

High School Choir Honors

Mrs. Jennifer Rouskey

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Faith 209

Course Expectations

Choir is a yearlong commitment designed to prepare students to work cooperatively and be dependable, dedicated, and diligent young adults while learning the disciplines of musical performance.

Basic vocal techniques will be taught through a variety of musical genres. Opportunities will be given both individually and within the choir setting to compete in festivals, sing in the community, and at times travel throughout the state developing musically through these experiences.

Assignments given may consist of short, written evaluations of listening excerpts, music theory worksheets, sight singing quizzes, in addition to ongoing vocal assessments which may or may not be individual in nature. Any and all performances are also considered an assignment of the class and have the same value as an exam in another academic course.

*Honors students have select vocal evaluations throughout the year and are expected to participate in All State auditions, audition for solos when called upon, and attend any additional field trips such as the Stetson Choir Festival. Honors students will also attend extra-curricular choral concerts in the community and write a summary evaluation of the concert. **One per semester is required.**

This elective is a performance class and attendance of scheduled rehearsals and performances is mandatory. Full credit will not be given to students who miss a performance date. At times, there are additions to the calendar but parents and students are notified of those additions well in advance of the performance. In emergency situations, an excused missed performance could result in a modified assignment. If there is an approved absence from a performance, the modified assignment will not receive a grade greater than an 80%.

Materials

A ½" binder or classroom pocket folder that will hold music and additional notes are required and can be kept in the choir room folio cabinet or in their backpack as long as it is with them daily.

Choir music and worksheets are provided as needed throughout the year.

Choir women are required to wear a school-purchased, long, black dress. Parents are responsible for the black dress shoes. Choir men are personally responsible to purchase the black dress slacks, black calf-length socks, and black dress shoes to coordinate with the women's dresses. The young men are also responsible for the black suit coat and white or black dress shirt. The school will purchase ties when needed.

In the spring of each school year, our choirs' BIG show is called *Sing and Swing*. Each year is thematically driven. Because of that, our students wear various costumes most of which can be "dug up" from their closet. Details of that show come as we draw closer to that performance.

*Honors students will be called upon to help create the format of the show and help with set design, power points, choreography, and narratives within the show.

Technology

All high school students are required to have an approved electronic device in class each day. Cell phones and e-readers are not acceptable devices. The students should also bring headphones for usage during listening quizzes.

Category Weights

Performances	40%
Attitude/Conduct	45%
Written/Vocal Assessments	15%

Class Expectations (Classroom Rules/Procedures)

Students will be expected to come to class on time and be prepared to work with a proper attitude. Students will have all materials with them at the assigned seat and be in the assigned seat when the bell rings. Respect for the teacher and other students must be shown at all times. The following specifics will be expected within the classroom:

- Respect for your peers and teachers is expected at all times.
- Be in seat before the bell with proper materials. I.e. binder, music, pencil, computer under the seat.
- Gum is strictly not allowed in choir. No chewing of anything that is keeping someone from singing properly or creating tension in the jaw while singing.
- Proper posture and readiness is expected while rehearsing.
- Disruptions which are unhelpful to the overall purpose of the class time will not be tolerated. For example: getting out of the seat without permission, speaking or yelling out at the teacher or others in the room, etc.
- Leaving the room without prior permission is never allowed.

Student Expectations

- It is expected that every student will conduct himself in an orderly, courteous manner at all times with prompt and respectful obedience to all school personnel, following all adult direction without comment. If a student questions a teacher's decision, he/she should speak to the teacher privately after class. At that time, he/she should respectfully explain the situation and wait for the teacher's response.
- It is expected that every student will respect the feelings and rights of others. This includes students, teachers and visitors.

- It is expected that every student will conduct himself in an honest manner, avoiding such actions as lying, stealing and cheating.
- It is expected that every student will be on time to each class and be prepared with a proper mental attitude and all their necessary materials, books and assigned work.
- It is expected that every student understands that the teacher's desk, computer, and other personal belongings and work area is personal property and will be treated as such.
- It is expected that every student will remain in compliance with the classroom teacher's rules, policies and procedures.

Minor student disruptions will be dealt with following the secondary 4-step discipline plan.

- The student will receive a verbal warning the first time.
- The student will receive a written warning the second time that will be sent home to the parents via FACTS and a conference may be requested.
- The teacher will assign a penalty to the student in the form of a detention, written assignment, or other discipline deemed appropriate if there is a third occurrence of discipline issues.
- The teacher will refer the student to the Administration if a fourth incident arises.

The following dates are the required concerts for the school year:

December 12: Monday evening at 7:30pm in the Worship Center

February 17: Friday during school: ACSI Choir Festival at SFCA (School day only)

May 8: Monday evening at 6 pm in the Worship Center

The following are optional dates for choral enhancement:

All State Auditions and All State Concerts

September 13: Musicianship Test

October 13: Vocal Quality Test

January 11-14: All State Conference

March 3-4: Orlando Fest

I have read, understand, and will adhere to the policies and expectations of the choir class.

Please sign and return by **Monday, August 14, 2023**.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____