

COURSE SYLLABUS

CONCERT CHOIR / CONCERT CHOIR IB
MARTONE/MIELE

MUSIC DEPARTMENT
YEAR-LONG COURSE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for those students who wish to take singing to a highly challenging level. The students will work on music of a more challenging degree. The students will learn correct breathing techniques, posture, diction and tone production. They will also acquire the ability to read musical notation and be able to identify its symbols. The music studied will possibly encompass the Renaissance to the 20th Century. This course may be taken for IB credit. The student will meet on Tuesdays from 3:15-4:30 and will be assessed at the end of each term.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: The students are to be responsible to themselves by taking pride in their work and improving daily what they produce through hard work and dedication. The students are also responsible to be independent of the learned music, being able to perform it when requested to do so. The students are required to understand their roll in an ensemble situation. A total commitment to the group is necessary for the success of the end product. A half-hearted commitment will only hamper the work and dedication of the other students in the class. The Concert Choir will also participate in leading the school in singing at the all-school liturgies. Concert attire is black pants or knee-length skirt & a white tux shirt with wing tipped collar. The school will provide the cummerbund and tie.

BASIS FOR GRADING: The students' grade will be determined by their knowledge and execution of the music according to their individual talent and ability. Total and sincere participation is the key to success. The students will frequently be assessed of their knowledge through individual execution of a given song or section therein. Each student may be tested on his/her knowledge of basic Music Theory through quizzes during each term. The final assessment will be the effort and execution put forth by the students during the public performances in the winter and the spring. Failure to appear at one of these performances or rehearsals may cause the immediate reduction of a letter grade. Absence from a graded student performance must be followed with a parental note verifying that the student's guardian knew of the missed/graded event and the circumstances which caused the absence.

A=	93-100	Performances	02x	100 pts.	200 pts.
B+=	90-92	Baccalaureate	01x	50 pts	50 pts.
B=	85-89	Daily Rehearsal Technique*	90x	10 pts.	900 pts.
C+=	82-84	* Rehearsal technique encompasses participation, posture, execution and memorization.			
C=	75-81	Music IB	03x	100 pts.	300 pts.
D=	70-74				

2011-2012 PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

- September 22nd – Mercy Liturgy (B-Day)
- November 1st – All Saints Day Liturgy (B-Day)
- November 22nd – Thanksgiving Liturgy (B-Day)
- December 8th – Immaculate Conception Liturgy (A-Day)
- December 14th – Christmas Concert 7:00 PM
- December 22nd – Christmas Assembly (B-Day)
- January 31st – Catholic Schools Liturgy (A-Day)
- February 15th – Ash Wednesday Liturgy (B-Day)
- May 15th – Spring Concert 7:00 PM
- May 17th – Ascension Thursday Liturgy (B-Day)
- May 20th – Senior Arts Banquet – 6:00 PM
- May 24th – Baccalaureate Mass – O.L.P. 7:00 PM

Students should check the MPS Web Page – assignments- Mr. Martone for a copy of this syllabus and the dates of the entire Arts Calendar.

TEACHING LEARNING UNIT

CONCERT CHOIR

Objectives: By the end of the term each student should be able to:

1. Take direction from the director for blend, dynamics, expression and vocal execution.
2. Learn to interact and cooperate with other members of the group.
3. Present a professional appearance while performing as well as coming and going from a performance site.
4. Undertake the responsibilities for learning your individual as well as any solo parts.
5. Show unquestionable knowledge of the music that is to be performed.
6. Display characteristics listed and outlined in the Creative Arts goals and objectives section of the course description booklet.

Outline: Term 1: Goal: The first term is spent learning the music for the Christmas season. During this term the students are taught to sing the pitches on the page and to read the notes, rhythms and symbols. There is also a strong emphasis on breathing technique, group blend and proper preparation.

Term 2: Goal: The first month of term 2 culminates in community appearances and a Christmas concert. It is in these days of preparation before these concerts that the group works on fine-tuning (i.e. balance, expression, etc.).
The rest of the term is spent just as the beginning of Term 1 with the preparation of the music for the March Disney Performance and the spring concert season.

Term 3: Goal: Term 3 is spent continuing to work on the music from term 2. This term culminates with the preparation and execution of the spring concert.