

**SYLLABUS**  
**HSPVA TENOR-BASS CHOIR**  
Period 9  
Choir Room 111

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**CHORAL PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS**

Students are responsible for all choral performances listed in the music department calendar. The following performances are **graded, co-curricular** events:

- Annual Winter Concert
- Annual Spring Concert
- Other special performances as they are added to the calendar. Students will be given ample time to prepare for these events.

The following performances and/or events are **extra-curricular** and students **MUST** be passing **all** classes with a minimum 6-weeks grade of 70:

- All-Region and All-State auditions and concerts
- SPAGHETTI SUPPER
- UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest
- Any paid or competitive event, such as performing with the Houston Symphony or Madrigal Festivals.
- Choir trips

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Students will develop an understanding of the scope and variety of the choral repertoire for male voices.
- Students will understand those specific choral works studied as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
- Students will respond critically to those choral works studied.
- Students will engage in the creative process through interpretive performance.
- Students will articulate an informed reaction to those choral works studied.
- Students will improve vocal, aural, and music-reading skills.
- Students will comprehend the physical and intellectual demands required of the performing artist.

**MUSIC**

- Music for the semester will be borrowed from the Choral Library. Students will be financially responsible for music not returned by the specified date.
- A labeled three-ring binder is required to hold your music.
- A pencil is required at each rehearsal to mark your music.

## **CONCERT ATTIRE**

- **Boys:** Tuxedo, poly/cotton tuxedo shirt with laydown collar and 1/4 inch pleat, black cummerbund and bow tie, black dress shoes, and black socks

## **GRADING SYSTEM**

**Daily Participation - 60%:** *Students are assessed daily on...*

- Appropriate choral rehearsal conduct
- Warm-up
- Group and individual sight-reading
- Eager contribution to the ensemble
- Bringing materials to class

**Technique and Vocal Production – 10%:** *Students are assessed on basic and intermediate level choral skills:*

- Pitch and rhythm accuracy
- Vocal production
- Vowel and consonant uniformity
- Posture
- Facial Expression

## **Performances & Exams - 30%**

- As per the HSPVA Music Department Handbook, an unexcused, undocumented absence from a concert performance will result in a grade of zero for that performance. Work or lack of transportation never constitutes an excused absence from an HSPVA performance.
- **MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENT FOR ANY MISSED PERFORMANCE:** Students will attend an outside choral concert and write a performance critique. If at all possible, this assignment should occur within the same grading period as the missed performance.
- Vocal exams may be comprised of recorded tests, in-class solos, and quartet exams.

## **REHEARSALS**

- Students are expected to begin the warm-up and rehearsal on time, with or without the director.
- Pencils are required for rehearsal markings in the music.
- Singers who cannot sing due to serious illness should inform the conductor of this fact before the rehearsal begins, and should sit in the section and study the music silently by mouthing the words, quietly tapping rhythms, or using solfege hand signs.