

High Point Chorale

Course Outline

Course #860

Credits: 5

Revised July 2009

Prerequisite:

Ability to sing in tune and/or permission of the instructor

CCS Addressed: Standards 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 of the Visual and Performing Arts

Course Description

A full-year course designed to provide an atmosphere for the enjoyment, appreciation and performance of all types of choral music. All students in grades 9-12 who are new to the HP choral program are encouraged to join. The improvement of voice quality, listening skills, ability to read music, and the overall development of musicianship are stressed in conjunction with the learning of each piece of music. Special care is given to the pacing of sight-singing and part-singing in order to foster confidence and lay a strong choral foundation. Students rehearse and prepare their own concert repertoire from a variety of musical periods and styles, in addition to several combined musical selections with the High Point Concert Choir. The Chorale performs at evening concerts and also at graduation and other special events. Attendance at these performances and dress rehearsals is a course requirement. Chorale members receive individualized instruction in sectional lessons in addition to regular chorus rehearsals. Along with their concert repertoire, students sing a wide variety of other songs for their own enjoyment and historical/cultural awareness. The Chorale also performs and is adjudicated at the Sussex County Teen Arts Festival. Students are strongly encouraged and prepared to audition for County and Region Choruses. High Point Regional High School's curriculum and instruction are aligned to the State's Core Curriculum Content Standards and address the elimination of discrimination by narrowing the achievement gap, by providing equity in educational programs and by providing opportunities for students to interact positively with others regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability or socio-economical status.

Course Proficiencies

Students completing a full year course in the High Point Chorale will be able to demonstrate the following skills and competencies as listed in the national standards for chorus:

Ability to develop social and emotional values through the use of music.

Ability to develop intellectual skills through the use of music.

Ability to synthesize emotional and intellectual development through the unique role aesthetics.

Ability to create an awareness of the aesthetic value of blend, vocal tone, balance, style, phrasing, breathing, articulation, dynamics, and musicality of the individual voice in its relation to the entire ensemble.

Ability to understand and demonstrate appropriate audience etiquette.
Demonstrate the ability to sing a variety of repertoire, including musical literature with multiple voicing.

Ability to perform appropriate responses relative to the conductor=s gestures.

Ability to comprehend and demonstrate an understanding of the following individual attitudes, as they influence artistic outcomes: commitment to excellence, self-discipline, pride in accomplishment, acceptance of responsibility, loyalty to the group, effort to expand skills, knowledge, and personal growth through achievement.

Ability to understand and accept constructive criticism.

Ability to recognize the composer, the musical period, and stylistic characteristics of music being performed.

Ability to identify key performers, arrangers, and composers in the professional field of the music.

Ability to use, define and read musical terms, symbols and notation.

Comprehend and demonstrate an ability to sight-sing various musical exercises and choral works.

Improve the communication process and increase abilities in organization, concentration, critical thinking, creativity, memorization, confidence, and self-awareness.

Ability to define and improve all aspects of a musical audition.

Ability to observe and evaluate amateur and professional musical performances.

Ability to prepare and perform individual and ensemble performances.

Ability to listen to music analytically and critically.

Ability to dress appropriately for a choral performance.

Ability to summarize and reflect how music preserves cultural heritage as well as influencing contemporary art.

Implementation of Technology

Students listen to recordings of amateur and professional choruses in order to improve their concept of choral sound, to acquaint themselves with choral repertoire, and to learn about music history. A digital recorder is used to show students their sound as a group, to encourage critical listening, to motivate the group to improve, and to track (and celebrate) their progress through the year.

Materials

Unison, SA and/or SSA music

Successful Sight-Singing, Book 1 (Telfer, 1992)

The Choral Rehearsal, vol. 1 (James Jordan, 2007)

Choral Ensemble Intonation (Jordan & Mehaffey, 2006)

Quizzes and quiz prep materials (written and sight-singing)

Mid-term and Final Exams and prep materials

Solos and other materials for County and Region Choir auditions

Concert Dress

Evaluation

<u>1st and 3rd Marking period</u>		<u>2nd and 4th Marking Period</u>	
Participation	60%	Participation	50%
Sectional Lessons	30%	Sectional Lessons	30%
Quizzes	10%	Dress/Combined Rehearsals and Concert	20%

Mid-Term and Final Exams

Written Exam	75%
Sight-Singing Exam	25%

