

Duke Ellington School of the Arts

Music Department Course Syllabus

Course: Concert Choir Credit: One Carnegie Unit

Course Description

The Concert Choir is a large vocal ensemble course required for all advanced vocal music majors. The Concert Choir performs music from the great choral literature of the last five centuries and contemporary literature as selected by the instructors. The Choir may be separated into smaller choirs at the discretion of the directors.

Content Standards

Four DCPS Music Content Standards are basic to the core skills, concepts and knowledge needed for Concert Choir:

- Students sing alone and with others a varied repertoire of music representing diverse genres, styles and cultures
- Students read, notate and interpret notational symbols for rhythmic and melodic patterns
- Students critique their own performance and the performances of others
- Students explore a variety of heritages from music of many cultures

Course Outline

The Concert Choir rehearses regularly, learning complex music. The Concert Choir performs when appropriate, at least twice a year, and will participate in festivals and competitions at the discretion of the instructors. Student leaders can be elected from the Choir, and student section leaders will be assigned by the instructors.

Grading and Evaluation Procedures

Grading is based on attendance and performance as outlined in the Concert Choir Rubric that is presented to the students at the beginning of the school year. Each Concert Choir member is expected to meet the standards of performance and behavior outline below:

To receive a grade of "A" students will

- Attend and perform at all concerts
- Attend all rehearsals on time and stay to the end
- Know the music and be able to perform it individually in quartets
- Remain quiet, respectful and attentive in rehearsals
- Assist others in maintenance of music, which may include
 - Black folder with name on front
 - Selections being rehearsed
 - Sharpened pencil
- Have music available at every rehearsal
- Return music after each rehearsal
- Maintain performance outfit in good condition
- Show leadership regarding the participation of others in rehearsals and performances
- Develop music reading skills and help others to develop reading skills
- Being a section leader or a responsive member of a section
- Respond positively to whoever is in charge during rehearsal or performance

To receive a grade of "B" students will

- Attend and perform at all concerts
- Attend rehearsals on time
- Know the music and be able to perform it individually in quartets
- Remain quiet, respectful and attentive in rehearsals
- Maintain music in good condition
- Maintain performance outfit in good condition
- Develop music reading skills and help others to develop reading skills
- Being a section leader or a responsive member of a section
- Respond positively to whoever is in charge during rehearsal or performance

To receive a grade of "C" students will

- Attend and perform at all concerts
- Attend rehearsals on time
- Know the music and be able to perform it individually in quartets
- Remain quiet, respectful and attentive in rehearsals
- Maintain music in good condition

The grade of "D" or "F" will be given to those not meeting the responsibilities outlined in "C" above. Concerts and other performances are the "tests" for this class, and will be graded accordingly. Those students on academic or artistic probation are not allowed to perform off campus.