

**CORNER CANYON HIGH SCHOOL STRING ORCHESTRA
DISCLOSURE 2019–2020**

INSTRUCTOR: Mr. Atencio—mitchell.atencio@canyonsdistrict.org

OBJECTIVES: Membership in the String Orchestra presents an opportunity for developing string players to study and perform on their instruments, focusing on developing musicianship and technique. Each student is expected to study and experience orchestra music. Emphasis is placed on improving individual skills, appropriate personal practice, and understanding responsibilities to the ensemble.

EXPECTATIONS
AND MATERIALS: Members of this class are expected to:

- Have a clean, working instrument each day.
- Have all accessories needed to play (rosin, endpin, etc.)
- Have a pencil.
- Have a metronome and tuner. (there are great apps for smartphones including Tonal Energy and Pro Metronome)
- Spend at least 2 hours/week practicing their instrument.
- Members are encouraged, but not required to have a subscription to Smart Music (\$40/yr). This is a great program for students to use to aid in practicing and improvising.
- Attend all festivals, concerts, and any extra rehearsals necessary to prepare for these events.

FEES: The fees for this class are as follows:

- **\$45** Instrumental Music Participation Fee
This fee is charged by the school/district and only needs to be paid once regardless of how many instrumental music classes you take. It helps pay for travel to events. Paid via Skyward.
- **\$30** Class Fee
This is a fee that helps pay for music, concerts, and parties. You likely did not pay for this already and it is not listed on Skyward yet.
- **\$80** Instrument Rental Fee
This fee is only required if you are using a school owned instrument. The fee allows you to use the instrument all year long. You are still required to pay for maintenance. You only need to pay this fee once if you are using an instrument in multiple classes.

ATTENDANCE:

Students will be given points for daily participation and attendance. If a student is absent, equivalent course work must be done to make up the participation points. Students must be in the orchestra room assembling their instruments when the bell rings. Students must be in their seats ready to play 3 minutes after the bell rings to avoid being marked tardy. Attendance at additional rehearsals, concerts, festivals, and other performances are mandatory and do not make up missed classes during the day.

Students with a NG in this class may make that up by attending morning attendance school in the orchestra room. These sessions will occur by appointment with Mr. Atencio. One 30 minute session will make up one tardy. Two 30 minute sessions or one 60 minute session will make up one absence. The number of sessions required to dismiss a NG will be determined by how many absences a student has beyond that of the school attendance policy. Students with conflicts may make special arrangements with Mr. Atencio to make-up a NG.

If you will be gone from a class or rehearsal, please email me in advance. Active communication is an important part of being a musician in an ensemble.

GRADING:

The final grade is based on the following three areas:

1) Ensemble and Rehearsal Culture: This includes the following: bringing instruments and materials to class, engaging in class activities, any written homework or tests, concert reports.

At times it is necessary to combine with other classes (winds, percussion, etc.) for concerts. Rehearsals, in general, will last no more than 60 minutes and they will only be scheduled as needed. Students will always be given advance notice of rehearsals, and the schedule will be posted in the orchestra room. Students are expected to attend these rehearsals. Students who do not attend at least 80% of extra rehearsals will not be able to perform at region and state and may lose concert performance privileges as well. Absences from these rehearsals must be excused at least 48 hours in advance. Special circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis. (34% of the final grade)

2) Performances: Class members of the string orchestra participate in concerts, clinics, sectionals, assemblies, and the school musical. In general, absences from performances will not be excused. However, in special situations absences will be excused only if 2 weeks' notice has been given—communicate with Mr. Atencio,

early, about any conflicts. Missing a performance can result in the loss of all performance credit for the quarter. Make up for an excused absence from a performance can be accomplished by completing the “concert make-up assignment” as outlined on the makeup handout. Special circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis. (33% of the final grade).

3) *Playing Tests*: Tests will be given as assigned from repertoire and other materials. Students must receive at least a B+ on playing tests involving festival music in order to perform in Region and State events. Students may retake these tests at any time before the event to be able to perform. Individual circumstances will be taken into consideration. (33% of the final grade)

EXTRA HELP

Students needing extra help can come in before school between 7:15 and 7:55 M–Th, during Charger Time, or can see me after school by appointment. (I teach in two different classrooms, so it is always a good idea to check with me before coming in to make sure I’m going to be where you look for me!)

LATE WORK

All assignments must be submitted within the same unit for which those assignments were given. Once a new quarter or unit has begun, late work from the previous quarter or unit will no longer be accepted.

FIXED DATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments with a fixed due date on Skyward must be submitted by the scheduled/assigned due date, *regardless of a student's absence*. Students should plan ahead in case of conflicts with the fixed due date including planning for school-excused absences or family vacations and communicating with the teacher. Students can arrange to submit electronically, when possible, or have someone else drop off the assignment to the teacher as needed. Late assignments with fixed due dates will not be accepted for credit. In the event that a student has problems beyond his or her control which are not covered by this statement, the teacher will meet with the student, and, if necessary, the student’s parent/guardian, in order to come to an equitable solution.

THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA CREDIT GIVEN IN THIS CLASS

CELL PHONE POLICY

Students should not have a cell phone at their chair in class. They may keep them silenced in their band or orchestra locker. Students found in violation of this policy, without prior approval, may receive a reduction in “Ensemble and Rehearsal Culture” credit.

REMIND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

This class uses Remind to send messages to students and parents. To sign up for the Remind system text @cchsstring to 81010.

- Your personal contact information is not visible to me or the school.
- I can send announcements to the entire class or direct messages in individual and group conversations (if the student is over the age of 13).
- All messages are recorded and easily accessible in case they need to be referenced in the future.
- Messages from my class will be sent directly to your phone or email account.