

Samohi Music Course Scheduling Information

The Samohi Music Program provides a creative framework in which students can find true community, make new friends, build self-confidence, make beautiful music, and have wonderful, rigorous and collaborative experiences creating music. Research has shown that students who take four years of music in high school score higher on SAT tests.* In addition, colleges tend to favor students who show four years of successful dedication to a discipline. Hopefully, this factsheet will help you navigate scheduling at the high school.

HERE'S HOW I DID IT

(4 year plan for students who would like to continue music and additional electives throughout high school):
4 years of Music, Sport, and a Foreign Language with AP's, no summer school

9 th Grade Per. A-6	10 th Grade Per. A-6	11 th Grade Per. A-6	12 th Grade Per. A-6
Music Sport/Marching Band/P.E. Foreign Language Freshman Seminar Biology English Math	Music Sport/Marching Band/P.E. Foreign Language World History Chemistry English Math	Music Sport/Marching Band Foreign Language AP US History AP Chemistry AP Language (English) Pre Calc/Calc A (Math)	Music Sport/Marching Band Foreign Language Government/Economics AP Physics AP Literature (English) AP BC Calculus

**Students who take four years of arts and music classes while in high school score 91 points better on their SAT exams than students who took only a half year of less (scores average 1070 among students in arts education compared to 979 for students without arts education.*

- The College Board

“Top colleges are increasingly after well-rounded student bodies of individual specialists...it's better to be involved in fewer activities wholeheartedly over time, rather than 9 or 10 superficially”.

- US News

9th Grade Scheduling Options for students who want to continue music and Intro to Engineering, Avid, or a 2nd music class:

Summer School (Get Ahead)	Independent Study P.E.
Music Sport/Marching Band/P.E. Foreign Language Intro to Engineering/Avid/2nd music class Freshman Seminar English Math Biology (Summer School Get Ahead)	Music Foreign Language Intro to Engineering/Avid/2nd music class Freshman Seminar English Math Biology Independent Study P.E.

Explanation of possible scheduling options:

1. Take an AM class.
 - Students should see their Advisor in Spring to let them know that an AM class is desired.
2. Take an SMMUSD “Get Ahead” class during the summer.

- These free, full morning classes taught by Samohi teachers usually start a week after school gets out, and last six weeks. Your student still has the afternoon to go to the beach, see friends, read and relax.
- Watch the smmusd.org website and emails from Samohi for “Get Ahead” offerings. Apply IMMEDIATELY—preferably the same day—to ensure that your student will have a spot. Ask to be put on the waiting list if there are not enough spots. Often, summer plans change and spots open up.
- Incoming freshmen musicians usually take Biology, so that they can take an additional elective instead of Science. Incoming sophomores often take Chemistry or World History. Incoming juniors often take US History.

3. Take Independent P.E.

- Independent PE allows students credit for advanced study in physical activities not normally available in the District’s physical education program, and in which the student “has become highly competitive at a state, regional or local level.” Examples include dance, gymnastics or crew, among others. 200 minutes a week, 52 hours per semester are required.
- Samohi’s ISPE application packet, overview and policy is available online at http://www.samohi.smmusd.org/physical_education/ISPEApplication.pdf

Samohi Music Courses - UC approved*

Band	Choir	Orchestra
Concert Band* Concert Band II* Concert Band III* Wind Ensemble* Jazz Band Marching Band	Men’s Chorus* Women’s Chorus* High School Chorale* Madrigal Ensemble* Chamber Singers*	String Orchestra* Concert Orchestra* Sinfonia Orchestra* Intermezzo Orchestra* Philharmonic Orchestra* Symphony Orchestra* Chamber Orchestra*

Since 2003, every Samohi Valedictorian has been a music student. Samohi music students have pursued a variety of majors at impressive universities throughout the United States.

Academy of the Arts, San Francisco Bard College Boston University Brown University Berklee College of Music California College of the Arts, San Francisco California Institute of Technology California Poly, Pomona California Poly, San Luis Obispo California State University, Fullerton California State University, Long Beach California State University, Northridge California State University, Sacramento Canisius College Carnegie Mellon University Clark University Columbia University Georgetown University Harvard University Harvey Mudd College Humboldt State University Indiana University/Jacobs School of Music Johns Hopkins University	Juilliard School of Music Lewis & Clark College Linfield College Loyola Marymount University Manhattan School of Music Massachusetts Institute of Technology McGill University New York University Northwestern University Oberlin College Oberlin Conservatory of Music Pitzer College Pomona College Princeton University Purdue University Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario Peabody Conservatory Rice University Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute San Francisco Conservatory of Music Santa Clara University Santa Monica College Savannah College of Art & Design School of Visual Arts, New York	Scripps College Skidmore College Stanford University Syracuse University Tulane University University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, Santa Barbara University of California, Santa Cruz University of Chicago University of Colorado, Boulder University of Miami University of Michigan University of Pennsylvania University of Richmond University of Southern California Vassar College Washington State University Wesleyan University Williams College Yale University
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