

Hamilton Township High School
Prerequisite: none
Credit: 1.0
Ms. Chute

Course: Choir, 175
Grade Level: 9-12
Graduation requirement: Fine Arts
Hchute@hamilton-local.k12.oh.us

Introduction

Choir is designed to introduce group singing or further personal vocal growth, and also to teach the correct way to sing in an ensemble. Performances, (dates listed below,) are mandatory, and serve as the “test” for material covered. During class, everyone will be expected to participate daily, mark music appropriately, and meet all classroom expectations.

Expectations

1. Respect yourself and all others in the room
2. NO food (this includes candy,) drinks, radios, mp3 players, cell phones etc.
3. Respect all class materials including music, folders, piano, etc.
4. No profanity or verbal abuse. This WILL NOT be tolerated!
5. Attentive behavior during all rehearsals
6. Guidelines for behavior as outlined in the student handbook apply to choir inside and outside of the school day.

Procedure

- Please get rid of your gum as you enter the room. (Gum = detention)
- Get your folder and be in your seat by the time the bell rings. (Tardy = detention)
- Everyone participates. This is choir- we will sing everyday!
- After class, put your folder back in its spot. (Lost or damaged folders are singer’s responsibility)
- Demonstrate a positive attitude, please.

Failure to abide by the rules and procedures will result in disciplinary action. Should any problems present themselves during the year, the following action will be taken:

1. Detention after school (20 minutes, beginning at 2:20)
2. Detention after school and a call home
3. Extended day
4. Administrative action and possible conference with parent
5. Conference with parent and administrator and possible removal from the ensemble

Choir students will be assigned a folder and music and are responsible for the care of these materials. Please make sure that your folder is returned to its proper place at the end of rehearsals. Any folder left out will be put away by the director at a cost of your points for that day. DO NOT use a folder that is not yours. In addition, students are required to have a sharpened pencil every day in class. Graded pencil checks may be done without prior warning.

Grading

The grading scale is as follows:

Daily points	10 points (possible 500 per term)	Monk rehearsals	100 points
Parent form	25 points	Written reflections	50 points
Concerts	300 points		

Students will lose 5 of their daily points for unexcused tardiness or chewing gum during class.

Disability days

I understand that people get sick. However, with an ensemble like choir, where everyone's participation is needed, it's important to have a full group as much as possible. For this reason, each student will be allowed only 2 disability days per nine-week period. You will be excused from singing, but will be required to take descriptive notes on the day's rehearsal to make up the points you would have earned by singing. You will only be allowed to use your disability days if you have informed me of this choice prior to the start of rehearsal. The notes you take will be graded out of 10 possible points and must be turned in before you leave class. Anyone with a doctor's excuse will be excused from singing, but must still take notes.

Attendance

Because choir is a group activity, your commitment and attendance is essential to the community's success. All tardies are unexcused unless accompanied by a written pass from another teacher. Unexcused tardies will earn an after school detention. If you are unable to support after school detentions, please make sure you are to class on time everyday!

Fundraising

I'll admit that fundraising is not my favorite thing about choir. Not even close. But with a limited budget, and several needs, fundraising is a necessary evil. I hope that as members of the choir, you'll make an effort to sell a few items. I try to only do one sale a year. In several cases, the number of items returned, and the funds not turned in, have gotten out of hand. For this reason, please sell only to friends, family, and neighbors that you know. **That way, we have a better chance of not coming up short. This year, I will not be taking any returned items, as we do not get company credit for them, and the choir is left with a hit to our profit. Also, no prizes will be rewarded to students who do not turn in all the money due. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding on this matter.**

Concerts

Attendance at concerts is absolutely MANDATORY! Requests for an excused absence from a performance will be considered only if the circumstance is extreme, and must be submitted in written form at least 2 weeks in advance. Missed performances will result in a zero for that portion of your choir grade. Excused absence from a performance will be considered on an individual basis, and missed points will be made up by completing a written assignment and a memorized singing test of the songs performed. All Students must remain at the concert until its conclusion.

Concert Dress

All students have a uniform for concerts. Symphonic and Women's choir members will be assigned a robe. All singers are to wear black dress shoes. Men must wear a collared shirt, black pants, and black socks. Women must wear a dress or skirt short enough not to hang out from beneath the robe. Concert and Women's choir members should wear the following:

Concert Choir

Black socks and shoes (no sneakers, please)

Black pants

Solid white dress shirt with tie (men) White school appropriate blouse (women)

*** Any concerns regarding concert dress should be addressed prior to concert dates. If these are not items currently in your possession, please start looking now on clearance racks and in thrift stores, or find someone to borrow from.**

Concert Behavior

A portion of your concert grade is based on behavior both on and off the stage. As an audience member, you are expected to be mature and to set an example to others by showing your appreciation with applause only. Screaming, whistling, etc, is great at a football game, but is not appropriate in a concert hall. Also, please encourage family member to keep this in mind.

*****Concert Dates*** PLEASE ADD TO HOME CALENDARS NOW, AND REMEMBER TO LET WORK/COACHES/RELATIVES KNOW WELL IN ADVANCE!**

Wednesday, December 2	Holiday Concert	7:30 (call 6:45)
Saturday, February 13*	Solo and Ensemble Contest	tba
Friday or Saturday March 11 or 12**	OMEA District Contest	tba
Tuesday, May 3	Spring Concert	7:30 (call 6:45)

* Optional. Only Chamber Singers and students wanting to participate will be required to attend.

** Women's and Symphonic choirs are required to attend District Contest. I always request a Friday performance, but it cannot be guaranteed, and we will not know for sure until 2 weeks prior to the event.

HTHS Music Department Participation Agreement Form

After reading the proceeding material, I agree to abide by the procedures, rules, and regulations of the Hamilton Township High School Choral Department and Hamilton Local Schools Student Handbook. I understand that any inappropriate or unexcused behavior will be grounds for disciplinary action.

By signing this form, you agree (student and parent/guardian) to the terms of this course. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Ms. Chute at Hchute@hamilton-local.k12.oh.us

Please return this form by August 28th.

Student name (PLEASE PRINT)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Phone number and/or email where a parent can be reached