

Unit 02: Instrumental Technique (Weeks 1-36)

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **FY**
Status: **Published**

Standards Alignment

New Jersey Student Learning Standards

VPA.1.1.8	All students will demonstrate an understanding of the elements and principles that govern the creation of works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.1.8.A	Dance
VPA.1.1.8.A.4	Integrate a variety of isolated and coordinated movements in dance compositions and performances, making use of all major muscle groups, proper body mechanics, body patterning, balance, and range of motion.
VPA.1.3.8.B	Music
VPA.1.3.8.B.1	Perform instrumental or vocal compositions using complex standard and non-standard Western, non-Western, and avant-garde notation.
VPA.1.4.8.A	Aesthetic Responses
VPA.1.4.8.B	Critique Methodologies
VPA.1.4.8.B.2	Differentiate among basic formal structures and technical proficiency of artists in works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

Technology / Integration of Computer Science and Design Thinking

CS.9-12.AP	Algorithms & Programming
TECH.8.1.12	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.12.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
TECH.8.1.12.C.1	Develop an innovative solution to a real world problem or issue in collaboration with peers and experts, and present ideas for feedback through social media or in an online community. Complex programs are designed as systems of interacting modules, each with a specific role, coordinating for a common overall purpose. Modules allow for better management of complex tasks.

Interdisciplinary Connections: NJSLA for ELA, Social Studies, Science and/or Math Section

	Key Ideas and Details
LA.K-12.NJSLA.R1	Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
LA.K-12.NJSLA.R6	Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
LA.K-12.NJSLA.R7	Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
LA.RI.6	Reading Informational Text
LA.RI.6.1	Cite textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
LA.RI.6.6	Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.
LA.RI.6.7	Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

Integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Climate Change; Informational and Media LiteracyNew Section

see Crosswalks

21st Century Life and Careers

Stage I: Desired Results

Transfer/Overview/Rationale

Transfer / Overview / Rationale

Unit Rationale

The purpose of this unit...

Proper instrumental technique is essential for performance on any instrument.

Meaning

Essential Questions

Essential Questions

- What role does my instrument play within an ensemble?
- What do I need to do to improve my sound and my musicianship?
- How does playing an instrument allow me to express myself?
- How does my individual participation benefit the whole ensemble?
- How does my individual behavior as a performer and/or an audience member effect/affect the musical performance?

Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

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Proper technique is essential for a performer to bring music to life.

Acquisition (Student Learning Objectives)

Knowledge

Knowledge

Students will know...

- How to use independent fingerings, low first fingers, low and high second fingers, and high third/low fourth fingers on all strings.
- An advanced understanding of trills and alternate fingerings.
- Spiccato bowing.
- How to play with proper bow speed and distribution.
- How to use complex double-stops where appropriate.
- How to shift from every position on all strings.
- An understanding of vibrato on all fingers.

Skills

Skills

Student will be skilled at ...

- Proper fingerings
- Proper bowing
- Double-stops
- Shifting positions
- Vibrato

Stage 3: Learning Plan

Resource and Mentor Texts

Resources and Mentor Texts

- Introducing The Positions, Volume 1 – by Harvey S. Whistler

- School of Violin Technics - Book 1: Exercises for Promoting Dexterity by Henry Schradieck

- Essential Elements Books 1 & 2
- Essential Techniques for Strings Books 2 and 3

- Quality, appropriate orchestral concert literature. Literature must reflect demands of the curriculum including key techniques that encompass a variety of styles.
- Internet
- Recordings
- Music Stands and stand carts
- Student Chairs
- Pencils
- Folders
- Scale Sheets
- Assignment Sheets
- Dry Erase Board and Markers/accessories

Formative Assessment Strategies

Formative Assessment Strategies

- Evaluations of individual performance
- Teacher observation of:
 - o Ability to play literature using principals emphasized
 - o Mastery of technical skill development

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

Learning Activities/Unit of Study

Presentation of musical concepts through:

- Visual Examples
- Aural perception exercises
- Demonstration
- Performance and critique

Reinforcement of instrumental concepts through exercises for:

- Fingering

Analysis and discussions of instrumental nuances

- Instrumental Range

Technology

- Audio compact discs, video tapes, digital video discs to demonstrate various instrumental techniques

Modifications and/or Accommodations

Suggested Modifications (ELL, Sp. Ed, Gifted, At-risk of Failure)

English Language Learners

Native language support: The teacher provides auditory or written content to students in their native language.

