

Course Expectations
CONCERT CHOIR

A. Course Information

- Grade Level: 9-12
- Length of Course: Two semesters. Upon educator and counselor approval, this course may be repeated for credit.
- Type: This course counts toward meeting the district's graduation requirement in Visual and Performing Arts as well as the UC 'f' Requirement.
- Recommendation for Enrollment: Audition with instructor/2 semesters in Chorus.

B. Course Description

The Concert Choir is a performance ensemble emphasizing advanced music skill and technique through SAB and SATB festival literature. Voice production and technique, music reading and ensemble singing are emphasized. Required rehearsals and performances may be scheduled outside of the school day. Students may have to provide their concert attire.

C. Course Outline

Fall Semester

1. Develop vocal technique
2. Develop music theory and ear training skills
3. Develop sight-reading skills
4. Develop music fundamentals
5. Preparation for performance

Spring Semester

1. Continued development of vocal technique
2. Advanced instruction in music theory and ear training
3. Advanced instruction in sight-reading
4. Advanced instruction in music fundamentals
5. Expansion of repertoire
6. Preparation for performance and festival participation

D. Content Standards

1. Subject Area Content Standards

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

- a. Develop vocal technique.
- b. Match given pitches.
- c. Perform his/her individual part on musical selections.
- d. Develop sight-reading skills.
- e. Learn advanced music theory and ear training.
- f. Learn the basic historical background of selected choral pieces.
- g. Learn to follow and interpret director's conducting as well as learning basic conducting skills.

- h. Perform a variety of music literature from various periods, styles, forms and idioms.
 - i. Learn advanced music fundamentals including selected musical terms and symbols.
2. Prepare for performances (including a festival)
 3. Preparation for the *High School Exit Exam*
 - a. The California language arts standards for grades 9-10, which are to be assessed on the *High School Exit Exam*, will be taught and reinforced in a manner appropriate for this course.

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, attitude
3. Educator-designed tests
4. Educator observations

F. Grading Policy

- 25% Daily Attendance, class participation, demeanor
- 25% Practicing at home, written assignments, preparation
- 50% Attendance at and participation in all performances and rehearsals.

Please note that all performances and rehearsals are required, with the exception of Spring Festivals where payment to participate is necessary.

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.

H. 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.

5. As members of an ensemble representing the school, district, and community, all students are expected to ardently adhere to all school rules and regulations. This includes the dress code, etc.

I. Spring Tour/ Festival

All members of the Concert Choir who maintain a 2.0 GPA are eligible to participate in the Spring Festival. In most occasions, this is not a mandatory event, and payment for such trips come from fundraising and sometimes have out-of-pocket costs. See the current Tour packet for specific details or ask the Music Director.

J. Agreement

Student participation in this course is a privilege, and should therefore be treated as such. At any time, and for any appropriate reason, the Music Director may request a student move to the Chorus class or totally be removed from the ensemble. All decisions are final and are at the sole discretion of the Music Director. If such an event occurs, the student and parent/guardian will be properly notified by phone and/or in writing.

By signing below we state that we have read, understand, and agree with these course expectations, and student will keep this signed sheet in music folder for future reference.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date