

Norwalk High School Vocal Music

Beginning Choir, Advanced Choir, Treble Ensemble

Course Outline 2021-2022

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Overview

The purpose of Norwalk High School's vocal music program is to learn, rehearse, and perform a wide range of music as an ensemble. Our repertoire will include several different genres (from classical to contemporary, both sacred and secular) and languages. We will also develop a solid technical foundation for singing and fundamental music skills (including but not limited to ear training, sight singing, and improvisation). Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and participate fully in all activities during that time period.

Materials

Black 3 ring binder

Pencil

Copies of all pieces

Recording Device w/internet access

2021-2022 Concerts and Rehearsals

There will be several concerts and rehearsals throughout the year that take place outside of the regular school day. Your attendance is mandatory. Because the concert makes up 50% of your grade, an absence will result in a failing grade for the marking period. The current dates are as follows:

Candlelight

Rehearsals:

December 7 & 8 (after school), 2:30-4:30)

December 12 (SUNDAY, 1:00-5:00--*mandatory*)

Performances

December 13, 14, & 15 (evening and school day performances).

Winter & Spring Concerts

All City Choir Festival, February **TBD**

May 10 (*Advanced Choir & Treble Ensemble*)

May 17 (*Beginning Choir*)

Participation in All City Choir is optional but highly encouraged for Beginning and Advanced Choir. It is **mandatory** for Treble Ensemble and Honors Chamber Singers.

* Currently due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the schedule may be subject to changes.

Concert Attire

- Option A: Long dark dress (floor length) and dark shoes
Option B: Dark suit (preferably black), white shirt, dark tie, dark dress shoes, black socks
All: NO SNEAKERS, SLIPPERS, OR FLIP FLOPS

It is expected that all students are dressed in a professional manner. Be careful to avoid inappropriate necklines and slits. If you are not dressed appropriately, you will not be allowed to perform and will receive a “o” for the concert.

If you have any questions at all about the dress code, please see me ASAP. Assistance obtaining required concert dress is available. Do not wait until the last minute. You may always submit a photo of your outfit prior to the concert for approval to avoid last minute conflicts.

Exams

During a marking period that does not have a scheduled concert, you will be required to take an exam that will assess different aspects of your work. The requirements and rubrics will be available well in advance to ensure your successful performance. ***There will also be a midterm and a final exam.***

Quizzes

You will have a variety of different assessments during the year including (but not limited to) written quizzes, singing evaluations, at-home sight singing homework, and binder checks.

Grading

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 50% | Participation |
| 25% | Classwork and Quizzes |
| 25% | Concert or Exam |

Extra Help is available after school by appointment.

Classroom Expectations:

The following are the general expectations for the vocal music classroom:

1. Arrive to class on time with all required materials.
2. Raise your hand to ask questions or comment.
3. Listen to and follow directions the first time they are given.

4. Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
5. Show respect for your teacher and classmates at all times.

Attendance:

This course follows the attendance policies of Norwalk High School. Make sure that you are aware of its requirements and the effect absences or tardiness may have on your grades. If you are not present when I call your name, you are considered tardy. Lateness to class will result in the loss of a participation point for the day.

Participation Grades:

For each rehearsal, the students receive one (1) participation point. These will be tallied up at the end of the marking period and make up the Participation segment of the final grade (50%). If a student breaks one of the above rules (lateness, unprepared, disruptive), they will lose that point. A student may earn back their point for the day by following appropriate procedures for the rest of class.

Note on technology use: At times, we will be making use of personal electronic devices. When this is necessary, students are required to stay on task and only visit sites or open apps that are needed at the time. Any student caught using technology in an inappropriate manner or at an inappropriate time will risk losing their participation point for the day. *Absolutely no photos, videos, or unauthorized recording of classroom activities are allowed and taking them will incur serious consequences.*

In the event of an infraction, the student will receive a verbal warning. If the student continues the behavior, s/he will lose their participation point for the day and receive a referral to an administrator.

Please note: any policy or grading criteria listed here in this outline may be subject to change as the year progresses.

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Initial each statement below:

_____ I, _____, have read the above course outline and agree to all of its terms. I am aware of the grading practices, classroom expectations, and the attendance and tardiness policy.

_____ I understand that I am required to attend all performances, after school, and weekend rehearsals (including the Candlelight dress rehearsal on **Sunday, December 12th from 1:00-5:00**) and that if I do not, I will receive a “o” for my concert grade.*

_____ I understand that I must wear the appropriate attire for my ensemble for each performance and if I am not, I will not be allowed to perform and will receive a “o” for the concert.

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_____ I also understand the classroom policy regarding technology use.

Student's Name

Student's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian's Name

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

* There are very few exceptions (e.g. illness, death in the family). In the event of such a scenario, a parent/guardian phone call will be necessary and, in the case of illness, a doctor's note. Another extra-curricular or family event (sports, dance, vacation, etc.) is NOT an acceptable excuse.