

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
VIPA 3620 Chamber Choir
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

Chamber Choir is an advanced 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:

This course's primary purpose is to prepare the student for a life of singing. This is an advanced level class. The student may continue studies in singing by taking this class until the completion of high school. In order to progress in voice study a student may also take vocal techniques, private voice, audition for chamber ensemble, and/or audition for honor choir.

Course Objectives:

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

1. Sing with advanced vocal technique, breath, posture, tone, and intonation
2. Vocalize with competent intonation on a major and minor scale, thirds, intervals, chromatic scale, assigned harmonies from the I, IV, V7 and ii chord using "solfege"
3. Perform in a choral ensemble and chamber 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 collegiate or professional level musical ensembles and solo performances
6. Perform correct pronunciation of various language repertoire with well placed vowel shape, exact translations, and stylistic expression
7. Better understanding choral literature, style and composers from Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and Contemporary periods
8. Maintain 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:

Prerequisite includes 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, sigh-reading, range testing, tone matching, and “solfege” scales. This class is open for qualifying 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
- 2.7 Independently perform vocalizes in various keys
- 3.0 Choral Technique
- 3.1 Re-access Voice Assignment
- 3.2 Voicing according to literature style and demands
- 3.3 Triadic Choral Blend, appropriate vibrato, stylistic accent
- 4.0 Score Reading
- 4.1 SSAATTBB
- 4.2 Independent Part reading

- 4.3 Advance in understanding 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 Renaissance, Baroque, Classical Romantic, Contemporary literature
- 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
- 6.9 Golden State

Grading:

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Church Performances	20%	Quarter	50 %
Festivals/Exams	30%	Quarter	50 %
Hearings	20%		
Participation	15%		
Syllabus Signature	5%		
VT Quizzes	10%		

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 calendar while collaborating with the performance calendar. Students should be responsible to have all materials in their folder for each rehearsal. This course moves at a fast pace. Getting behind can be detrimental to your achievement and may cause dismissal from the course.

Participation equals progress.

Miscellaneous:

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