

Teacher(s)	Liu																		
Email	<a href="mailto:liu@fultonschools.org">liu@fultonschools.org</a>																		
Office Hours/Help Sessions	<p><b>*Help sessions and meetings with Mr. Liu are from 7:50AM to 8:40AM and will need to be scheduled at least a day in advance.</b></p> <p>Mr. Liu believes in the success and enjoyment of music performance for every student and strongly encourages students to take advantage of help sessions offered. The longer a student struggles, the less enjoyment one has performing music.</p>																		
Overview	<p><b>The River Trail Chamber Orchestra for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> is an audition only, year-long course. The music, instrument techniques, and ensemble performance skills students learn in Chamber Orchestra range from advanced middle school to high school level curriculum. Students must meet mastery performance standards, demonstrate proper classroom behavior, and attend the required rehearsals/performance to maintain their enrollment in the Chamber Orchestra classes during the current school year. The class follows the state's High School, Beginning Orchestra 1 Curriculum and Standards.</p>																		
Textbook	Textbooks/Workbooks are provided by the Orchestra Program																		
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-ring binder with notebook paper, Mechanical Pencil</li> <li>• School Device with Headphone/Earbuds</li> <li>• Class/Ensemble Music and Textbook</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional materials and equipment for each specific instrument may be found through this link:</b>  <a href="https://rtmsorchestra.com/orchestra-materials/">https://rtmsorchestra.com/orchestra-materials/</a></p>																		
Additional Teacher Information	<p><b>Orchestra Website:</b> <a href="http://rtmsorchestra.com">rtmsorchestra.com</a></p> <p><b>Orchestra Calendar:</b> <a href="http://rtmsorchestra.com/calendar-2">rtmsorchestra.com/calendar-2</a></p>																		
Grading Policy	<p><b>Grading Scale:</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>90% - 100%</td> <td>A</td> <td><b>Semester Grade will be determined by:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>80% - 89%</td> <td>B</td> <td>Major Assessments: 55%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>70% - 79%</td> <td>C</td> <td>Minor Assessments: 35%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below 70%</td> <td>F</td> <td>Practice: 10%</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Codes in Infinite Campus:</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>NG – No Grade</td> <td>- At a minimum, two grades should be major</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I – Incomplete</td> <td>- At a minimum, three grades should be minor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M – Missing</td> <td>- At a minimum, three grades should be practice</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Grade Minimums each 9-week reporting period:</b></p>	90% - 100%	A	<b>Semester Grade will be determined by:</b>	80% - 89%	B	Major Assessments: 55%	70% - 79%	C	Minor Assessments: 35%	Below 70%	F	Practice: 10%	NG – No Grade	- At a minimum, two grades should be major	I – Incomplete	- At a minimum, three grades should be minor	M – Missing	- At a minimum, three grades should be practice
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Final Exam	If a final exam is administered, it will count as a major assessment.																		
Grading Categories	<p><b>Major (55%):</b> an assignment or assessment that is cumulative in nature that measures learning targets from multiple standards/skills. Majors may include unit assessments, projects, or performance tasks.</p> <p><b>Minor (35%):</b> an assignment or assessment that measures an individual learning target, standard, or subset of learning targets/standards/skills within a unit. Minors may include quizzes, projects, or performance tasks.</p> <p><b>Practice (10%):</b> Daily assignments, observations, and/or engagement activities given in class or for homework to build prerequisite skills, measure progress towards mastery of a learning target or standard, enrich, and/or remediate skills.</p>																		
Concert Performances	<p><b>*There are three Major Concert Performances that occur outside of the school day students are required to perform that are part of their grade as a Major Grade: Winter Concert, Performance Evaluation, and Spring Concert. Concert Dates may be found on the RTMS Orchestra Calendar: <a href="http://rtmsorchestra.com/calendar-2">rtmsorchestra.com/calendar-2</a></b></p> <p><b>*Chamber Orchestra students will have additional concerts and rehearsals outside of school that are part of their final grade</b></p>																		
Chamber Orchestra Expectations	<p><b><u>Performance Expectations</u></b></p> <p>Chamber Orchestra students are expected to perform at the high school level of focus and awareness towards musical precision, intonation, technique, and expression both as an individual and as an ensemble group. <b>It is essential (and strongly encouraged) that students ask for help either from Mr. Liu or their private lesson teacher.</b></p> <p><b><u>Attendance Expectations</u></b></p> <p>All Chamber Orchestra students are required to perform the major concerts: Winter Concert, Performance Evaluations, and Spring Concerts. Students in Chamber Orchestra may have additional performances during and outside of school days. Due to the technical and musical complexities of the pieces, it is required for Chamber Orchestra students to attend outside of class rehearsals regardless of individual performance mastery in the music. Students and parents will be given advance notice of required, additional concert performances and rehearsals.</p> <p><b>*Required outside of class Performances and Rehearsals are graded and are part of the student's final grade.s</b></p>																		
Classwork/Homework	Classwork and/or homework will be assigned daily. Students are expected to show evidence demonstrating their thinking.																		
