

Duke Ellington School of the Arts

## **FLUTE ENSEMBLE I – IV**

Grades 9 – 12

### **Course Syllabus**

#### **Course Overview:**

The Flute Ensemble is comprised of students from grades 9-12. It should be noted that not all students are on the same level, technically and artistically. Therefore, the literature studied in this course must be geared toward what the least experienced student can be expected to learn **well** in the interval between the monthly student recitals in which the Flute Ensemble typically participates.

In this course, the student is expected to develop a firm understanding of the following basic concepts in music: *dynamics, rhythm, technique, blend, articulation, phrasing, tempo, intonation, style and tone.*

More experienced students get to play specialty instruments like alto flute and bass flute on pieces written for 3-8 players. The Flute Ensemble covers literature from Beethoven to Take 6.

#### **Teaching Strategies:**

Demonstrations and small group interactions, with emphasis on proper tuning and blend.

#### **Formative Assessments:**

In each rehearsal (and especially in each performance), the instructor evaluates how well the above 10 music concepts are being observed by the players, as well as how well the stage decorum taught is demonstrated.

## **Course Requirements:**

- All students must own or rent a C flute. (if you make a new purchase, a B foot joint is recommended).
- All students are required to own and practice with a **METRONOME**.
- All students must own a music stand. A music stand that puts the music at eye level while standing is recommended.
- All students must bring all required materials to class: instrument, music, pencil (with good eraser), notebook, music dictionary.

## **Grading Procedures:**

All students will be graded by:

- Quality of class and homework assignments.
- Evidence of a consistent daily practice schedule.
- Class attendance and promptness. Any absence must be supported by a note signed by a parent or legal guardian. Tardiness without a pass will affect the student's grade.
- Class participation.
- Preparation for, and quality of, each performance.

## **Grading Breakdown:**

Student Engagement	20%
Practice and Application	40%
Assessment	40%

## **Dress Requirements for Recitals:**

Students will not be allowed to perform (and will receive a failing grade for a recital) if they are not in compliance with the performance attire as described below. All performance attire must be approved by the technique teacher prior to the performance.

**Male** – black tailored suit (no baggy pants or saggy cuffs); white collared dress shirt; long solid-black necktie; black socks; black shine-able dress shoes. For additional information, please seek advice from the designated male advisor.

- **Female** – black full-flowing dress, culottes, or long black skirt (T-length or longer) with black collared blouse; black/off-black stockings, and black dress shoes. No cleavage, midriff, bare shoulders, or pants suits allowed. All jewelry worn for performance must be modest and conservative. For additional information, please seek advice from the designated female advisor.

### *Attendance and Behavior.*

#### **Attendance**

Unexcused absences and tardiness will affect the student's overall grade. All performances and performance rehearsals are mandatory.

#### **Behavior**

Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and will affect the student's overall grade.

Examples:

- Unauthorized talking/conversation
- Eating food or chewing gum
- Being disruptive in class
- Using profanity
- Unauthorized use of cell phones