



# Dominican International School

台北市私立道明外僑學校

No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.

10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



## COURSE SYLLABUS

<b>School Year</b>	2025-2026
<b>Subject</b>	MUSIC APPRECIATION- <i>Popular Music Band</i>
<b>Grade Level</b>	9
<b>Teacher</b>	ZOE LIN
<b>Email</b>	zlin@dishs.tp.edu.tw

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The MUSIC APPRECIATION; *Popular Rock Band* course is a performance-based class designed for students interested in playing and studying contemporary rock and popular music. Students will explore many styles of Popular Music. Lessons include a wide variety of listening, responding, performing, and creating activities. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to connect the historical, cultural, and technological contexts of the times, and with current musical artists.

Students will develop their skills on instruments such as electric guitar, bass, keyboard, drums, and vocals while learning the essentials of playing in a band setting.

Through rehearsals, listening, and collaboration, students will explore the history and evolution of rock music, including subgenres such as classic rock, punk, indie, alternative, and pop-rock. Emphasis is placed on group performance, stage presence, rehearsal discipline, and musical communication.

This course promotes creativity, teamwork, and musicianship, preparing students for live performance opportunities and building confidence in their musical abilities.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- By the end of the semester/school year, students will be able to:
- Identify and describe the key musical elements.
- Trace the development of popular music from the early 20th century to present.
- Identify major artists, producers, and movements within various popular music genres.
- Compare and contrast different genres and subgenres.
- Develop active listening skills and apply them to analyze songs in terms of lyrics, form, instrumentation, and production techniques.
- Evaluate how music videos, marketing, and branding influence popular music consumption.
- Express personal opinions about popular music through oral discussion, written reflections, or creative projects.
- Create original music or remix using digital tools (optional: GarageBand, BandLab,



Soundtrap, etc.).

- Explore how popular music reflects personal and group identities (race, gender, youth culture, etc.).
- Practice on Modern band repertoire.

## **PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:**

### **MUSIC FIRST**

#### **GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:**

- 1. Participation (20%)**
  - Engaging in discussions, group work, and listening activities
  - Bringing required materials
  - Respectful behavior in class
- 2. Quizzes & Tests (25%)**
  - Music theory (notes, rhythms, dynamics)
  - History and listening identification
  - Vocabulary
- 3. Written Work / Projects (30%)**
  - Listening journals
  - Song analysis essays
  - Research presentations (e.g., artist/genre history)
- 4. Performance / Practical (15%)**
  - Singing, rhythm reading, or instrument activities
  - Use of music technology (optional)
- 5. Rehearsal Preparation / Etiquette (10%)**
  - Following classroom procedures
  - Focused behavior during listening and group tasks

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.

#### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.



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- Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment/learning task.



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## First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<b>Week 1</b> (August 12 to 15) <small>4 days of class 12-General Assembly at the Gymnasium 15-Opening Mass &amp; Assumption of Our Lady</small>	<b>Intro to Jazz</b> The blues <b>Musical Style:</b> <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band
<b>Week 2</b> (August 18 to 22) <small>18-St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration) Integrated during the Monday Assembly 20- House Shirt &amp; Blue Jeans Day Starts 22- Club Orientation and Club Sign-up</small>	<b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Bass guitar in Modern Band • Important notes (1) <b>Musical Style:</b> Early Rock <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band
<b>Week 3</b> (August 25 to 29) <small>27- High School Talk - "Kickstart Your Success: Winning Mindsets for a Great School Year" 29- First Club Meeting</small>	<b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Bass guitar in Modern Band • Important notes (2) <b>Musical Style:</b> Early Rock <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band
<b>Week 4</b> (September 1 to 5) <small>1- Launching of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During the Monday Assembly) 1-AP Registration 3- AEO Fall University Fair 5- House Ceremony</small>	<b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Bass guitar in Modern Band • Iconic Basslines <b>Musical Style:</b> Early Rock <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band
<b>Week 5</b> (September 8 to 12) <small>8- Holy Mass: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary &amp; VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start</small>	<b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Bass guitar in Modern Band • Scales and Arpeggios <b>Musical Style:</b> Early Rock <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band
<b>Week 6</b> (September 15 to 19) <small>15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium) 19- Athletics / Sports Orientation 19- PSAT/NMSQT Registration deadline</small>	<b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Bass guitar in Modern Band • Scales and Arpeggios <b>Musical Style:</b> Early Rock <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band
<b>Week 7</b> (September 22 to 26) <small>22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace-Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly) Teacher's Day Celebration &amp; 26-Teachers' Appreciation 26- Grade 12 Career Educational Trip 24 to 26-Pre-Exam Days</small>	<b>Minor exam/ Final Project Presentation</b>
<b>Week 8</b> (September 29 to October 3) <small>29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During the Monday Assembly) Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exam (half day)</small>	
<i>Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)</i>	



