

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**Concert and Treble Choirs**  
**2012-2013**

**Class Facts:** The teacher is Ms. Adela Martinez (office: 469/948-3470; school office: 469/713-5192; e-mail: [martinezac@lisd.net](mailto:martinezac@lisd.net)). Dr. Rohwer does not answer emails about 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> period students. If contact with a director is desired, it is recommended that all emails be addressed to me.

**Course Description:** A curriculum for the study of choral music, sight-singing, and vocal technique is offered at this level. Performances at UIL are auditioned and TMEA and local competitions are encouraged. The choir is a performing ensemble. Concerts are usually outside of the school day and are absolutely required.

**Outcomes and Expectations:** The outcomes of this course, which are based upon both the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and the National Standards for Music Education, are:

- The student will describe and analyze musical sound and demonstrate musical artistry
- The student will sing, individually and in groups, performing a variety of music
- The student will read and write music notation
- The student will learn to relate music to history, society, and to culture
- The student will respond to and evaluate music and musical performance

Students should expect to be assessed on all of the above objectives. Singing individually, in groups or alone, is a required part of the class. Students will be graded on accuracy of notes as well as individual improvement. Students should expect individual singing grades weekly.

**Performance Eligibility:**

Choir is an activity that is governed by and subject to the regulations of the University Interscholastic League (UIL). The "No Pass, No Play" rule stipulates that students who fail a course at certain times of year are ineligible to participate in any choir activity that is competitive, charges admission, or is off campus. Once a student is ineligible, they must regain eligibility by passing *all of their classes* by the next grading period. It is the student's responsibility to both understand UIL eligibility and keep track of their own grades.

**Grading Policy:**

- Major Grades (40%) – performance checks, concert attendance, singing grades, sight reading grades, etc.
- Minor Grades (30%) – written grades, projects, music theory, vocabulary, piano scales, listening grades, etc.
- Daily Grades (15%) – weekly rehearsal grades. 20 points per day – in spot on risers when class begins, has folder in class, texting, gum, etc.
- Midterm/Final Exam (15%) – comprehensive exam

**CLASSROOM LOGISTICS INFORMATION**

**Performance attire:** All students will be assigned a uniform and garment bag. You will be responsible for any damage to the tuxedo/dress or garment bag while it is checked out in your name. For men, attire is concert black: tuxedo coat, black tie, cummerbund, and black pants, all provided by FMHS. **You will need to purchase a wing-tipped tuxedo shirt, black socks and black dress shoes.** For women, attire is a black dress, also provided by FMHS. You will need to supply black shoes with a heel of no more than 2". **Absolutely no jewelry is allowed on stage.** Also, please refrain from cologne or perfume on stage as many people have allergies to them. Men are required to dry clean all uniform parts before returning them at the end of the semester or school year.

**Music, folders, etc:** You will be assigned music and a folder slot in which to put it at the end of each day. **You will be charged for lost or damaged music.** Please hole punch the music and place it in your binder. Also, put a pencil in your folder and use it every day. Your folder and pencil will be the materials required for class. Grades will be given based on having your materials everyday. These grades will be taken at random and as such will not be able to be made up.

**Risers:** Unless otherwise instructed to do so, students will not bring outside homework, calculators, books, purses, backpacks, etc. on to the risers. All items will be confiscated and held for 24 hours or possibly disposed of.

**Be Mature:** Listen, and don't ask questions that have already been answered. There is no running, kicking, hitting, screaming, licking or spitting. *ABSOLUTELY NO HACKYSACKS ARE ALLOWED* and they will be taken up and disposed of immediately. *PLAYING CARDS* will also be taken and disposed of immediately. *SIGNS and NINJA* are also not allowed in the choir room or at choir events. And unless expressly invited by a director, the piano is off-limits.

**Conflicts:** Written notice of a conflict with a choir event is required two weeks before the conflict arises. The day of a concert is not the time to bring a conflict to my attention. If the conflict is related to another school activity, time will be needed to allow communication between both programs to find a resolution. Students should expect a make-up assignment for all missed choir events.

**An Important Note about Sacred Music:** The selection of sacred music in public schools has been addressed in a policy statement by the American Choral Directors Association, in conjunction with legal professionals. All choral music selected at Flower Mound High School conforms to that statement; this statement is available upon request. *"When selected, sacred music is studied and performed for its inherent beauty of structure and form; its purpose in study is learning for the sake of developing artistic understanding and responsiveness."*

## **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT POLICY**

### **DISTRICT RULES:**

1. Be On Time: Be in the Choir room, in your spot and prepared to sing *when the bell rings*. If you are not, you are tardy, and will be dealt with in accordance to school policy.
2. Water Bottles: You cannot leave class to purchase or refill a water bottle.

### **MS. LAIL RULES:**

1. Food and Drink Policy: No food, drink or gum is allowed in the performing arts wing as per FMHS Policy. Water, just water, not flavored, is allowed and encouraged.

### **MS. MARTINEZ RULES:**

1. Sick Policy: It is Civil Code policy that all students will *stand and participate in class everyday*. Owing to the fact that this is a vocal participation class, I understand if students are too sick to sing. However, singing is part of class and I will require a doctor's note after the first day of not singing if a student is asking not to sing for multiple days. I will not accept a parent's note; it must be from a doctor's office. No exceptions. The Choir Civil Code is on display on the Choir website.
2. Manage your own personal technology: Take care of your personal technology business outside of the choir classroom.
3. Piano Policy: Unless expressly invited by a director, the piano is off limits!!

### **OUR RULES:**

1. Respect other people's property.
2. Put forth your best effort at all times.
3. Be respectful and nice.
4. Don't be bossy – "Jerk's ain't attractive!"