Adjusted Speech: The teacher changes speech patterns to increase student comprehension. This could include facing the students, paraphrasing, clearly indicating the most important ideas, and speaking more slowly.

Visuals: The teacher uses graphics, pictures, visuals, and manipulatives. This helps ELL students better understand and comprehend the subjects at hand.

Front-Loading Vocabulary: The teacher front loads vocabulary. This means providing students with a list of important vocabulary words they will need to know for a book, lesson, etc. prior to the lesson being taught. Including pictures to go with the vocabulary words is also very beneficial for the students.

Special Education Students

Chunking: The teacher presents information in a way that makes it easy for students to understand and remember. Chunking is based on the presumption that our working memory is easily overloaded by excessive detail. The best way to deliver information is to organize it into meaningful units. Because students with special needs get overloaded easily, chunking is an effective strategy to use with them.

Checking for Understanding: It is important to constantly check for understanding, especially for students who have accommodations. Teachers want to make sure students understand the

concepts being covered in a way that makes sense to them.

Extra time: The teacher provides students with special needs extra time to complete work or answer questions. It is important to give students enough time to process their thoughts.

Oral Reading: The teacher will read work orally to students. Class work such as tests and literature circles may need to be read aloud to the student.

Timers: The teacher will use timers as an instructional tool. The use of timers is beneficial for students who have trouble completing tasks. Timers can be helpful so the student is aware of how much time they have to complete an assignment.

Students with 504 Plans

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Gifted & Talented Strategies

Extensions/Enrichments: Teachers will provide gifted and talented students with extension/enrichment projects. Students will be challenged to further their understanding, to apply acquired knowledge, and/or to produce something in reference to acquired knowledge.

Modify/Change Activities: Teachers will monitor and modify activities to accommodate those students who need to be challenged further. Additional reading, problem-solving, writing, or project work is necessary for those students who are ready to move on at a rate more accelerated than their peers. In this way, G & T students are provided the same opportunity for support as special needs students.

Students at Risk of School Failure

Directions or Instructions: Make sure directions and/or instructions are given in limited numbers. Give directions/instructions verbally and in simple written format. Ask students to repeat the instructions or directions to ensure understanding occurs. Check back with the student to ensure

he/she hasn't forgotten.

Peer Support: Peers can help build confidence in other students by assisting in peer learning. Many teachers use the 'ask 3 before me' approach. This is fine, however, a student at risk may have to have a specific student or two to ask. Set this up for the student so he/she knows who to ask for clarification before going to you.

Alternate or Modified Assignments: Always ask yourself, "How can I modify this assignment to ensure the students at risk are able to complete it?" Sometimes you'll simplify the task, reduce the length of the assignment or allow for a different mode of delivery. For instance, many students may hand something in, the at-risk student may jot notes and give you the information verbally. Or, it just may be that you will need to assign an alternate assignment.

Increase One to One Time: When other students are working, always touch base with your students at risk and find out if they're on track or needing some additional support. A few minutes here and there will go a long way to intervene as the need presents itself.

Contracts: It helps to have a working contract between you and your students at risk. This helps prioritize the tasks that need to be done and ensure completion happens. Each day write down what needs to be completed, as the tasks are done, provide a checkmark or happy face. The goal of using contracts is to eventually have the student come to you for completion sign-offs.

Hands On: As much as possible, think in concrete terms and provide hands-on tasks. This means a child doing math may require a calculator or counters. The child may need to tape record comprehension activities instead of writing them. A child may have to listen to a story being read instead of reading it him/herself.

Tests/Assessments: Tests can be done orally if need be. Break tests down in smaller increments by having a portion of the test in the morning, another portion after lunch and the final part the next day.

Seating: Seat students near a helping peer or with quick access to the teacher. Those with hearing or sight issues need to be close to the instruction which often means near the front.