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## Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>6-Moon Festival (no classes)</i>	
<i>7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)</i>	
<p><b>Week 1 (11)</b> (October 13 to 17)</p> <p><small>13- Second Quarter Begins 13- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 2nd Semester 14- Visit of Mother Mary to Classrooms (During the morning prayer) 15- AP Exam Only Registration Deadline 15- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 17- PSAT/NMSQT Digital Exam</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Guitar in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Getting acquainted</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 2 (12)</b> (October 20 to 24)</p> <p><small>20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room)</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Guitar in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The open string and the first chords</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 3 (13)</b> (October 27 to 31)</p> <p><small>29- Grade 11 Career Educational Trip Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Guitar in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playing alone with C and em</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 4 (14)</b> (November 3 to 7)</p> <p><small>3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during the Monday Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Guitar in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adding G and D chords</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 5 (15)</b> (November 10 to 14)</p> <p><small>14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Guitar in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 chords songs and independent learning</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 6 (16)</b> (November 17 to 21)</p> <p><small>17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Guitar in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barre chords</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 7 (17)</b> (November 24 to 28)</p> <p><small>24- Peace Pole Day (Monday Assembly) 24- Lighting of the Christmas Tree after school (Campus Min/ ECA/ D' Torch Orchestra/ Religious Studies) (Afternoon) 25-27- Pre-Exam Days 27- Thanksgiving Potluck after school for teachers and staff 27- Thanksgiving Family Day 28- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam</small></p>	<p><b>Review</b></p>
<i>Nov. 29 Invitation for All: The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Taipei (Saturday)</i>	
<p><b>Week 8 (18)</b> (December 1 to 5)</p> <p><small>1- First Week of Advent: Lighting of First Advent Candle (During the Monday Assembly) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 5- Nativity Play (Collaboration with Campus Ministry)</small></p>	<p><b>Minor exam/ Final Project Presentation</b></p>



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5- Christmas Fair Whole Day	
<b>Week 9 (19)</b> <b>(December 8 to 12)</b> 8- Foundation Day Mass, cake ceremony, and Class Party (half day) 8- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8- Second Week of Advent 10- Gr. 12 Advent Immersion 11 and 12- Second Quarter Exam (half day)	
<i>December 13 Invitation for All: Advent Recollection @DIS (Saturday)</i>	
<i>December 15 to January 2 Christmas Break</i>	



### Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>January 5- Record Day (No Classes for students)</i>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 1 (20)</b> (January 5 to 9)</p> <p><small>5- PSAT 8/9 Registration Starts 6- Third Quarter Begins 7- Monthly Career Talk-College Prep 9- New Year Mass at 8:00</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Drum kit in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air drums and body percussion</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> Arena Rock  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 2 (21)</b> (January 12 to 16)</p> <p><small>16- Club Orientation &amp; Sign Up</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Drum kit in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On a real kit</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> Arena Rock  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 3 (22)</b> (January 19 to 23)</p> <p><small>19-23- Individual Yearbook Photoshoot for Students 19-23- Career Awareness Week 22- Grade 9 Career Educational trip 23- First Club Meeting for 2nd Semester</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Drum kit in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Showing the phrase (1)</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> Arena Rock  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 4 (23)</b> (January 26 to 30)</p> <p><small>26- Feast Day of St. Thomas Aquinas/Launching of the Catholic Week 26-29- Aquinas Conference: Science and Faith 26-30- Catholic Week Activities 30- DYM Charity Concert</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Drum kit in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Showing the phrase (2)</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> Arena Rock  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 5 (24)</b> (February 2 to 6)</p> <p><small>1-4- WASC Mid-Cycle Visit 4- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6-7- SUA/O Recollection for MS</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Drum kit in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The triplet grooves</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> Arena Rock  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 6 (25)</b> (February 9 to 13)</p> <p><small>9- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 1st Semester for SY2025-26 13- PSAT 8/9 Registration Deadline 13- House Valentine's Mini Fair 13- Chinese New Year Celebration</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Drum kit in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16th based grooves</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> Arena Rock  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<i>February 16-20 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 7 (26)</b> (February 23 to 26)</p> <p><small>23-26- IOWA Assessments 23- Student Council Application 24-26- Pre-Exam Days</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Drum kit in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> Arena Rock  <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<i>February 27 Memorial Day Holiday (no classes)</i>	
<b>Week 8 (27)</b>	<b>Minor exam/ Final Project Presentation</b>



