

Crook County School District

where students dream, learn, & succeed



<u>School</u> : Crook County High School		<u>Instructor</u> : Kayla Smietana
<u>Course</u> : Concert Choir		<u>Email</u> : kayla.smietana@crookcountyschools.org
☒	Trimester #1	<u>Phone</u> : 541.416.6900 ext.3137 <u>Methods for Communicating with Families</u> : Email, phone, Remind, Parent Square
☒	Trimester #2	
☒	Trimester #3	

Course Description:

- This course is designed to give the students an enriching and diverse choral music education. The daily objective of the course is to foster and promote musical growth through the understanding of the voice and of musical concepts and give an opportunity to develop and improve individual musical and vocal skills. Members of this choir have prior experience in choral music. As a member of the choir program, group effort and cooperation are necessary for a successful program. All students are expected to attend all required concerts for their choir. Most importantly, I aim for every student to have fun, and for their passion for music to flourish.
- Concert Choir is for all three Trimesters and all members are required to complete all three in series.
- Students will be required to purchase a uniform for performances ranging between \$60.00-\$100.00 (financial aid will be provided at the beginning of the year, however students will be required to pay it off by the end of the year.)
- Students will be required to participate in fundraising events throughout the year - students and families will be notified well in advance.
- Concert Choir will also be participating in Choral Festivals and Competitions which will require travel, dates have not yet been set, however, students and families will be notified well in advance.
- Competitions are OSAA sanctioned events so students' grades and GPA will affect whether students can participate.
- All students are required to attend every performance. Students are required to notify me a week in advance if they are unable to attend a performance. If a student misses a performance without one week notification they are required to do a make-up assignment provided.

Learning Standards/Targets:

- All of our learning will be based on the three Core Standards of Creating, Performing, and Responding to music
- Link to Core Standards:
- <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/standards/arts/Documents/music-traditional-emerging-ensembles.pdf>

Instructional Materials:

- Core Texts: The Complete Choral Warm-Up Book by Russel Robinson & Jay Althouse, Printable Music Theory Books Level 1 & 2 from The Fun Music Company Pty Ltd, American Folk Song Sight-Singing Series Volume I: Pentatonic & Volume II: Diatonic & Chromatic by Paul D. Sanders, Ph.D.
- Films, Videos/Other Electronic Media: sightreadingfactory.com, musictheory.net, Sibelius Ultimate, and any rehearsal/part videos provided on Google Classroom
- Other Supplementary Curriculum (Articles, etc.): Breathing
<https://choralnet.org/archives/585461> Posture
<https://completesingers.com/technique/posture-in-singing/> Vowels
<https://www.ashleydanyew.com/posts/2016/the-church-choirs-guide-to-vowels-part-i> Balance/Blend
<https://www.musical-u.com/learn/how-to-achieve-excellent-tone-balance-and-blend-in-your-choir/> Facial Expression
<https://www.interkultur.com/pressroom/details/news/the-importance-of-proper-facial-expressions-while-singing/>
- Planned Guest Speakers: Belinda Sisson - Choral Director @ RidgeView High School in Redmond.

All Instructional Materials must comply with CCSD School Board [Policy IIA](#) & [Policy IIA-AR](#). A copy of core and supplemental curriculum will be available in the curriculum office for review.

A classroom teacher receiving a complaint regarding instructional materials shall try to resolve the issue informally through the discussion of the original assignment or the opportunity for an alternative assignment.

Notification of the Right to Object to the Use of Material:

Any resident of the district may raise objection to instructional materials used in the district's educational program despite the fact that the individuals selecting such materials were duly qualified to make the selection and followed the proper procedure and observed the criteria for selecting such material.

The first step in expressing objection to materials is consultation with the classroom teacher or library staff and providing a written complaint. The district official or staff member initially receiving a complaint shall explain to the complainant the district's selection procedure, criteria and qualifications of those persons selecting the material. A classroom teacher receiving a complaint regarding instructional materials shall try to resolve the issue informally through the discussion of the original assignment or the opportunity for an alternative assignment. The materials shall remain in use unless removed through the procedure in section 4. F. (2) of this regulation.

The teacher or library staff receiving the initial complaint shall advise the principal of the initial contact within 24 hours, whether or not the complainant has apparently been satisfied by the initial contact. A written record of the contract shall be maintained by the principal and sent to the superintendent's office.

