

PVPHS choir syllabus

Philosophy

The PVPHS choirs are devoted to the study of music, vocal techniques, and ensemble skills. Students will be exposed to a diverse music repertoire spanning many continents and cultures. The goals of our choral ensembles, through rehearsal and performance, are to achieve a high degree of musical learning and performance excellence, to explore a variety of cultural and historical traditions, to develop a passion for music, to gain a better understanding and appreciation for music, and to learn the skills and concepts necessary to successfully participate in a vocal ensemble. It is the responsibility of both the director and the ensemble members to be prepared for each rehearsal and to put forth their best effort at all times.

Classroom Expectations

Excellent choirs possess the same characteristics as a championship level team. We must work together for our team to be successful and to accomplish our goals. Teamwork takes cooperation, courtesy and commitment. EVERYONE is important to the team and everyone has equal responsibility. Virtual learning has presented us with new challenges and it is more important than ever to be supportive of each other. The following responsibilities affect your grade and include (but are not limited to):

- Put forth your best effort every day with a positive attitude.
- Show respect for the director, other members of the ensemble and yourself.
- Show respect for the choir room (when we return), the equipment and the music.
- Please stay focused on the activity of the day- there will be a lot of group activities
- Singers should NEVER work on other work/homework during class.
- Be on time to all lessons, both online and in the classroom.
- Be prepared and ready to work when class begins.
- Students are expected to uphold all PVPHS policies, both on and off campus.
- Never forget to "Make the family proud".

Grading Policy

1. The grading policy for the choir department is based on percentage (no curve)
90-100 A 80-89.9 B 70-79.9 C 60-69.9 D 50-59.9 F
2. 40% Class participation
30% Sight Reading Factory assignments
30% Class work

Performances

As we all know, there is no time table for the return of live performances. That is all I know about this topic at the moment. I have been told that we will not be allowed to sing when we return to on-campus learning. Our performances will come in the form of virtual choir projects and audio-only recordings that will begin within the next few weeks.

Participation

Congratulations! Every choir member currently has an A+ for participation- it is now up to each student to maintain that grade. I expect students to be involved and active during our online lessons and to be prepared to sing in small groups and possibly individually during the year.

Class work/Homework

Students will earn points for completing in-class assignments and work to be completed outside of class covering a wide variety of musicianship skills. Much of this will be done during our class period and won't require a great deal time at home. However, occasionally the students will have assignments to learn and memorize portions of our music outside of class. They will be expected to come to class prepared to demonstrate their mastery of the music in a variety of ways i.e. singing their part with a small group of students or singing alone for me. They will be issued a fair grade depending on how prepared they are. Additionally, I will be using a program called Sight Reading Factory to assess the students ability to read music.

In Conclusion

This year is clearly unique. I expect a great deal of change throughout the year and I would hope we can all be flexible and patient as we learn this together. I promise I will continue to innovate and deliver the best instruction I can offer. My main goal will be to continue to inspire the students through music and to work at growing a strong musical family. Thank you for the opportunity to work and grow with each of you.