

San Angelo Independent School District
Course Syllabus: Vocal Ensemble (HarmoniCats)

Campus: Central High School

Grade Levels: 9 - 12

Course Titles (Numbers): Vocal Ensemble 1-4 (672x12)

Instructors: Mr. Landon Gilmore, Director of Choirs

Mrs. Sunday Vaught, Associate Director of Choirs

Mr. Gilmore's Conference Period:

By appointment during Second Period (9:17-10:06)

Tutorial Times: Fridays, 7:45-8:15 & 4:00-4:30

Mobile: (936) 348-8254

Office: (325) 659-3400 x155

E-mail: Landon.Gilmore@saisd.org

Mrs. Vaught's Conference Period:

By appointment during Second Period (9:17-10:06)

Tutorial Times: Tuesday 7:45-8:15, Friday 4:00-4:30

Office Number: (325) 659-3400 x154

E-mail Address: Sunday.Vaught@saisd.org

Course Description: Students will develop their performance skills in music, drama, and dance through rehearsals and performances of solo and small-to-medium ensemble vocal repertoire. Students will explore concepts important in performance and production such as microphone technique, recording technology and processes, stagecraft, costume design, show planning and promotion/marketing, etc.

Course Objectives

- To present high-quality performances
- To sing with energy, skill, and artistry
- To explore music of various genres
- To collaborate efficiently and respectfully with peers
- To grow in responsibility and accountability
- To take increased ownership and leadership in group performances

Required Materials

- A black, three-ring choir binder (less than 1", ½" preferred). These are provided to the students at the start of the year and are property of the school district. Students will be fined for loss or damage.
- Various printed music titles individually assigned to each student. Fines for loss or damage apply.
- A student-provided sharpened pencil with a functioning eraser. This should be in the student's folder and ready for rehearsal at the start of class each day.
- Performance uniform issued to each student. Each part of the uniform is numbered, barcoded, labeled, and individually assigned. Loss or damage beyond normal wear and tear of the uniform will result in a fine for the article's replacement.
- Our ensemble performs in various costumes for their seasonal performances and annual show. A list of required costume pieces will be provided at the beginning of the year and students are responsible for getting those items prior to "costume checks" which shall be for a grade.
- **Each student will be responsible for obtaining their own pair of black dress shoes (men: black socks as well) to wear with the uniform.**

SAISD Grading Policies: Grade categories are 60% Major / 40% Minor.

 San Angelo ISD Grading Guidelines

Central High School Fine Arts Department Grading Policies

1. **Late Work Policy***: All assignments are due when we ask for them. Failure to comply will result in a deduction of 10 grade points for each day the assignment is late. Teachers are not required to accept assignments beyond the 3rd day past the due date; exceptions may be made at the teacher's discretion.
2. **Make-up Policy***: Students absent from class will be allowed the number of days absent, plus one, to make up work. It is your job to get your make-up work and catch yourself up. Excessive absences could result in removal from a performance and the assignment of an alternate assessment.

*** Exception to above policies for major grades with predetermined deadlines of at least two weeks' notice:**

- a. Notice of a major grade within this period means the due date does not change despite absences.
 - b. Being absent on the date of a presentation or assessment means it is due upon the day you return.
 - c. Late work will not be accepted.
3. **Rehearsal/Concert Attendance Policy**
 - a. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory and will be graded.
 - b. All conflicts with rehearsals and performances must be submitted to the director as soon as possible (two weeks, minimum) and may need to be verified in writing from a parent or guardian.
 - c. In the event of a school-related conflict, we will work on remedying the conflict where students can participate in both activities.
 - d. If a student misses a rehearsal or performance, an alternate assignment will be given. If the student misses for an unexcused reason (according to school district policy), the highest grade he/she can make is a 70. The student needs to complete the assignment by the due date given by the instructor.

Course Grading Procedures: Students are graded on participation, performance, and mastery of skills. Only assignments that are completed fully and submitted on-time will be eligible for full credit. Points will be deducted for late or incomplete assignments. Full credit for rehearsals and performances will only be given to students who arrive on-time, remain for the entirety of the event, and follow all rules and procedures for those events. Examples of graded assessments include but are not limited to:

- Classroom Participation
- Written and Online Assignments
- Recorded Assessments
- Timely Return of Required Items/Forms
- Scheduled Rehearsals
- Scheduled Performances

Classroom Expectations

1. Be in your assigned seat, ready to participate, by the time the tardy bell rings.
2. Have all required materials ready for class (folder, assigned music, sharpened pencil).
3. Demonstrate appropriate posture at all times while singing.
4. Actively participate in all classroom activities.
5. Listen and do not talk when someone is addressing the class.
6. Do not bring food, drinks, or gum in the classroom or practice rooms under any circumstances.
7. Help keep the room clean and chairs in their designated places. Deposit personal items in the available cubicles and do not leave them on the floors or take them to the risers.
8. Personal electronic devices are not to be out and visible in the classroom, unless being used in accordance with a district-approved instructional activity. Please see [SAISD Electronic Device Procedures](#) for more information.
9. Do not touch the piano, white boards, sound equipment, etc., without permission.
10. Wait to leave the risers and room until you are dismissed.
11. Be courteous, positive, and supportive of fellow choir members, directors, and guests.
12. Communicate in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. Foul or abusive language directed at teachers, guests, or other students will not be tolerated.

Additional policies and procedures governing our organization and your student's participation can be found in the  CHS Choir Handbook