

ST. CHARLES EAST HIGH SCHOOL
2018-19

Course Title

BEL CANTO - 3rd hour

Teacher Contact Information

MR. CORY JONES

Room C130A

Planning Period – 1st hour

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Course Description

Bel Canto is a select, auditioned ensemble of treble voices open to sophomores through senior females. Admission requires two previous semesters of membership in a high school choral ensemble.

Literature includes numerous styles of music ranging from the Renaissance to the present and ranges from three to six vocal parts. Consequently, students are expected to know the fundamentals of music reading, vocal production, and music theory, so that class time may be devoted to refining and balancing the choir's sound rather than teaching notes and rhythms.

Course Objectives

1. To nurture the development of appreciation and understanding of music through the performance of the best in music.
2. To provide music skills through theory, sight reading, and score identification.
3. To develop interested and discriminating listeners and provide a well rounded music background for its members.

Power Standards - Students will be able to:

1. demonstrate healthy vocal technique and continued growth by vocalizing throughout their ranges with an even tone
2. perform repertoire according to style/era of music and the intent of the composer/arranger,
3. display mastery for the prepared literature prior to the final performance of the quarter in the following areas of pitch, rhythm, dynamics, phrasing, diction, memorization and emotion.
4. apply sight-singing systems to demonstrate independence in musical literacy,
5. express leadership in class discussions about musical direction by employing course vocabulary.
6. evaluate the ensemble and their individual progress and performance through a variety of assessment techniques.
7. analyze and discuss performance recordings and develop strategies to enhance instruction and improve results through a variety of methods

Enhanced Standards (advanced/honors/AP level):

Through study in this course, students will be encouraged to participate in the following to enhance choral music experience:

- Audition for/Participate in ILMEA District and State Music Festivals
- Participate in other Choral/Music Festival (ACDA/other)
- Audition for/Participate in SCE (and other) musicals

- Present additional performances for public consumption
- Audition for/Participate in 2nd music ensemble
- Study with private voice instructor!

Required Textbook and Materials

Selected Literature (TBA) and Handouts will be provided for the students. Students are responsible for these materials and will be required to replace them if lost or damaged. The cost will be based on the current replacement purchase price.

Suggested Materials (optional)

- Refillable water bottle
- Pencil
- Apps to aid in assessment, performing, and learning

Assessments

Grades will be determined based on the following:

(COM)	Performances	25%	Prompt arrival and appropriate participation
(CLAS)	Daily Class Work	20%	Strong work ethic and materials every day
(TEST)	Tests/Assignments	15%	Written homework, assessments, projects
(ASMT)	Oral/Aural Assess.	20%	Singing and listening
(FINAL)	<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>Department-wide policy</u>
		100%	

A= 90-100% B= 80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=59-0%

Your final will consist of the following 3 parts:

1. Sight-Singing
2. Part Check
3. Written Exam

To be successful in this class, work must be done individually outside of class, which can be classified as homework. This includes individual practice on fundamental skills being taught, preparation of music to be performed and written assignments. Homework will take the form of any of the three following formats:

How do we define homework?

- Practice: Homework that is for practicing skills and concepts learned in the classroom
- Assessed: Homework that is assessed by the teacher to provide written feedback but not graded
 - Does not impact the student’s grade
- Graded: Homework that is graded
 - Impacts the student’s grade

Backpacks, cell phones, and chromebooks:

Backpacks will be kept in the back of the classroom clear of our rehearsal space to allow for freedom of movement during class. Some days we WILL use both cell phones and/or chromebooks in class. You will be instructed when to remove those items from your bags and to have them at your seats. Cell phones are to be put away before entering the choir room.

Your Contribution

First start by being proud of your own talents! Next, remember that being a member of the SCE choral ensembles is a very special thing which we all have learned to love and value. With this comes certain responsibilities, duties, and privileges. A keen awareness of these by each member makes for a successful organization of which everyone can be proud. Each member of the choir is important and has a unique contribution to make towards a greater showing of total sound and positive attitude of the group. Since others depend on this contribution, it becomes very disruptive to the group when your contribution is missing or not up to the best of your ability. Therefore, doing your best each day and being loyal to the group are extremely important not only for the high morale of the group, but also for top-notch rehearsals and performances. We are a team and need to function as such.

Practicing

We've all heard that "practice makes perfect," but many times working towards perfection is a scary thing! I like to think that **PRACTICE MEANS PROGRESS**. That being said, each student really must practice outside of class on a regular basis. The amount that each individual student needs to practice in order to improve steadily varies greatly on the literature and the technical skill that is being attempted. 30 mins to an hour each night is very reasonable for growth and retention. The results of the practice will be evident when presented in class for evaluation and in performance.

Attendance at Concerts

Concerts are a graded portion of this class. Our performance calendar is in the SCE school calendar and is also available on google. As you are aware, all students are required to participate in all after school performances that pertain to their class. These performances are co-curricular and relate directly to the curriculum. Students are expected to stay through the entire concert, not just their portion of the program. A part of the concert experience is learning to be an engaged and respectful audience member. Individuals with performance conflicts must communicate the problem several weeks in advance. Each conflict will be examined individually. If it is determined that the student cannot participate in the performance they will be given an additional assignment (research paper) to fulfill the performance requirement.

Concert Dress

This year we will continue the past practice of concert attire for all of our choirs. More information will be available in class at a later date.

Private Lessons

Information concerning private lessons will be discussed in class and sent through email and newsletter.

Parent Involvement

Parents are strongly encouraged to get involved with our program. Please visit the Music Booster website for more information: <http://stcemusicboosters.org/>

