

CONCERT CHOIR SYLLABUS

DeKalb High School

Fall & Spring Semesters, 2014-2015 – Period 3

Mr. Erikson – travis.erikson@dist428.org

Classroom: F109, Office: F110

COURSE DESCRIPTION & CONTENT

Concert Choir is the beginning choral music course offered at DHS. In the first semester we will be working on the basic skills of singing: extended breath support, tone placement, and vowel formation. As the year progresses students will learn to sing dissonances and technically demanding elements. Students will continue to learn solfège as well as tuning exercises to develop intonation and blending skills. We will study music that spans a variety of musical styles. One of our pieces will be used as an introduction to singing in a foreign language. We will begin with music in three parts to learn to sing independent lines, and hopefully move to four-part music as students improve. Our textbooks (which stay in class) will cover the basics of music notation.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Students will need the following materials for class each day:

- choir binder with music & a pencil
- Text: The Singing Musician (provided in the class)

COURSE GRADING SYSTEM

Student's grades in Concert Choir will be constructed of the following requirements:

30 %	<i>Concerts and Dress rehearsals</i>
35 %	<i>Daily in-class participation, effort, and attitude</i>
15%	<i>Individual Singing Assessments (3)</i>
10 %	<i>Written assignments</i>
10 %	<i>Final exam (individual singing assessment)</i>

GRADING SCALE

99-100% A+	88-90% B+	78-79% C+	68-69% D+	59%
93-97% A	83-87% B	73-77% C	63-67% D	
90-92% A-	80-82% B-	70-72% C-	60-62% D	

CONCERT POLICY

Students are also expected to be at all concerts and dress rehearsals. Please note each concert is worth 2 letter grades. Please see the attachment regarding concert dates and required performance policies.

DAILY PARTICIPATION

Students are also expected to participate when it is their turn to sing. Please see the attachment on daily participation expectations. Students earn daily participation points by exhibiting the expected classroom behaviors.

INDIVIDUAL SINGING ASSESSMENTS

Students will be assessed individually at the start of the semester, at the quarter, and after concerts. This assessment will evaluate their progress in sight-reading, scale-singing, and their execution of the repertoire studied in class.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Students will have periodic written assignments. In-class assignments are due at the end of the period. Homework assignments are due the next day unless otherwise indicated.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam for the course will include both a written portion and a final individual singing assessment.

MAKE-UP WORK AND ABSENCE POLICY

There is no make-up work for daily participation work. Homework assignments should be made-up within a week of returning to class. Please see the page on required performances regarding the make-up policies for a performance/dress rehearsal absence.

EXTRA HELP & CONTACT INFORMATION

Students can find me for extra help during both 9/10th, FLEX, and 12th periods. I am also available by appointment, before or after school. Parents can contact me at school at 754-2120, or by email travis.erikson@dist428.org.

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS/SELF-MONITORING CHECKLIST

Class participation, performances, and homework:

- Arrive on-time and bring needed materials to class____
- Actively participate in class____
- Contribute to class with non-disruptive behavior
- Attend required performances and dress rehearsals____
- listen attentively to listening assignments____
- Complete in-class assignments and homework assignments____