertaining

The Way to Be

"Where are your...?"
"...heels?" "TOGETHER!"
"... stomach?" "IN!"
"...chest?" "OUT!"
"...back?" "STRAIGHT!"
"... shoulders?" "BACK!"
".. chin?" "UP!"
"... eyes?" "COUGAR PRIDE!"

Stretches

Roll Head,
Roll Shoulders
Roll ankles and wrists
Small Arm Circles (forward and back)
Lateral Stretches with the arms in the air (lft and rt)
Shoulder stretch (clasp hand behind back and look up then bend down)
Hamstrings (grab behind knees)
Posture stretches (grab lft leg with lft hand, rt hand to air and stretch 3xs then extend forward)
Plea (ace sign and then squat)

Visual Basics Warm-up

Metronome at 120

- 1.) Attention 8
- 2.) Mark time 16
- 3.) Slow Glide for 8 steps with 2 counts for each step
- 4.) 8 to 5 four times
- 5.) Mark time 16
- 6.) 8 to 5 back marching 4 times
- 7.) 4 sets of Tendu's
- 8.) 4 sets of Breakaways
- 9.) 8 to 5, 16 to 5, 8 to 5, 6 to 5, 8 to 5.

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement Page

Thank you for supporting your student and the El Dorado High School Music Department. There are many things that parents can do to help from chaperoning on trips to dropping off a few cases of water at school for events. I would encourage you to help in ways that you are able. If you would like to drive for the band, jazz band, choir, or winter-guard during the year please fill out the driving form found at www.edhscougarmusic.org and attach a copy of your insurance policy. Please contact a booster or myself for opportunities to support your student.

Please detach, sign, and date this page along with your student stating that you have read and understood the information in this introductory packet. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Email will return the fastest response.

This year is full of exciting and enriching experiences and I am looking forward to working with your students.

Levi Cambridge

530-622-3634 ext. 1196

lcambridge@edhusd.k12.ca.us

www.edhscougarmusic.org

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement Page

I have read and understood the introductory packet.

Parent Name (Please Print)

Parent or Guardian

Date

Student Name (Please Print)

Student

Date