

Course Expectations

Chorus

A. Course Information

- Grade Level: 9-12
- Length of Course: **One year (two semesters)**. Upon educator and counselor approval, this course may be repeated for credit. Interested students may be recommended for Concert Choir at the end of the school year.
- Type: This course counts toward meeting the OUHSD graduation requirement in Visual and Performing Arts.
- Recommendation for Enrollment: Open to all students.

B. Course Description

The Chorus ensemble promotes the development of proper vocal technique including matching pitches and sustaining a vocal line individually and with the ensemble through two-part and SAB literature. Required rehearsals and performances may be scheduled outside of the school day. Students may have to provide their concert attire. (Black slacks/white dress shirt. Tie for boys; girls may wear long dresses or skirts.)

C. Outline of Course Content

Fall Semester:

1. Learn basic music theory (pitches, rhythms, note values, vocal vowels, etc.)
2. Learn pitch matching and proper vocal production
3. Learn basic music terminology
4. Develop basic ear training skills through rhythmic and melodic dictation
5. Preparation for performance

Spring Semester:

1. Continued development of pitch matching and proper vocal production
2. Continued development of basic music theory skills from first semester.
3. Continued development of basic music terminology
4. Continued development of basic ear training skills through rhythmic and melodic dictation
5. Preparation for performance

D. Content Standards

1. Subject Area Content Standards

The student will demonstrate an acceptable level of understanding of the following key concepts:

- a. Demonstrate proper vocal production
- b. Vocally match given pitches
- c. Identify and define musical symbols and terms
- d. Identify pitches and rhythms on a musical staff
- e. Identify and define meters and key signatures
- f. Demonstrate basic counting of rhythms and rests
- g. Perform selected choral literature

E. Assessment Procedures

The following is a list of techniques that may be used in assessing student progress and/or achievement:

1. Participation in concerts/rehearsals
2. Class participation
3. Educator-designed tests
4. Educator observations

F. Grading Policy

- 50% grade based on point-scale for class work, homework, tests, attendance, etc. (i.e. 90-100% of possible points= A, etc.)
- 50% Attendance at and participation in all performances.

Please note that participation in all performances is **mandatory**, and is half of the class grade. There is no extra credit available to students who miss rehearsals or performances.

G. Academic Eligibility

All students enrolled in a performing ensemble are required to maintain a 2.0 GPA each quarter, as per the OUHSD standards. All students earning below a 2.0 will not be able to perform with the ensemble, and as such cannot receive a grade higher than a 'B' in this class.

G. Class Conduct/ Rules

1. Students are expected to be in their seats when the bell rings, and must have their materials with them every day. Points will be deducted each time these expectations are not met.
2. *There is no food or drink allowed in the classroom. This includes gum, candy, etc. Bottled water is OK, but please do not drink water around keyboard stations.*
3. Each tardy after 3 (excused or unexcused) will lower final points by 5 points. ANY unexcused absence will deduct 5 points from final grade.
4. Electronics such as walkmans and cell phones are not allowed on campus and therefore will immediately be confiscated if used in class. Hats, visors, and all other school-accepted headgear are to be removed before entering.

By signing below I state that I have read and understand these course expectations with my parent/guardian, and I will keep this signed sheet in my music folder for future reference.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date