

TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
Curriculum Guide

Course Title: **Jazz Band**

Grades Taught: **7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>**

Credits Given: **One for students in grades 9 – 12**

A. **Course Goals:**

1. To develop an understanding of jazz styles through performance of jazz literature
2. To teach students the art of improvisation and to develop an understanding of basic improvisational techniques
3. To work toward performances throughout the school year

B. **Course Topics:**

<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Instructional Materials:</u>	<u>Measurement:</u>	<u>Time in periods:</u>
1. <u>Pieces of music for Christmas Concert</u>	<u>Teacher selected jazz arrangements</u>	<u>Class Participation</u>	<u>Each class in the fall</u>
2. <u>Jazz Scales</u>	<u>Use of jazz scale sheet</u>	<u>Perform in class</u>	<u>Each class</u>
a. <u>Blues scales</u>			
b. <u>Dorian scales</u>			
c. <u>Mix Lydian Scales</u>			
3. <u>Learning jazz pieces</u>	<u>Jazz sheet music</u>	<u>Teacher Evaluation</u>	<u>4</u>
4. <u>Correct Jazz Style</u>	<u>Jazz Arrangements</u>	<u>Perform in class</u>	<u>Each class</u>
5. <u>Music of the Jazz Greats</u>	<u>Arrangements written by or in tribute to</u>	<u>Perform in class</u>	<u>Once/week</u>
a. <u>Duke Ellington</u>			
b. <u>Dizzy Gillespie</u>			
c. <u>Louis Armstrong</u>			
6. <u>Pieces for Spring Concert</u>	<u>Teacher selected jazz arrangements</u>	<u>Class Participation</u>	<u>Each class after Christmas</u>

C. **Student Materials:**

1. Instruments
2. Music Folders

D. 1. Scores for all music

2. Warm-up exercises

E. **Classical Methodology:** Most jazz students are in the logic and rhetoric stage students. Jazz music is written for style and technique. Performing jazz music can give one a feeling of freedom that is often not present in other forms of music. This is mostly due to the improvisational aspects of the music as well as its relaxed nature. Improvisation is a form of expression lending itself well to late logic and rhetoric stage students.