



SAMS 6th – 8th Chorus Course Syllabus

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Course Description: This course is a sequential class between all 3 grade levels and is open to all interested students. No audition is necessary to be a member. The degrees of difficulty for each grade level will vary according to the abilities of each class as a whole.

SAMS has three Vocal performance groups; the 6th grade Chorus, the 7th & 8th grade Chorus, and The Accidentals, which is an auditioned Jazz Choir that is an extra-curricular performance ensemble.

Chorus students will learn, memorize and perform a variety of choral styles appropriate to the grade level and developmental ability. They will perform simple to complex rhythmic, melodic and harmonic patterns through sight-singing and performance literature. Each Choral Student will develop basic vocal/choral skills such as: appropriate singing posture, vowel and consonant placements, diction, breathe support, choral tone and resonance. During the regularly scheduled rehearsals, each musician will learn and apply musical elements and theory to all choral literature. Students will create a positive learning environment by working as a group towards a common goal. SAM's Choruses perform at two performances during the school year.

Objectives/Goals:

- Music notation: reading and expanding knowledge and vocabulary
- Rhythm: counting, timing, and rhythmic development
- Tone Production: continuing to improve vocal placement
- Technique: continue working on vowel placement and appropriate diction.
- Musicality: expand capability of musicality (dynamics, phrasing, expression)
- Form and Cultural/Historical context of music: expanding knowledge
- Vocal Care: encourage care for the voice
- Practice/Rehearsal/Performance: continue to encourage effective practice and rehearsal habits, and proper performance etiquette
- Marching Technique: introduce and develop marching and memorization.

Goals of the group:

- Encourage each musician to grow and develop individually
- Develop well-rounded musicians that can effectively participate in and enhance a performing music ensemble
- Perform quality and effective performances for the community

Methods of Evaluation: Areas of evaluation in Band and approximate % of grade:

- Rehearsal participation = 90%
- Performance participation = 10%

Course Activities/Topics: include (but not limited to): sight-reading, listening, rehearsal in the large group and small group setting, discussion, demonstration, focus on different styles and types of music, evaluation, performance etiquette.

Suggested Supplies:

- Music folder with all music selections. (provided)
- Pencil in music folder

Class Expectations:

- Have music and pencil. Store music in designated slot in storage cabinet if desired.
- Be in your rehearsal/performance position ready to participate at the set time.
- Focus and pay attention throughout the rehearsal. Follow directions given and actively participate.
- Take good care of your voice. A clear water bottle is allowed. No gum, food, or drinks in the rehearsal area.
- All students try their best and be part of the team effort!

Classroom Management Plan

Negative Consequences:

1. Warning
2. Loss of privileges (sitting by friend, etc.)
3. Student/Teacher conference
4. Parent notification
5. After school detention (teacher given)
6. Referral to principal

Positive Consequences:

1. Verbal praise
2. Special recognition
3. Expanded privileges
4. Positive note
5. Extra credit
6. Dog Dollars or Paw Pass