

Brookfield High School Music Department
Brookfield High School
45 Longmeadow Hill Road
Brookfield, CT 06804



Honors Special Chorus Syllabus 2019-2020

John LaMendola, *Director of Choral Music*

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Course Objectives

By the end of this course of study through learning opportunities provided in choral music at the high school level and aligned with the state standards for this subject area, the students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of Vocal Development – proper vocal tone production, posture and breathing mechanics.
2. Continue to develop skills in diction and technique.
3. Demonstrate the use of choral music vocabulary and notation – presented in a logical sequence with explanations, vocabulary, activity and practice.
4. Expand singing of pitches correctly via “acapella” and the use of “Solfeggio” (Do, Re, Mi)
5. Continue skills in reading music, including elements of rhythm, harmony and melody.
6. Recognize, visually and aurally, what is heard in performances and in listening activities.
7. Continue to recognize and interpret expressive markings.
8. Expand interpretive skills – respond to choral music intellectually and emotionally.
9. Expand understanding of balance and blend.
10. Perform a variety of literature with attention to pitch, dynamics, and tempo.
11. Continued acquaintance and the performing of a variety of world music including diverse musical styles as well as languages.
12. Expand skills in self-improvement.
13. Expand skills in performance via solo and/or ensemble.
14. Promote and foster a love of choral music throughout school and community

OVERVIEW OF GRADING

40 % Participation and Attitude - Determined by the student’s attendance, actions, and attitude while in rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, performances, on field trips, and while working with other students.

20 % Class Work/Assignments- Includes homework (Solfeggio), assignment deadlines, permission slips, activities, and related responsibilities.

20 % Concert Attendance and Responsibilities - Includes promptness and attendance at all performances (concerts/field trips) and dress rehearsals (if needed) as well as other responsibilities (set up, take down, clean up, etc.). **All performances are mandatory.** Absences from a performance will only be considered and “excused absence” if Mr. LaMendola receives a written note (email) from the student’s parent/guardian.

20 % Tests, Quizzes, and Vocal Exams - Graded areas (may) include basic music theory skills (written tests), sight singing tests, note accuracy, tone quality, breathing, diction, memorization, etc. (solo/ensemble tests).

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