

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
VIPA 2620 Chorus
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

An intermediate study of the care and cultivation of the singing voice, aesthetic awareness, musical language and history, choral repertoire, artistic expression, vocal techniques, team spirit, performance practice, and rehearsal habits. The class will rehearse daily in preparation for required choral performances. The students will be encouraged to participate in honor choirs and solo performance.

Curricular Mapping:

The primary purpose of this course is to prepare the student for a life of singing. This is an intermediate level class. The student may continue studies in singing by taking this class until the completion of high school or progress to advanced level choral ensembles.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to;

1. Sing with marked improvement in vocal technique, breath, posture, tone, and intonation
2. Vocalize with competent intonation on a major scale, thirds, intervals, chromatic scale, assigned harmonies from the I, IV, V7 and ii chord using “solfege”
3. Perform in a choral ensemble with measurable success
4. Gain success in the vocal arts which will encourage the student to continue as a lifelong singer
5. Be better prepared for future musical ensembles and solo performances
6. Perform correct pronunciation of various language repertoire with well placed vowel shape and expression
7. Better understanding choral literature, style and composers from Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and Contemporary periods
8. Have a sense of artistic aesthetics in the vocal arts
9. Realize God’s gift of music that is intrinsic and extrinsic
10. Understand music with an increased Christian worldview

Texts:

Course material will be provided by your instructor and available in the classroom.

Prerequisites:

Prerequisites include placement by the instructor for returning students or a vocal audition and interview with the instructor for incoming students. The audition includes a prepared solo

selection, sight-reading, range testing, tone matching, and *solfege* scales. This class is open for qualifying sophomore, junior, and senior level students.

Course Outline and Requirements:

- 1.0 Vocal Techniques
- 1.1 Instrument created by God
- 1.2 Continual Assessment of Posture
- 1.3 Continual Assessment of Breath
- 1.4 Continual Assessment of Resonance
- 1.5 Continual Assessment of Tone
- 1.6 Continual Assessment of Healthy Phonation
- 2.0 Theory
- 2.1 *Solfege* System applied directly to choral scores
- 2.2 Independently perform Major Scale, Minor Scale
- 2.3 Independently perform Arpeggios I, IV, V7 and ii
- 2.4 Independently perform Thirds and Intervals
- 2.5 Independently perform Chromatic Scale
- 2.6 Independently perform Harmonies on I, IV, V7 and ii
- 3.0 Choral Technique
- 3.1 Re-access Voice Assignment
- 3.2 Voicing according to literature style and demands
- 3.3 Triadic Choral Blend and appropriate vibrato
- 4.0 Score Reading
- 4.1 SSAATTBB
- 4.2 Independent Part reading
- 4.3 Advance in musical forms
- 4.4 Rhythms; syncopation, mixed rhythms
- 4.5 Notes; dissonance, non-traditional harmonies
- 4.6 Precise Control of Dynamics
- 5.0 Repertoire
- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Score marking
- 5.3 Folder Management
- 6.0 Performances
- 6.1 Concert 1
- 6.2 Concert 2
- 6.3 Concert 3
- 6.4 Concert 4
- 6.5 Festivals

- 6.6 Chapels
- 6.7 Church Services
- 6.8 Community Concerts

Grading:

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Concert Test	20%	Quarter	50 %
Concert Attire / Concert Behavior	5%	Quarter	50 %
Festival Final Exam	20%		
Hearing	20%		
Participation	10%		
Quizzes	20%		
Syllabus Signature	5%		

High School Standard Grading Policy:

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Parent-Student Handbook.

Class Policies:

The following class policies are non-negotiable. Please see the instructor if you have any concerns with your ability to follow these policies.

1. Attendance: Students are expected to be in class daily. If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to get the classwork and homework missed. You will have one day for every day you are out to make up your work- no exceptions.
2. Tardiness: Students are expected to be in their seats with their folders out and all materials needed ready when the bell rings otherwise you will be marked "Tardy."
3. No gum, no drinks or food, only water in a container that seals.

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

Tips for the Students:

It is recommended that students prepare their activities calendar while collaborating with the performance calendar. Students should be responsible to have all materials in their folder for each rehearsal.

Participation equals progress.

This course moves at a fast pace. Getting behind can be detrimental to your achievement and may cause dismissal from the course.

Miscellaneous:

Folders will be graded at random times without your prior knowledge. It is recommended that you keep your folder up to date and music marked well in pencil only.