Attendance & Make-Up Work	<p>Regular attendance in this class is essential for each student to be successful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon returning to school, students will have an equal number of days as they were absent to complete any late/missing assignment, assessment, and/or task(s) for full credit.</li> <li>• After the deadline of an equal number of days a student was absent, teachers may begin deducting points from a late/missing assignment, assessment, and/or task(s) (maximum 25% deduction).</li> </ul>																		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If a student fails to turn in a late/missing assignment, assessment, and/or task(s), then a zero may be entered in the grade book.</li> </ul>				
<b>Recovery Policy</b>	Students will be given the opportunity to recover all major assessments if they score below a 75% on the assessment. Students are limited to one recovery attempt per major assessment that meets the threshold for recovery. Recovery of a major assessment should occur before the next major is given. Eligible students can earn a replacement grade that is no higher than 75%. If the recovery grade is below the original score, the original score should stand in the grade book.				
<b>Limited AI Use with Teacher Permission</b>	Responsible AI Use Encouraged with Teacher Permission: Students are encouraged to use AI tools responsibly in this course with teacher permission to assist with their learning and assignments. AI can serve as an aid to enhance understanding and interaction with course content, within the boundaries of academic integrity. All AI-generated content must be accurately cited, and students are responsible for the correctness of their submissions, including any content derived from AI tools. It is essential to critically evaluate AI outputs to ensure they meet academic standards. Use of generative AI, without proper citation, is considered a violation of the Fulton County Schools Code of Conduct and may result in disciplinary action.				
<b>Conduct &amp; Honor Code</b>	<p>All students are expected to be on time, prepared for class, respectful of others and involved in all class activities. Appropriate language is always expected. No food or drinks in class, except for bottled water.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Expectations</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Outcomes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt;<b>Be ready at the start of class</b> including your instrument, mechanical pencil, music, and all required equipment</li> <li>&gt;<b>Show respect to other students and the music</b> regardless of performance or skill level.</li> <li>&gt;<b>Participate to the best of your ability</b> in all written and performance activities in class</li> <li>&gt;<b>Follow Classroom Procedures</b> to avoid accidental damage to instruments and school devices.</li> </ul> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal Warning</li> <li>• Lunch Detention</li> <li>• Teacher Detention/Parent Contact</li> <li>• Office Referral/Parent Contact</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Academic Honesty (The Honor Code/Honesty):</b></p> <p>Students are expected to be honest and submit his/her own work. Cheating, plagiarism, and other Honor Code violations are strictly prohibited. Examples of violations include but are not limited to copying or “borrowing” from another source and submitting it as one’s own work, seeking or accepting unauthorized assistance on tests, projects, or other assignments, fabricating data and/or resources, providing or receiving test questions in advance without permission, or working collaboratively with other students when individual work is expected. The “Honor Code/Honesty” is Rule 9 in the Fulton County <b>Student Code of Conduct &amp; Discipline Handbook</b>. If a student is caught cheating at RTMS, he/she will be subject to a tiered system of consequences listed in the <b>RTMS Student Handbook</b> on page 7.</p>	Expectations	Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt;<b>Be ready at the start of class</b> including your instrument, mechanical pencil, music, and all required equipment</li> <li>&gt;<b>Show respect to other students and the music</b> regardless of performance or skill level.</li> <li>&gt;<b>Participate to the best of your ability</b> in all written and performance activities in class</li> <li>&gt;<b>Follow Classroom Procedures</b> to avoid accidental damage to instruments and school devices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal Warning</li> <li>• Lunch Detention</li> <li>• Teacher Detention/Parent Contact</li> <li>• Office Referral/Parent Contact</li> </ul>
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<b>Checking Grades</b>	Grades are available to view and monitor via <b>Infinite Campus</b> . Parents may check grade summaries and dates of upcoming assessments. Assessments may take several days to grade and enter in Infinite Campus.				
<b>Non-Academic Skills</b>	Feedback will be provided to students and/or parents/ guardians in areas beyond academic mastery. The non-academic skills include Self-Direction, Collaboration, Problem Solving, and Work Habits. The ratings for non-academic skills are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>C:</b> Consistently Demonstrates</li> <li>• <b>O:</b> Often Demonstrates</li> <li>• <b>S:</b> Sometimes Demonstrates</li> <li>• <b>R:</b> Rarely Demonstrates</li> </ul>				
<b>Communication to Parents</b>	<p>Communication with parents/guardians on student’s academic progress will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress Reports (Every 4.5 Weeks)</li> <li>• Report Cards (End of the Semester: 18-week and 36-week)</li> </ul> <p>Additional communication with parents/guardians will occur when a student is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In danger of not meeting expectations and/or their course average goes below a 75</li> <li>• In danger of retention and/or will be recommended for retention</li> <li>• In danger of receiving an incomplete for the quarter and/or the course</li> <li>• Needing assistance with meeting behavioral expectations</li> </ul>				
<b>School Website</b>	<a href="https://www.fultonschools.org/rivertrails">https://www.fultonschools.org/rivertrails</a>				