

# SENIOR HIGH SINGERS SYLLABUS

MUS511 (Sem 1), MUS512 (Sem 2)

1.2 Credits

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Senior High Singers is an auditioned mixed choir of primarily juniors and seniors that meets three times weekly all year. This class teaches a variety of musical styles from madrigal to jazz and popular, and may include choreography. The primary objective for this ensemble is to provide opportunities for community performances and public relations. Teamwork, responsibility, and advanced leadership skills are also developed in this class. Auditions are held in May.

## 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.

Quizzes covering vocabulary and other musical concepts will be given throughout the year.

## MISSED PERFORMANCES

**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. Complete the assignment in the time allowed.
4. Your grade will be changed 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.

## **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 stud set

## **GIRLS**

Black skirt (Provided by DSHS)

BLACK DRESS SHIRT/BLOUSE. NO –T-shirts

**Black** dress shoes (NO flip-flops, NO sandals, NO dangerous heels, NO tennis shoes, and NO boots, NO open toed shoes)

Black panty hose or trouser socks

## **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.

### **Attendance at the following concerts is required for completion of your grade:**

<b>October 16</b>	<b>Jazz Desserts Concert</b>	<b>3pm</b>	<b>Nora Gym</b>
<b>December 19</b>	<b>Winter Concert</b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>Aud</b>
<b>March 9</b>	<b>“Music in our Schools Month” concert</b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>Aud</b>
<b>March 21</b>	<b>DCSD Choral Festival</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Hempstead</b>
<b>May 19</b>	<b>Music Dept. Awards Concert</b>	<b>7 pm</b>	<b>Aud</b>
<b>June 3</b>	<b>Graduation</b>	<b>1pm</b>	<b>Five Flags</b>

## **CHOIR LETTERS**

Throughout your time in the DSHS Choirs you will have the opportunity to earn points for activities in which you are involved. The more points you earn the better your chance to earn Choir letters and awards! (See handbook)

## **CHOIR AUDITIONS**

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

## **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.

## **MUSIC BOOSTERS**

For friends and family of our choir students we offer a growing Music Boosters organization. For more information on this group, please call Mr. Rowley at 552-5603. We consistently need parent volunteers for our events. Meetings are once a month, and are optional. This year the Music Boosters are working towards getting the Music Department an acoustic shell for our performances!

## **INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES**

- In Senior High Singers, we will learn to work together as an ensemble. Everyone brings something important.
- Voice lessons will be either individual or in a small group.
- Occasionally, you will have assignments related to the concept or unit that is being taught.

## **RESOURCES**

- [www.dubuqueseniormusic.com](http://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 worksheets.

### **EXPECTATIONS**

1. **RESPECT**
2. **BE PROMPT**
3. **GIVE EFFORT**
4. **BE PREPARED**
5. **HAVE FUN!**

Some things **NOT** allowed in Choir Room:

1. Negative attitudes
2. Gum/Non-water drinks/food

### **ASSESSMENTS**

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. Each point is worth 5%. Students who choose not to participate or have an unexcused tardy, 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, complete a self-assessment, and set goals following each quarterly concert.

### **COMMUNICATION PLAN**

- Dubuque Senior High School Choir uses Facebook, Twitter (DSHSChoir), 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!**

**See the Choir website for a link to the Music Department calendar for all the dates and times for this year. Add these dates to your family calendar now! You can also join our group page on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!**