

HONORS CHOIR (University Choir MUS 101)

Course Name/Section Number: Honors Choir (University Choir MUS 101)

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Course Description

The Honors Choir is for those students who have passed audition after being a member of the high school choir for at least three years. This is in addition to the training received in the high school choir and repertoire includes a variety of music styles to continually improve their choral techniques. Performances include concerts in school (winter and spring concerts), sing-along, homecoming, open house; Fine Arts competitions, chapels, church and nursing home performances.

Prerequisites

1. Membership is by audition only.
3. Member of the high school choir for at least three years or six semesters of high school choir. (Technically, the student can only earn the credit in senior high school.)

Required Textbook, supplies, materials

1. All music will be provided.
2. Students must provide their own apparel. (The school orders the ladies' choir dresses from Southeastern Performance Apparel; men's dress standard is the complete black suit.)
3. All students are required to attend all performances and competitions.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate accuracy including notes, rhythms and dynamics.
2. Students will demonstrate technique including posture.
3. Students will demonstrate musicality including style, phrasing, overall performance and blend.
4. Students will demonstrate performance in all concerts.

Assessments

Objectives 1, 3, and 4 are assessed by participation in concert performances, competition and quizzes. Objective 2 is assessed by participation in daily warm-ups.

Course Requirements

1. All students are expected to have their choir uniforms ready by November.
2. All students are expected to have their choir music department shirts by September 25.
3. All music stays in the auditorium after practice.

Performances

1. September 1 and 2 - In-school revival
2. September 30 - Sing-along
3. October 15 - homecoming
4. November 14-16 fall revival

5. December 9 - Christmas concert
 6. February 2 - open house
 7. March 3 - Spring festival at San Diego and performance at the USS Iowa
 8. March 6-8 Missions Conference
 9. March 9-10 WCBC Fine Arts Competition
 10. April 14 and 15 high school play (tentative)
 11. May 5 - spring concert
- (Note* This schedule does not include chapel specials and church service openers.)

Class Procedures

1. Singers will be divided into voice classifications and assigned seats that will benefit the choral blend. Initial classification assignments will be made the first week of school. Later in the semester, the instructor can change a singer's classification assignment, if such a change is warranted. If you feel you are incorrectly assigned, speak with the instructor.
2. Warm-ups and various exercises to increase vocal and choral expertise may be used as time permits.
3. Rehearsals on the semester's music may be rehearsed in sectionals or together.
4. Guest conductors may conduct the rehearsals to gain different perspectives.
5. Choir members should at all times perform with their best posture, vocal ability, and concentration.

Additional Information

The director shall plan the year's activities to provide the best use of choral resources. Classical as well as other styles of music will be used to their best benefit. Other concerts may include combinations of smaller works, songs from other countries, and performances for the elderly in nursing homes. Tours may be planned to suit the needs and desires of the choir.

Criteria for Grading

1. Each student earns 35 points every day - 5 points for attendance and 30 for participation.
2. Each performance is 25-50 points (performances are not weighted equally)
3. Concerts are 100 points.
4. Competitions are 200 points.
5. No phones are allowed during rehearsals - using a cell phone during class constitutes demerits.

A student missing more than 5 classes will only be allowed to participate in the concerts after successfully completing the following: performing the concert material for the instruction before being allowed to participate in the performance. If they can perform satisfactorily, they will be allowed to participate in the concert. If they cannot, they will receive a zero "0" for the performance.

Failing the course may result from any one of the following items or a combination of the following items>

1. Missing 6 or more class rehearsals.
2. Absence from a major performance.
3. An inability to contribute positively to the group because of an unproductive attitude and disrespect of fellow students and the director.

Attendance

Attendance is checked every day and is submitted in the school office. Regular and prompt class attendance is expected of every student. A student's absence means that the student is not able to participate in class. For purposes of attendance, I will use participation grades in warm-ups at the beginning of each class as your attendance record. If you miss them, that will be an automatic 10 points off the grade for the day.