

CONCERT CHOIR SYLLABUS

MUS341 (Sem. 1), MUS342 (Sem. 2)

2 Credits

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Please take time to read this syllabus and keep it in your choir folder to refer back to it when you need information.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Concert Choir is an auditioned mixed choir that meets five times weekly all year. Auditions are open to tenth, eleventh and twelfth graders. Ninth grade boys will often be added to complement the male sections. Repertoire is advanced, more difficult choral literature encompassing styles from Renaissance to 21st Century. Teamwork, responsibility and leadership skills are developed in this class. Students are encouraged to take individual voice lessons. Students will also complete a performance portfolio/resume for college auditions and career planning.

STANDARDS- Below is a list of the national standards for Choral Music. The National Core Art Standards guides educators in providing a unified quality arts education for students in Pre-K through high school.

Creating

- Anchor Standard #1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- Anchor Standard #2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
- Anchor Standard #3. Refine and complete artistic work.

Performing/ Presenting/ Producing

- Anchor Standard #4. Analyze, interpret, and select artistic work for presentation.
- Anchor Standard #5. Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.
- Anchor Standard #6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.

Responding

- Anchor Standard #7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.
- Anchor Standard #8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
- Anchor Standard #9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Connecting

- Anchor Standard #10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
- Anchor Standard #11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.

ASSESSMENTS

After each concert, students will have an opportunity for self-assessment. These will serve as both formative assessment to chart progress throughout the year, and summative assessment for each concert series.

Written assessments covering vocabulary and other musical concepts may be given throughout the year.

CONTENT

Missed performances

You will only be excused with a written parent notice.

WORK IS NEVER AN EXCUSED ABSENCE. NO MAKE UP WILL BE ALLOWED.

1. Tell Mr. Slade at least 1 WEEK **PRIOR** to the event you will be missing.
2. Complete a "Missed Performance Make-Up Assignment"
3. Your grade points will be applied only **AFTER** your assignment has been turned in.

CONCERT ATTIRE

For the Dubuque Senior High Choir concerts the students shall wear the following (unless otherwise specified):

Note: There will be a \$25 rental fee for tuxedo and skirt rental and a \$20 fee for tuxedo shirts. There will be more information about this later as we begin to check out uniforms.

If you are not able to purchase the necessary items for the concert attire due to a personal situation please tell Mr. Slade as soon as possible so arrangements may be made.

BOYS

Black tuxedo pants and jacket. (Provided by DSHS)

White tuxedo shirt and red bow tie and cummerbund.

Black dress shoes. (NOT tennis shoes, NOT boots, NOT Sketchers) See Mr. Slade if you need shoes!

Black socks

Black tuxedo studs

GIRLS

Black skirt (Provided by DSHS)

BLACK DRESS SHIRT/BLOUSE, NO –T-shirts

Black dress shoes (NO flip-flops, NO sandals, NO stilettos, NO tennis shoes, and NO boots)

Black tights

TARDIES & HALL PASSES

If you are not in the room at the bell, you are tardy. If you are late leaving your previous class because of the instructor keeping you, just get a pass before you depart.

You will be allowed to use the restroom freely unless this is continually abused.

Have your Student Handbook with you to record your pass.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phone use during class is disrespectful. We are an ensemble. This means that, in order to be successful, we need the full cooperation of EACH AND EVERY MEMBER of the ensemble. Turn your cell phones off and put them out of sight. Tell your friends and parents phones will be off during class; that you want to fully engage in learning.

There is an electronics policy discussed in your student planner; please familiarize yourself with it. If you choose to disrespectfully use your phone during class, it will affect your grade via your participation points. Students who use cell phones during class receive no credit participation point for that day. Eventually, disciplinary action will occur (see “Disciplinary Measures”). **No student will ever have a cell phone in use at a concert either during or as an audience member during the performance of other ensembles. If I see your cell out you will receive no credit for the performance.**

“The use of cell phones is prohibited in classrooms unless authorized by the teacher. Cell phones must be kept out of sight during class time. The continual use of cell phones during class could result in confiscation of the phone. The student is first warned by the teacher. The second violation results in the phone being taken to the Assistant Principal office. The student may pick up the phone at the end of the day. The third violation results in the confiscation of the phone and a parent/guardian retrieving the phone.”

TRAVEL

There may be some events that require us to travel to either another school or another city. The Department handbook release will serve as a driving permission form.

PERFORMANCES

Students enrolled in MUS171 and 172 are required to participate in all performances of the class. Students missing a performance can complete the following assignment to fulfill this curricular requirement. The student will perform the literature from the missed performance for Mr. Slade and/or the music department faculty. The faculty will use the IHSMA grading rubric. The student is responsible for scheduling and making up missed work within two days per day of the absence/illness.

CHOIR AUDITIONS

Auditions for Concert Choir, Senior High Singers, and Chamber Choir will take place each spring towards the end of the school year. Auditions for SENVOJA, the vocal jazz choir will be in December.

FUNDRAISING

There will be many fundraising opportunities during the year. Students will have individual accounts in the Music Department. This means that the more you sell and harder you work the more money you will get in return. The department fundraisers will include magazine sales, fruit sales, concessions at school events and other activities.

RESOURCES

- www.dubuqueseniormusic.com will be an important resource for locating information or online forms.
- There is no textbook for this class. We will use a combination of choral octavos and/or worksheets.

EXPECTATIONS

1. **BE PROMPT.** Be in the classroom when the bell rings. You will have ONE MINUTE to be in your seat with the appropriate materials, i.e. folder, music, water bottle, etc. Be ready for concerts at the designated call time!
2. **GIVE EFFORT.** Give 100% all the time. You will have bad days. We ALL do. What I ask is that you tell me before class starts that you are having a bad day so I know that you're not just ignoring me!
3. **BE PREPARED.** You should keep your Choir folders here. Since we are so far away from the lockers you will not be able to constantly go get materials that you forgot.
4. **HAVE FUN!** Remember that it takes hard work and preparation, and some days will be a lot of work, but our fun comes in the performance of beautiful music in the company of our friends.

GRADING

Students will be graded on daily work, participation, and oral and written assessments as follows:

60% Daily Work:

40% Class Participation – student participates daily in class activities and rehearsals. Students earn 1 point per day for participation. To acquire that point, you must be on time, have no cell phone utilized during classtime and participate FULLY in the rehearsal. Students who choose not to participate do not earn a participation point for that day.

15% written assessments and reflections

5% Performance Resume (*Students will learn to write and maintain a fine arts e-portfolio and resume.*) Check points are October 31, January 5, and May 15.

40% Projects: Quarterly Concerts – student participates in the quarterly concerts and complete a self-assessment.

COMMUNICATION PLAN

- Dubuque Senior High School Choir may use communication means such as Facebook, Twitter (DSHS Choir), Remind, Email lists and the occasional text message for communication and reminders about upcoming or important events.
- Letters will be sent home to parents via email for reminders and updates throughout the year.
- When necessary, Mr. Slade will contact parents via phone regarding important events or specific instances that arise during the year.

THANKS FOR BEING HERE!