

Andover High School Choir Syllabus

2016-2017

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“No matter what it may do for the intellect, a student’s education is impaired if it does not also touch the soul, and music can be the key to reaching a student’s innermost being.”

~Allan Miller and Dorita Coen

Goals:

- To establish and reinforce correct singing/musical techniques and skills.
- To recognize, understand, and apply structural elements of melody, harmony, rhythm, and form from both the standpoint of performer and listener.
- To improve the use of expressive elements such as dynamics, phrasing, and tempo.
- To develop a sense of fulfillment, responsibility, and pride in quality performance.
- To expand interest and knowledge of repertoire, performances, and artistic achievement from a variety of countries, societies, and cultures.
- To cultivate a sense of identity, pride, group spirit and improved self-image through participation in a successful performing ensemble.

Evaluation (see Choir Handbook for specific details):

- Class Participation
- Concert Attendance /Behavior
- Written/Vocal Assessments
- Common Summative Assessments
- Classroom Assignments
- Extra credit will also be given to students who attend concerts other than their own and for various other items throughout the year. Please see Mrs. Kjellberg or Mr. Halland for details or questions.

Classroom Expectations

Attendance: Attendance is ESSENTIAL in this course. A missed rehearsal will result in loss of participation points which can be made up. Students must make up any written classwork, if applicable, upon their return. To make up a rehearsal, a student must meet with director/section coach if they miss 2 days or more in a 2 week period. Unexcused absences will follow AndHS Attendance Policy.

Tardies: Students who are tardy will perform for the class. All in fun!

Be early as that is on time.

Concert Attendance:

As a member of a performing ensemble, concert attendance is MANDATORY!

(See handbook for required dates for your ensemble)

Personal Growth:

- Improve each day. Don't ever settle for mediocrity.
- Enjoy the process. Many of our goals will take time. Do your best, but be patient.

Habits to build – Choices to make:

- Go directly to your seat with music and pencil by the time the bell rings – this reflects the kind of dedication and attention to detail that we need in a rehearsal.
- Do not talk when the director or classmates are speaking.
- Check your posture regularly whether you are sitting or standing.
- Display focused silence when other parts are rehearsing.
- Ask “wise” questions by raising your hand.

Classroom Contributions:

- Be respectful of the director and your classmates at ALL TIMES.
- Take part in all activities - we all participate fully and as a team.
- Be supportive of one another - help make choir a “safe” place
- Dare to take risks and take chances.

Group Skills / Leadership:

- Lead by example...yelling for people to be quiet does not work.
- Follow your part when other sections are rehearsing.

Classroom Policies:

- No gum – use the wastebasket at the door.
- **No candy, food, beverages, including coffee, in rehearsal rooms. However, WATER is encouraged.**
- No headphones, iPods, or other electronic items in rehearsal rooms.
- **Cell phones must not be visible!**
- Do not write on the white boards or bulletin boards.
- Students must pay for any lost or damaged music, folders, or robes.
- If you are ill and cannot sing, you must talk to the director *before* class.