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<p>(March 2 to 6) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6- PSAT 8/9 System Installation and Practice Test</p>	
<p><b>Week 9 (28)</b> (March 9 to 13) 13 and 16- Third Quarter Exam (half day)</p>	



### Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<p><b>Week 1 (29)</b> (March 16 to 20)</p> <p><small>16- Third Quarter Exam (half day) 16-20- Faculty &amp; Staff Yearbook Photo 17- Fourth Quarter Begins 18-21- EARCOS Teachers' Conference 19- Lectio Divina and Feast of St. Joseph 20- Parents Learning Community Meeting 20- Kindlympics 20-House Movie Night and Club Fair</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Keyboard in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding notes C and F</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<i>March 21 (Saturday) Spring Fair</i>	
<p><b>Week 2 (30)</b> (March 23 to 27)</p> <p><small>22-27 Student Leaders Applicant Interviews 26- Annual Visit to World Religion Museum Gr. 11 27- Lower School Readers Theatre</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Keyboard in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chords and chord progression</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<i>March 30 to April 6 Easter/Spring Break</i>	
<p><b>Week 3 (31)</b> (April 7 to 10)</p> <p><small>7- Spring University Fair 9- Easter Mass 9- Easter Egg Hunt for Lower School Students</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Keyboard in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chord extensions, and inversions</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 4 (32)</b> (April 13 to 17)</p> <p><small>13 Laudato Si Month Launching (During the Monday Assembly) 13-30 Laudato Si Month Activities 13-17- Class Photo Taking 17- AP Chinese/Japanese Practice Test</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Keyboard in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Left hand and bass lines</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 5 (33)</b> (April 20 to 24)</p> <p><small>20-24 Cultural Awareness Week / Art Exhibit / Earth Week 24- Music Recital 20-24 Student Council Campaign 20-24 AP Mock Exams</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Keyboard in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring the "black keys"</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<p><b>Week 6 (34)</b> (April 27 to 30)</p> <p><small>27- Student Council Elections 27-30 Senior Project Presentations 28-30 Pre-Exam Days</small></p>	<p><b>Rock Coach Room:</b> Keyboard in Modern Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iconic Intros and choosing your song</li> </ul> <p><b>Musical Style:</b> The British Invasion <b>Practical on:</b> Modern Band</p>
<i>May 1: Labor Day Public Holiday</i>	
<p><b>Week 7 (35)</b> (May 4 to 8)</p> <p><small>4- May Crowning &amp; Mother's Day Celebration (During the Monday Assembly) 4-14 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, &amp; 12 Only) 4-15 AP Exams</small></p>	<p><b>Minor exam/ Final Project Presentation</b></p>
<p><b>Week 8 (36)</b> (May 11 to 15)</p> <p><small>13 and 14- Fourth Quarter Exam—Undergraduate (half day) 14-16 Student Leaders Retreat Days</small></p>	



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<i>May 15 Record Day (No Classes for students) Final Deliberation for Graduating/Promoting Classes</i>	
<p><b>Week 9 (37)</b> (May 18 to 22)</p> <p>18- Gr. 5 Recollection &amp; Mass 19- Gr. 8 Recollection &amp; Mass 20- Gr. 12 Recollection 20- Baccalaureate Mass (Whole School) 18-21 WIDA Testing 19- Lower School Sports Day / Gr. 6 &amp; 7 School Field Trip 19- Gr. 9 - 11 - "Senior Success Forum: Inspiring the Next Generation" 19-22 Student Clearance Days 21- Middle &amp; High School Sports Day 21- High School Field Trip 22- House Culminating Activity 20-22 Final Deliberation for Non-Graduating Classes 22- Student Leaders One Day Recollection / Turn Over Ceremony</p>	
<p><b>Week 10 (38)</b> (May 25 to 29)</p> <p>25- Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion 26- LS Field Trip 26- Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation 27- Pre-Kindergarten &amp; Gr. 1 - 4, 6 &amp; 7, 9-11 Recognition Last Day of School, Report Card 28- Distribution, &amp; Class Party (half day) 29- Last day for Teachers/Staff Meeting</p>	

*"Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán"*