In the event that the person making an objection to material is not satisfied with the initial explanation or an alternative assignment, the person raising the questions will meet with a building administrator who will provide a Request for Reconsideration form.

For more details, see [CCSD School Board Policy IIA-AR](#).

Citizenship, Classroom Rules, Behavior Expectations:

- *The Board expects student conduct to contribute to a productive learning climate. Students shall comply with the district's policies, administrative regulations, school and classroom written rules, pursue the prescribed course of study, submit to the lawful authority of teachers and school officials and conduct themselves in an orderly manner during the school day and during district-sponsored activities.*

Careful attention shall be given to procedures and methods whereby fairness and consistency without bias in discipline shall be assured to each student. The objectives of disciplining any student must be to help the student develop a positive attitude toward self-discipline, realize the responsibility of one's actions and maintain a productive learning environment.

Our classroom rules are designed to create the most optimal learning environment for everyone in our class.

- No cell phones allowed during rehearsals (per district policy).
 - On time = in your spot with your materials, ready to sing.
 - There will be no talking in class while the group is rehearsing. If I am working with another section, you are expected to be following along in the music internally working your own part.
 - Please raise your hand and wait to be recognized before speaking.
 - Be respectful of the director, other students, and the equipment we use.
 - Food will be allowed *before* class, as breakfast is served at that time. Once class starts, no food will be allowed. This goes for all other drinks than water - water is always welcome and encouraged.
 - Use appropriate language.
 - Refrain from horseplay in the choir room or practice rooms.
 - Pianos and percussion equipment are not for student use unless you have been specifically told to use them.
 - The white board is not for student use unless you have been specifically been instructed to write on it by me.
 - No bathroom passes the first and last 10 minutes of class. Ask me between songs or during transitions, please—not when I'm teaching.
- See [CCSD Board Policy JFC](#) for more details.

Grading System:

- *The district's grading system shall be based on Board-adopted course content and is designed to enable the student and parent to clearly know how well the student is achieving course requirements at the student's current grade level or course content level, and be based on the student's progress toward mastery of a continuum of knowledge and skills outlined in Oregon State Standards. Absenteeism or misconduct shall not be the sole criterion for the reduction of students' grades. Behavioral performance shall be reported separately. The district will use letter grades (A,B,C,D,F) that can be converted into a 4 to 0 reporting system in grades 6-12. All AP courses are graded on a 5.0 grading scale.*
- *Grades will be based on many factors, such as: basic instructional assignments, both oral and written; results from various assessment instruments, including critical content short cycle assessments as well as quizzes and*

exams; class participation; special assignments; research; activities of various types of kinds and special contributions.

- See CCSD School Board [Policy IKA](#), [Policy IK](#), & [Policy IK-AR](#) for more details.

Grading Scale:

- A+: 100-98 A: 97-93 A-: 92-90
- B+: 89-88 B: 87-83 B-: 82-80
- C+: 79-78 C: 77-73 C-: 72-70
- D+: 69-68 D: 67-63 D-: 60-62
- F: 59-0

Course Grading Criteria/Weighting

Grades are weighted according to the following percentages listed:

- Performances: 30%
- Rehearsal/practice assessments: 40%
- Engagement: 30%

**[Policy IK-AR](#): Achievement of learning standards will be assessed separately from behavior.*

Make Up Policy:

- 1) **Assessment Retakes:** [Policy IK-AR](#) Teachers will provide students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of each standard. Students will be provided with at least two opportunities to retake assessments. A student who retakes an assessment will not be penalized. Teachers can modify assessments (more rigorous to account for greater time allowed for preparation.) Teachers will determine student requirements for assessment retakes that align with Policy IK-AR.
- 2) **Homework/Daily Work:** Achievement of learning standards will be assessed separately from behavior (i.e. attendance, disruption, late work, tardiness, preparation, effort, attitude, etc.). Teachers may set guidelines around submission timelines, as this category is tied to learning progress, please refer to policy IK-AR.

**For all courses that articulate with a college or university, it is required that the syllabi match the accrediting institution, rather than the CCSD syllabus model.*

Please sign and return your Syllabus. Parents/Guardians if you have any questions or concerns please contact your student's teacher.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____