

# **Duke Ellington School of the Arts**

## **Music Department Course Syllabus**

### **Course: Concert Choir Credit: One Carnegie Unit each year**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Concert Choir is a mass vocal ensemble course required of all vocal music majors throughout their years at Ellington. The Concert Choir performs music from the great choral literature of the last five centuries and contemporary literature as selected by the instructors.

#### **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 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 can be assigned by the instructors.

#### **GRADING AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES**

Grading is based on participation and performance as outlined in the Concert Choir Rubric found below.

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.

### **Attendance Impact on Grade**

- Grade reduction for 5 unexcused absences in a quarter for a single course
- Automatic “FA” (Failure due to absence) for 10 unexcused absences in a quarter for a single course
- Automatic “F” for 30 unexcused absences in a year for a single course