

UCHS Choir Online/Remote Learning Guide



Purpose

While our usual choir syllabus will apply when we return to in-person classes, online learning requires different information and procedures than are contained in the handbook. This document will answer most of your questions; if you have more, please contact us!

Contact Info:

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314-290-4100

Online Choir Schedule:

Choirs will meet for face to face rehearsals on Zoom 2 times per week during their choir period following the online Ucity schools schedules. Attendance at these live rehearsals is required. Supplemental graded activities/assignments will be found in the Google Classroom platform. Help can be obtained during Choir Office Hours, Tuesdays/Fridays 1:30-2:30 PM.

Music Folder/Materials:

Digital music scores, sight reading, and theory resources will be provided via Google Classroom. Please *print these resources* and either staple or 3-hole punch them and place in a separate folder for choir. Students will be expected to read from and mark in actual copies of music rather than from their computer screen.

Performance Calendar:

Our performance calendar has been listed at the bottom of the syllabus. Please check to make sure these dates are free; however, they are very subject to change/cancellation based on the current learning situation. Thank you in advance for your flexibility this year!

Uniforms:

Until we know when in-person learning will resume and when concert performances will be allowed, robe disbursement (HS only) will remain on hold. We will evaluate the uniform situation when the time comes, and possibly modify the typical uniform requirements based on the current situation. In the meantime, our required standard uniform for all performances is all

black attire: Black dress shirts, black slacks (no jeans or leggings) or skirts, completely black shoes/dress, black socks or stockings.

Student Physical Set-Up for Online Choir Live Rehearsals:

Please follow these guidelines *to the best of your ability* to set up a workable space in which to rehearse:

- a. Choose a quiet room with a closed door for privacy and sound insulation. Request that others in the house allow for privacy during class time. You should be able to sing comfortably in your space without worrying about others hearing.
- b. The room should be light enough for you to be clearly seen on camera. Bring in an extra lamp if needed.
- c. Your computer camera should be placed at face level. Your computer should be at a distance to allow for full face and neck/upper torso to be clearly seen on screen.
- d. Materials for class: Smart phone or other audio player with part tape recordings, keyboard or smartphone pitch-pipe/keyboard app, music folder with printed scores/resources, water if necessary, metronome or metronome app, blank paper or erasable white board, and pencil.
- e. All computer/audio components should be charged or plugged in. A direct wired connection to your router is preferable if possible, rather than WiFi.
- f. A personal computer is preferable to a chromebook, if possible.
- g. You should use headphones with a mic for audio if possible. Typical smartphone headphones work well.

Student Expectations During Online Class:

- a. All typical classroom expectations apply.
- b. Students will use their correct first and last name when logging on to Zoom sessions.
- c. Students will use any chat features appropriately; to ask questions and make appropriate comments about what is being discussed.
- d. Students should pay attention to the class for the duration of the rehearsal. Working on other class materials is prohibited.
- e. Students should log on to class early to problem solve any technical issues.
- f. Your Video must be on and you must be visible in class meetings unless otherwise requested. (please make arrangements with me prior to class).
- g. Keep yourself muted until asked otherwise.
- h. Per UCITY Schools Policy, students will not record any video conferencing sessions.
- i. When using hand signals, make sure your hand is visible on screen. Hand-sign near your face.
- j. No gum, eating, or drinking (other than water) during class time.

- k. Present yourself well.
- l. No social media or looking at your phone unless requested for a class activity.
- m. Private chat message the director to be excused for a bathroom break.
- n. Turn off all electronic distractions- automatic notifications, set phones to silent, etc.
- o. Students will abide by all policies in the student handbook.

Recommended Face Masks for Singing:

Masks will most likely be required when we return to in-person classes. These are a few suggestions that seem to work quite well for the singer, by holding the mask off the face. If you are interested, I recommend purchasing/making one now to avoid delays later.

- a. Purchase: The Singer's Mask-
<https://www.broadwayreliefproject.com/singersmask>
- b. Pattern: DIY Singer's Mask-
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iiZBjsSzEozlIbHjTbzOwER1_WqZcs5/view
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azElkHsa7uE>
- c. Purchase: "Resonance" Mask-
[https://www.mymusicfolders.com/product/resonance-singers-mask-with-disposabl
e-biofilters](https://www.mymusicfolders.com/product/resonance-singers-mask-with-disposabl-e-biofilters)

University City High School

2019-2020

Music Department (Performing Arts)

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UNIVERSITY CITY HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR SYLLABUS

Course Description

Music is a part of our lives whether we are aware of its effects on us or not. Vocal music provides some people the opportunity to express themselves. Singing can help us improve our self-esteem, which affects our relationships, skills, and overall success. School choirs have an added benefit because they offer reinforced learning in math, science, history, and language arts. This syllabus describes what will be learned and other class information. If you have any questions or concerns email me to respond. I hope your child reaps the benefits that music has waiting for them.

