

Welcome to Chamber Choir!

Instructor Contact Information:

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REQUIRED SUPPLIES:

(to bring with you to each class session)
2 -#2 **pencils** (sharpened and with erasers!)
1 – **Water Bottle** (filled with water ONLY)

WHAT I EXPECT FROM YOU:

To do your best
To show respect for yourself and others
To show up for class and performance(s)
To work hard
To complete your assignments

GOALS FOR THE CLASS:

To work hard (and have fun!)
To learn new things about music
To become a better singer
To become a better musician

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME:

My best
A lot of information and new things to learn
Encouragement
Clear expectations and guidelines
A listening ear

Peak to Peak Music Department Standards:

- 1. Students sing or play on instruments a varied repertoire of music, alone or with others,**
- 2. Students will read and notate music.**
- 3. Students will create music.**
- 4. Students will listen to, analyze, evaluate and describe music.**
- 5. Students will relate music to various historical and cultural traditions.**

This syllabus includes the following:

1. Goals for choir
2. Grading policy
 - a. Performance/vocal assessments
 - b. Weekly class grade
3. Rehearsal Protocol
4. Music
5. Performance

1. GOALS

Excellence in performance
Enjoyment in performance
Learning New Vocal Skills
* Using healthy vocal habits
* Sustaining a consistent quality of tone throughout one's dynamic ranges, vocal ranges, and basic vowels
* Articulating appropriate diction
* Exhibiting professional stage deportment
* Hearing melodic and harmonic intervals, including tonality and key relationships, intonation errors
* Maintaining one's part against other voice parts
* Identifying and interpreting key signatures, tonal centers, musical symbols, and terminology
* Interpreting simple and compound rhythmic patterns
* Sight-reading melodic lines
* Identifying musical patterns, phrases, and forms
Study different periods of music and styles of vocal performance

2. GRADING

- * 70% of your grade is performance/vocal assessments
- * 30% of your grade is the weekly class grade

A) Performance/vocal assessments: (70% of grade)

Performance/vocal assessments: Students will be graded on all concert performances. In addition, students will have in-class vocal assessments on pieces of music and techniques being studied in class.

Vocal Assessments may include:

- * Singing a simple prepared piece a cappella (without accompaniment)
- * Singing one's vocal part in a multi-part piece (with or without the other parts) accompanied or a cappella
- * Scales (Major, Natural/Harmonic/Melodic Minor, Chromatic), Modes, Triads
- * Sight-singing
- * Interval matching
- * Rhythm drills
- * Eartraining tests

B) Weekly Class Grade: (30% of grade)

This weekly class grade reflects participation and effort demonstrated during rehearsals. This grade also reflects the student having materials in class (music, pencils, etc) and if the student has prepared homework as assigned.

Each unexcused tardy will count as 20 points off your weekly grade.

Each unexcused absence will count as 50 points off your weekly grade.

Any food (gum included) or drinks other than water will count as 10 points off your weekly grade.

Please note: Late homework will receive a maximum of 50% credit, except in the case of an excused absence. Preplanned absences place a significant burden on the student and should be avoided. Students who miss class due to illness are allowed two days per absence to turn in late work. When possible, students are expected to call their section leader and check homework online in order to keep up with the class. In the event of a preplanned absence such as a doctor's appointment or holiday travel, students are expected to find out their assignments in advance, and be prepared to turn them in upon return to class. Any work not turned in on time will receive an "M" until the assignment is made up, and will calculate in the gradebook as a temporary zero. A blank in the grade book means that the assignment has not yet been graded.

3. REHEARSAL PROTOCOL

1. Arrive on time. Be in your assigned place, ready to go when the period begins.
2. Singers are expected to have all current music and two sharpened pencils with erasers at each rehearsal. Random checks will take place.
3. For the rehearsal, arrange music in rehearsal order. Rehearsal order will be posted before the rehearsal.
4. Pick up any handouts or homework BEFORE the rehearsal begins. In the event of a missed rehearsal, it is the responsibility of the member to contact the teacher for any handouts. Homework will be posted on the whiteboard as well as the Peak to Peak website. If you miss a class, **you are responsible to check with your section leader, the director, or online for assignments.**
5. Remain within the rehearsal area at all times for the entire rehearsal.
6. Water ONLY in plastic bottles is permitted in the rehearsal area. No food or other beverages of any kind unless cleared with the director.
7. At all times, honor, respect, and graciousness is to be shown for each other.
8. If for any reason a member cannot actively participate in a rehearsal, she/he is expected to observe quietly and make performance/rehearsal notes in their music.
9. Suggestions, complaints, or excuses to the director or to other singers are to be saved for discussion after rehearsal.
10. Questions are always welcome!
11. Unexcused absences and tardies will be treated per Peak to Peak policy.

4. MUSIC

It is the singer's responsibility to take good care of music and folders and not to lose them. All folders, music and borrowed choir uniforms must be turned in by the last rehearsal. If music, folders or uniforms are lost, damaged, or not returned, the singer will pay replacement cost plus a 15% replacement fee.

- * Unless notified otherwise, you are to bring music and class materials to all rehearsals,
- * Please treat printed music with respect (Do not fold or roll music)
- * All markings should be done lightly in pencil. If for any reason a piece of music is in need of repair, please see the music librarian.
- * Do not hole-punch scores.

5. PERFORMANCE

As this is a performance ensemble, **participation in all performances is mandatory and part of the student's semester grade.** Absence from a performance will result in a failing grade unless there is a signed note from the doctor or prior arrangements have been made with the director. Students are expected to, and graded on, staying for the entire concert, helping set-up and clean-up, and behavior during the concert as well as performing at the concert.

Attire for all scheduled performances is the choir uniform, unless otherwise advised by the director. Uniform information will be sent home in September. All performers should wear black dress shoes (and black dress socks for the gentlemen).

Chamber Choir students are expected to be at all scheduled Chamber Choir performances. At the discretion of the director, certain musical selections may be performed by selected singers (based on audition). Members of Chamber Choir may also be invited to perform with other Peak to Peak ensembles at the discretion of the director, as needed to balance that ensemble.