

Senior Choir – CHL30S, CHL40S

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Course Description

Senior Choir is largely rehearsal based in preparation for performances throughout the semester. Students will learn the essentials of good vocal technique, musicianship and artistic expression. Class time is also spent learning about music theory, history, and composing/arranging music. Students who wish to take part in Senior Tour Choir (Semester 2) are strongly encouraged to take this course.

Performance Opportunities

Performances throughout the year include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Choralfest – **Week of November 13th – 16th** – *Sturgeon Creek United Church, Wpg*
- Winter Concert – **Thursday, December 7th, 2017** – *7:30 pm at Emmanuel Mennonite*
- Potential End of Semester 1 Tour – Date TBD, if possible!

Guidelines for Success

1. **RESPECT.** Yourself, your classmates, staff, audiences, materials, room, etc. We want everyone to feel safe here. We want everyone to feel like they are valued here. We can disagree with one another without being disrespectful.
2. **COMMUNICATE.** It's the student's job to ensure they know what is happening in their course. If you miss a day – check in with the C.H.A.O.S. centre. If you can't follow through on a commitment (e.g. a concert, or an assignment deadline) then it is imperative that you speak with Urichuk ASAP. When you communicate in a timely manner, chances are very good a suitable arrangement can be reached.
3. **TRUST.** *"Fill the gap with Trust."* When things don't go the way we expect, we choose to trust people rather than jump to conclusions. This should be true of ALL relationships in the school. However, if that trust is violated we will need to work hard to rebuild it together. In the long run, it's easier just to be honest and own our mistakes/shortcomings.

Learning Objectives:

There are 4 Essential Learning Areas in Manitoba's Grade 9-12 Music Framework. These ELAs are intended to centre around the student as an **active and full participant in music-making**.

Essential Learning Areas:

- i. Making Music
- ii. Creating Music
- iii. Connecting with Music
- iv. Responding to Music

Based on these four ELA's, students should be able to use musical tools, to communicate creatively and expressively, connect to the context/background of our music, and reflect on their learning.

Assessment Plan:

In addition to traditional written assignments and tests, students will be assessed on each of the 4 ELAs, as discussed above. Some of this assessment will be observational evidence based on the student’s demonstrated abilities and involvement during class/rehearsal time.

The final cut-off date for each semester will be 1 week prior to the submission of marks.

The mark breakdown is as follows:

- **Daily Rehearsal Work** **35%**
 Warm-ups (sung & written), In-class work, Rehearsal Skills
E.g. ability to work with the ensemble, learn parts, follow conductor

- **Studios** **15%**
 Periodic singing studios, including End of Semester
Students will perform pre-selected material for Urichuk. Not intended to be stressful, simply an opportunity to ensure that we’re all on track (including Mrs. U).

- **Theory & Music History** **20%**
 Assignments & Quizzes

- **3P: Projects, Performances, & Points** **30%**
 - Projects: – e.g. *Covers, Research Projects, Listening Logs*
 - Performances: Due to the nature of this course, performances are mandatory. If a student is unable to attend a performance, they must make prior arrangements with Mrs. U to make up those marks.
 - Points – Enrichment & Outreach: Students are required to complete **10 points** of their choosing throughout the semester. *See handout for more details.*

Most assessment will be completed using a rubric scale of 4:

1	2	3	4
Beginning to Develop	Approaching Expectations	Meeting Expectations	Exceeding Expectations

You will be able to check in at any time on PowerSchool for an update on your mark. I will do my best to keep the PowerSchool as up to date as possible.

Concert Attire:

Different types of performances will require different types of performance wear. Formal concerts and tours will generally require head-to-toe black (black shirt, black pants/skirt, black socks/leggings & shoes) while more casual performances may require a uniform of nice jeans and a plain shirt or GVC shirt. We will discuss prior to each performance.

*“I want to sing like the birds sing;
 not worrying about who hears or what they think.”
 – Rumi*