UCHS BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Technology in the classroom is for learning purposes, not distraction. Chrome Books should be used as part of the learning process.

Cell phones: Students may NOT have cell phones in the classroom unless they are given specific, verbal permission to do so. Cell phones should be turned off and stored in a student's bag and should not be taken out unless the teacher has given permission for the student to do so. It is entirely the teacher's discretion to allow cell phones or to not allow cell phones in order to protect a positive, distraction-free learning space.

Classroom Expectations

--Remain in your assigned seat until given permission to leave.

--Have your folder and pencil everyday

- Complete all instructions and classroom assignments/rehearsals given by the teacher in a timely manner.
- Show respect for your classmates, materials, music space and the teacher.
- Conversations are only allowed when given permission.
- Drinks (including water), candy, food, and gum must not be eaten or chewed in the classroom.
- No cell phones and follow the directions of the Student Discipline Handbook and all school adults unless the request is illegal, immoral or unsafe.

Course Units and Objectives

1. Students will sing proficiently, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music that is of an average difficulty level and therefore will gain an understanding of the importance of singing in an ensemble.
2. Students will understand and be able to perform how various musical styles are sung authentically.
3. Students will work in unity to produce a cohesive choral sound.
4. Students will understand how instruments effectively accompany a vocal group in the appropriate style.
5. Students will understand and be able to perform melodies and how they are created.
6. Students will understand and be able to describe an understanding of music theory appropriate for the music they are working on.
 1. Students will be able to read and notate music given in class.
 2. Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music using proper musical terminology.
7. Students will understand and know what other disciplines are affected by music and how music is affected by other disciplines. Students will understand the relationship of music with culture, history and society and be able to articulate this relationship between music and other disciplines.

Course Prerequisites

Concert Choir: Audition and approval of the instructor

Men's and Women's choir: None

Middle School Choirs: None

High School Important Concerts/Competitions scheduled

All District Choir Auditions:

All District Choir mandated rehearsal:

All District Choir Festival:

Winter Choir, Orchestra and Band concert:

MLK Celebration:

E. Desmond Lee Honor Choir Festival:

High School Spring Musical (for those involved)

District Solo/Ensemble Competition:

State Choir Festival/Competition:

Music In Our Schools Concert:

State Solo/Ensemble Competition: MIZZOU:

Spring Choir/String/Band Concert:

Graduation:

Middle School Important Concerts

Winter Concert: December

Spring Concert: May

Student Materials

--Always have your pencil and folder.

--Men: Black long sleeve button down collared shirt, black dress pants (no jeans), black socks, black shoes

--Women: black non-collared shirt (no sweaters), black flats or comfortable dress shoes—must be dress and cannot be sneakers, flip flops, boots or stilettos. Black dress pants or skirt—no leggings

High School Students will be assigned a school choir robe---IF LOST: \$150.00 replacement

Text/Literature

- Sight-Sing a New Song—A workbook for Music Reading Basics. Pdf pages for printing
by: Jennifer Kerr Breedlove

- Various Literature Selections based on student enrollment and voice types for concert and performance opportunities-Anywhere from \$2.00-25.00 depending on songs/pieces distributed to student.
- Also: www.sightreadingfactory.com

Grading

Summative Grading: 70% of the final grade

Concerts/Performances

Formative Grading: 30% of the final grade

Participation

Tests/Quizzes/Classroom Assignments/Homework

The grading system is as follows:

90-100%=A

80-89%=B

70-79%=C

60-69%=D

59% and below=Failing

Quarter 1 weighted: 40% of semester grade

Quarter 2 weighted: 60% of semester grade

Quarter 3 weighted: 60% of semester grade

Quarter 4 weighted: 40% of semester grade

Policy on Make up work

Concerts: Notify the teacher one month in advance with a signed parent letter if not able to attend. The teacher will decide if it is an acceptable excuse. The teacher will prepare written instructions for that musician to write a paper due before the concert. Concerts CANNOT be made up if not excused AT LEAST one month in advance in writing. If you miss a concert, you receive a failing grade for that semester. See weighted grades above

Tests/Quizzes/Assignments: Students will have one day after the absence(s) to make up the missed exam.

Homework

- Various assignments from the text.
- Practice assignments from the literature.
- Assignments from www.sightreadingfactory.com.
- Singing tests.
- Utilizing Flipgrid and Smartmusic
- Weekly practice log via google form.

I have read the preceding pages, the 2020/21 choir syllabus, and understand the course expectations in terms of work load, grading, behavior and supplies for CHOIR at University City.

STUDENT NAME: _____
(Please PRINT clearly)

(student signature)

(date)

(parent/guardian signature)

(date)

Contact Info.: 1. (parent/guardian name)

(cell phone number)

2.__(parent/guardian name)

(cell phone number)

PARENT e-mail address(s) _____

STUDENT e-mail address _____

STUDENT Cell Phone: _____

home phone: _____

COMMENTS, CONCERNS, SUGGESTIONS, QUESTIONS: