

STEAM

Jefferson School
2025-2026 Syllabus
Ms. Growcott

Course Description

This class will explore a variety of the arts as they relate to real life applications. This includes creative projects that relate to STEM principles, learning instruments that can be carried over as a hobby or to support song writing, and exploring music and visual art as a creative outlet for students' personal interests.



Contact Me

rgrowcott@jsdtracy.com

Grading Policy

The grading scale is as follows:

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

Late work: Students will always have time to do relevant assignments in class. However, if they happen to miss an assignment, it will have to be made up at home, with notes on missed content being provided by Ms. G

In Class Assignments 40%
Journal/Sketchbook Checks 20% Projects 40%

Supplies/Websites

- Chromebook
- Journal/Sketchbook (provided)
- Folder or binder
- Pencils
- Google Classroom (code provided first week)

Classroom Expectations

- Have all materials ready.
- Be respectful to yourself, to others and to the room.
- Be ready to participate.
- Follow the Creed at all times.

Plagiarism/Cheating

No assignment completed should resemble any existing piece of music, art or text, unless an art or writing style is mimicked as part of an assignment. If a student is found to be copying/cheating on any given assignment, it will be given a 0.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Utilize visual art as a creative outlet for personal interests.
(shows, books, games, their own writing)
- Connect visual art to various math/science principles (including architecture, business, digital design, etc.)
- Learn to perform simple songs/accompaniment on a variety of instruments.
- Learn various history of important figures relating to STEAM subjects.

Advanced Band

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Course Description

Advanced band is for students who have completed two years of band or more, or proof of proficiency on their respective instrument. Advanced Band students will get the opportunity to perform higher "grades" of music, and perform said music both on campus, and at several events. Advanced Band students are considered leaders of the band program at Jefferson, and represent a long legacy of musical excellence.



Contact Me

rgrowcott@jsdtracy.com

Supplies/Websites

- Primary Instrument
- Pencil
- Band Folder
- Music (provided)

Classroom Expectations

- Materials (instrument, music) are set up promptly
- Be respectful of each other and equipment
- Follow the Jefferson Creed

Grading Policy

The grading scale is as follows:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| • A: 90-100 | • D: 60-69 |
| • B: 80-89 | • F: 59 and below |
| • C: 70-79 | |

Lack of Participation: Band students are expected to play their instruments every day of band unless the lesson does not require playing. Students who do not provide valid reason (absence, illness) for not participating will have points removed from their overall grade if the issue is recurring.

In class participation 60%
Playing Tests 20% Performances 20%

Instruments

Every student should have a working instrument to bring to class. It is encouraged for those who play smaller instruments (flute, clarinet, trumpet, alto saxophone) to rent or own their instruments. Percussionists should own a practice pad, and their own set of drumsticks. School Instruments are available in limited supply, and are given out with a contract stating expectations for instrument care.

Concert Information

There are two **required** concerts this year-

Winter Concert (exact date TBD)- December- 6:00pm, 5:15pm call time.

Spring Concert (exact date TBD)- May- 6:00pm, 5:15pm call time.

Marching Band

Marching Band is now **mandatory** for 7-8th grade students. Marching Band will be held Tuesdays and occasionally Thursdays DURING the Advanced Band period(s).

The events we will be attending this year are as follows:

Tracy Homecoming Parade

Almond Blossom Festival

Intermediate Band

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Course Description

Intermediate Band is for students who have been playing in band for a year or more, or have proof of proficiency on their chosen instrument. Intermediate Band works on ensemble sound development, as well as more complex musical works. Intermediate Band students will also have more playing opportunities, both in and outside of school.



Contact Me

rgrowcott@jsdtracy.com

Supplies/Websites

- Primary Instrument
- Pencil
- Band Folder
- Tradition of Excellence Book
- Music (provided)

Classroom Expectations

- Materials (instrument, music) are set up promptly
- Be respectful of each other and equipment
- Follow the Jefferson Creed

Grading Policy

The grading scale is as follows:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| • A: 90-100 | • D: 60-69 |
| • B: 80-89 | • F: 59 and below |
| • C: 70-79 | |

Lack of Participation: Band students are expected to play their instruments every day of band unless the lesson does not require playing. Students who do not provide valid reason (absence, illness) for not participating will have points removed from their overall grade if the issue is recurring.

In class participation 60%
Playing Tests 20% Performances 20%

Instruments

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