

Mercer 8th grade Middle School Chorus Syllabus

Director ~ Mrs. Michalee Christy
Email~ mchristy@mercerc.k12.pa.us
Preparatory Period ~ 1st
Google Classroom Code~ agh46lf

Remind App ~@8mhsc

Welcome to the choir classroom. The Middle School Chorus is designed to encourage involvement in the music world. This class will teach basic vocal and performance techniques, basic sight-reading abilities, and develop a love for singing. Middle School Chorus will teach independent and group singing.

Communication ~ I will be using the remind app this year. Download the app and enter 81010 and text @8mhsc. I will send weekly reminders and concert reminders throughout the year and some pictures of what we are up to in class. It is a great way not only to communicate but to see what we are up to in the choir department. I will be sending schedules and performance reminders. The link is ...www.remind.com/join/8masc

Concerts~ Concert Choir is designed to spark an appreciation of vocal music in those that enjoy singing. This course will teach vocal singing and pedagogy, sight singing, performance techniques and improve singing ability. The class is required to attend 3 concerts to showcase their singing ability.

Attire~ Each member of the Middle School Chorus will be given a chorus t-shirt, donated by the Mercer VFW POST 6345. We will wear these for our concerts. The first one is free, however if you lose the shirt or ruin it, I will have extras, but you must pay \$10 for a replacement shirt. Jeans without holes or rips, will be worn for the concert, as well as tennis shoes. No Boots, flip flops, or Crocs are allowed.

A 3 ringed binder will be needed. All music and handouts provided that fit concert themes will be our text.

Teaching Music Literacy ~ Catherine Deloney
Sight reading Success ~ Stan McGill and Morris Stevens
Evoking Sound ~ Choral Warm Up ~ James Jordan
The Choral Warm Up Collection ~ Sally Albrecht
Master Strategies for Choir~ Michael Jothen
Plus ~ Podcasts and online resources

Grading

- Singing assessments
- Folder
- Concerts
- Multi Media Projects

Grades are calculated using total points system.

Students are expected to arrive on time to class with a pencil and a folder. They are to be in their seat by the time the bell rings or points will be deducted from their grade. Any horseplay or constant off task incidents and the student's grade will be lowered.

It is extremely important that each student arrives on time to the 3 concerts during the year. If a student misses any of the concerts, they will be required to see Mrs. Christy and upon the student's arrival back to school the student will be expected to sing the entire concert repertoire for Mrs. Christy. She will give a grade based on knowledge of song lyrics, part confidence, tone, posture and projection. They may receive full credit if their performance is exceptional. Just like a main subject class, if a student misses an assignment or test, it needs to be made up.

Daily Participation/Rehearsals 50%

Performances 30%

Written Work and Assessments 20%

Classroom Rules

- Work Hard #SavetheExcuses
- Follow Directions #KeepCalmand FollowOn
- Be Respectful, Kind and Responsible #Treatothershowyouwanttobetreated
- Raise your Hand #Thinkbeforeyouspeak
- Listen #Tunein
- Come to Class Prepared #Priorities (HAVE YOUR FOLDER EVERY REHEARSAL)
- Have a Positive Attitude #attitudedeterminesdirection
- No Cell Phones in Class #Notexts #nopictures #Nogames
- Trash Goes in the Can #Notyourmaid
- No GUM, DRINKS, or FOOD (Water is allowed ONLY in a Non-disposable water bottle)
- Minimal Bathroom breaks (ONLY AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY)
- Bad language will not be tolerated in the choir classroom
- Tests, quizzes, and projects that were not completed in class will need to be completed on a student's own time. Class time is used for instruction and a student will miss new concepts being taught if making up tests, quizzes, etc. Study halls, before school, and after school are times available for make-up work. The instructor should be seen the day the student returns to make arrangements to complete all missed work.
- All other rules can be found in the vocal department guideline packet which is found online on the mercer website under Mrs. Christy/ Choir. Here you will find info on Performance attendance, sport/work conflict info., extra credit opportunities, uniforms, and fundraising.

Materials

A lead pencil. Any other writing utensil than what is listed will result in a deduction in grade on the assignment or a grade of zero will result. Students are responsible for bringing their assigned folder to class. Each time a student is missing his/her folder, points will be a deduction in the grade and will he/she will also receive a detention after 3 missed folder days.

Additional Help ~

I am available before school beginning at 7:30AM when seen in advance by the student. I am also available during my prep time. Advisory will be used as additional help time, unless notified by Mrs. Christy. Advisory times may need to be used for extended rehearsal time.