

**General Music**  
Mr. Coile  
nelson.coile@dcsms.org

Welcome to General Music! This class is a nine (9) weeks course that will cover the music of the decades from the 1950s until present day music. The class will consist of daily activities, weekly presentations, and a comprehensive final exam at the end of the term. I am really looking forward to teaching this class!

1.) **Schoology**

I will use Schoology as a resource mainly for day-to-day activities and for students to keep up with work they missed. On occasion, the students will have to complete assignments in Schoology. For the most part, I will post the assignments we do each day and the students will receive a hard copy of the assignments in class. **It is the student's responsibility to make up any missed work**

2.) **Remind**

Any quick announcements that I will need to communicate with the class I will send through Remind. I will give the students the codes in class.

3.) **School Status**

If there are any issues or if I need to send notifications out, in addition to Remind, I will use School Status to reach out to parents should the need arise.

**There is no reason for lack of communication!**

**How the Class Works**

This class, as mentioned above, is about popular music from the 1950s until the present day. Once we begin the course, each week will be a different decade of music. For instance, we will spend five (5) days on the 1950s decade of music, and once we have completed the 1950s we will move on to the 1960s and so on.

Students will do a brief presentation each week of the course. Each presentation will represent an artist from the decades we have covered. There will be specific instructions for these presentations as well as a rubric to grade them with.

We will do this for each decade until we reach the 2010s decade of music  
**DO NOT PLAGIARIZE! If you are caught plagiarizing any assignment, presentation, or essay you will receive a zero (0) for the assignment for the first offense. Any subsequent offenses will result in disciplinary action and parents will be notified. You have been warned!**

## **Grade Percentages:**

Below are the types of grades students will receive in this class and the percentages:

### **Daily Grades – 30% of Final Grade**

**Listening Exercises** – These are where you try and name the song title, the artist who sang the song, and the genre that the song belongs to

**Lyric Comparison Exercise** – These assignments are based on song lyrics from each decade. You will answer questions based on these lyrics.

**TED Talks** – This assignment is where we watch a music-based TED Talk and answer a short questionnaire about the video. Every answer is in the video!

**Songs and Stories** – These are where we will listen to instrumental music and then you will write a mini story based on the music that you hear.

**Song Analysis** – We will cover some songs that have meaning to them, and I want to see your interpretation of the songs

**Political Cartoons** – You will draw a political cartoon based on the music that you hear and the lyrics as well.

**Compare and Contrast** – We will be listening to various songs that have different versions/covers. You will compare and contrast the two songs.

**Setting the Stage** – These will be for each decade when we start them. You will do research on the decade itself (big events, pop culture, social trends, etc.)

### **Presentations/Research – 50% of Final Grade**

**Presentations** - These will be the weekly presentations you will give on your chosen band/artist.

**Research** – This is the work to be done in preparation for the presentations. The grade for the research will be based on the presentation rubric (out of 40)

**IF YOU ARE ABSENT ON PRESENTATION DAY,**

**You must make up your presentation after you return. They are a major part of your grade!**

**If you are working in a group, the group will continue with the presentation. I will give you credit for the research portion of the presentation. To receive credit for the presentation portion, you will need to write an essay which will have its own rubric**

### **Final Exam – 20% of Final Grade**

The final exam will be based on the note-takers and/or articles that we cover during our lecture time. There will be a study guide for this.

**Exemption from Final:** Per DeSoto County Schools, to be exempt from a nine weeks class, the student must have no more than **two (2) unexcused absences** in a nine weeks and must have a nine weeks average of an **eighty-five (85) or higher** in the class

### **Make-Up Work**

The policy for make-up work follows the DeSoto County School Policy for Make-Up work.

**IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO STAY CAUGHT UP ON ALL MISSED WORK!**

If you have any questions regarding your grade or any missed work, please reach out and I will be happy to help you get caught up.

### **Materials needed for class**

3-ring binder

Pencil

Notebook paper

Notecards (optional for presentations)

Any other materials (dividers, sheet protectors, and so on) are welcome as well. Anything to help students stay organized!

### **Other Housekeeping Things:**

-Please remove all hoods and hats when you come to my class.

-Cellphones: Please refrain from using your cell phones during class time. We all have school-issued technology that can be used every day during class.

-School-Issued Laptops: You will need to have your Laptop every day for class.

I am so excited to be able to teach this class! I hope that we are all able to learn from each other as we navigate this new school year! If you have any questions for me, PLEASE reach out via Remind, Schoology, School Status or shoot me an email. Let's have a great nine weeks!