

GENERAL CHOIR

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Course Description

General Choir is semester-long, non-auditioned choir class. It is for students who are interested in learning more about choir ensembles, choral techniques, and earning a fine-arts credit, but may not want to be a member of the auditioned performing ensembles.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Describe and demonstrate different styles of basic vocal technique
- Describe different qualities of choral tone
- Identify different aspects of a choral rehearsal
- Demonstrate the basics of music-reading (pitch and rhythm)
- Prepare for a choral audition

Class Procedures

Class Rules

- Obey the rules of the school. The school resolution policy can be found [here](#). Please make sure you are following the dress code.
- Be on time
- No gum, food, or drink allowed in the classroom. Water bottles are accepted.
- No cell phone use during class, unless designated by the instructor
- Any student found cheating on quizzes or plagiarizing their concert report will not receive credit.

Class Materials

Students will be assigned a music folder. They are responsible for that folder and all the music in the folder for the semester. Lost music will be charged \$3.00 for each missing piece of music. Damaged music and folders will be fined as necessary.

GRADING

Students will be graded on their rehearsal skills, musicianship skills, attendance and class participation, quizzes/tests, and a final end of semester performance. The weighted categories are as follows:

- **70% Rehearsal Skills Grade** – Productive and attentive participation in choir rehearsals
10 points=Students who are on time with all their rehearsal materials and are ready to participate when the bell rings signaling the start of rehearsal. Students are actively engaged in the rehearsal demonstrating productive rehearsal technique through their posture and active participation during rehearsal (no cell-phone use, doing homework for other classes, reading books, and/or causing distractions through personal conversation when their section isn't actively singing.)
- 5-9 Points= Students who don't consistently demonstrate mastery of expected rehearsal skills and etiquette. (Students who come to rehearsal late without an excuse from another teacher; students using cellphones, headphones, eating and/or doing homework during rehearsal; students who consistently have personal conversations during rehearsals.)

TARDIES

- Students are tardy if they are not in their seats ready to sing by the bell. Students will lose 1 point from their rehearsal skills grade for the first two tardies. Each subsequent tardy will result in an additional lost point. (3 tardies= 8 points, 4 tardies = 7 points, etc.)

ASSIGNMENT MAKE-UP

Students will have **2** excused absences/term they do not have to make up at all. Students can have an additional **2** excused absences they can make-up. **Students have one week to make-up missed rehearsals.** Students will need to come in for 40 minutes after school to complete the make-up—REMEMBER THAT YOU HAVE TO COMPLETE THE MAKE-UP WITHIN A WEEK OF THE ABSENCE. There will be a short google form students can access on Canvas to receive credit for their absence make-up. If students find they need to miss more than the 4 excused rehearsals during a term, it is the students' responsibility--not the parent-- contact the instructor for individual make-up work.

- **10% Musicianship Skills** (through Sight Reading Factory assignments on Canvas.)

Students are demonstrating their mastery of individual skills through these assignments. Students should only submit their assignment if it closely matches the synth recording playback, or if it is their final allotted attempt and will not receive credit for the assignment if the exercise isn't correct when it isn't their final attempt.

- **10% Quizzes Tests**

- **Final Performance (On 2nd Term Grade) 15%** An in-class final performance is scheduled at the end of each semester in the auditorium. Please check the website calendar for the date. Parents are welcome to attend.

Grade Scale

A 94-100%

A- 90-93%

B+ 87-89%

B 83-86%

B- 80-82%

C+ 77-79%

C 73-76%

C- 70-72%

ETC.