



Middleton Madrigal Choir

2019-2020

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Course Description

Prerequisite – **One-year high school choir experience and an in person audition is required**

The Madrigals are a mixed group of elite singers. There will be 24-36 singers, ideally with equal parts. Individual and large group auditions will be held to determine who will be an accepted participant. Attitude, tone, pitch matching, commitment to the group, as well as piano experience and sight singing will be considered during the audition. Members will be strong individual singers as well have the ability to blend well with others. Students will be required to keep a music journal of topics and concepts discussed. These topics of theory and history will be more advanced and in depth. Tests on sight singing, theory, and history can be expected. Madrigals will focus on literature that is four to eight parts and in various genres of history and languages. Singers will be required to participate in weekly sectionals as well as individual practice time to learn parts. In addition, singers will be required to try out for the All-State-Honor Choir and Treasure Valley Honor Meet and participate in the District III Solo and Ensemble Festival. Public performances will be required during the school year. These include: school concerts, district festivals, and various community performances, and an extended spring tour. Community performances will also be announced where attendance is expected, especially at home games and around Christmas time. Where Madrigals is the top group at Middleton, certain expectations of attendance and discipline will be enforced. Your commitment to choir must be primary and your attitude exemplary.

Course Objectives

Students will be expected to behave in accordance with all school and district policies outlined in the student handbook.

Students will be prepared and punctual to all rehearsals and performances.

Students will treat their peers and the instructor with dignity and respect.

Students will promote an environment that is appropriate for musical expression and where all students can feel safe and free to be artistic.

Students will participate in all school performances and any out of district performances and festivals that are required for their specific choir class.

Students will have the music performance ready for all concerts.

Course Units

Rhythm Unit

Blend and Balance Unit

Musicianship and Other Performance Factors Unit

Music Historic and Cultural Unit

Materials

Pencil, 3 ring binder or folder with note paper, water bottle, and any music handed out by the director.

Skyward Grading

Score Method	Term Grades (MHS Policy)	Grading Scale (MHS Policy)
Weighted Grades Participation 30% Performances 30% Tests 20% Homework 20%	Fall Quarter 1=40% Quarter 2=40% End of Course Assessment=20% Spring Quarter 3=40% Quarter 4=40% End of Course Assessment=20%	A=90%-100% B=80%-89% C=70%-79% D=60%-69% F=Below 60%

Make-Up Work (MHS Policy)

Papers, assignments, tests, etc. that were announced while the student was in attendance prior to the absence are due to be submitted or completed on the day the student returns to school. A student will be allowed two (2) school days for each day of excused absence to make up material presented during the absence. Make-up time is not to exceed ten (10) days from the time a student returns to school after an absence. Additional time may be granted at the principal's discretion under extenuating circumstances. When a student has been absent for three (3) or more consecutive school days due to illness or excused absence the parent or student may call the Attendance Office to request make-up homework be sent to the office for pick-up. Please allow 24 hours for teachers to respond before coming to the office to pick up work. **In the case of pre-arranged absences, it is the responsibility of the student to contact individual teachers for any make-up work prior to the absence.**

Late Work

Home Concerts are scheduled as far in advance as is possible. Students receive 50 points per concert. Missed concerts cannot be made up unless there are unusual circumstances beyond student control. You must hand in a typed report on a musical subject that is 3 pages long to receive full credit for missing a concert. Students, not teachers should make missing athletic practice arrangements with their coaches. Students that plan on missing more than one concert during the year should consider taking a different class.

Classroom Rules and Procedures

Attendance

Students are expected to be in attendance and on time for every rehearsal during the school day. Every session brings new materials, techniques and marking of the musical scores. Missing rehearsals will

cause the instructor to re-teach old material and cause a loss of rehearsal time that could be spent on new material. All students are valued members of the ensemble. Their classmates and director rely on their attendance and participation.

Class work

Students are expected to be prepared for and participate in all school rehearsals. All students are expected to be punctual, alert, and actively participating in the rehearsal process. All students will be required to have a folder, a pencil, and all music issued to them. If conditions exist that prevent the student from actively participating in rehearsal, students are expected to pay attention, take notes, follow along in the music, and not distract participating singers. Students can earn 5 points for every rehearsal. Any missed rehearsal will result in a 0 for the daily score. Excused absences will be allowed to make up the grade by completing a rehearsal make up assignment. Failure to be prepared for the rehearsal will result in partial or no credit for that rehearsal. Anyone found cheating on any assignment or test will receive no score for that assignment and will be referred to the office.

Home Concerts

Home Concerts are scheduled as far in advance as is possible. Students receive 50 points per concert. Missed concerts cannot be made up unless there are unusual circumstances beyond student control. You must hand in a typed report on a musical subject that is 3 pages long to receive full credit for missing a concert. Students, not teachers should make missing athletic practice arrangements with their coaches. Students that plan on missing more than one concert during the year should consider taking a different class.

Other Performances

Students are required to be in attendance at all ensemble performances. There will be home concerts as well as out-of-school performances. Not attending a non-home performance will result in losing credit for that performance. Students excused due to illness or issues out of the student's control will be allowed to make up credit by handing in a three page paper on a musical topic.

Travel Eligibility Checklist

Medical Release Form Completed and Returned
Parent/Student Contract Signed and Returned
Current Student Grade Check Verified
Previous Outstanding Balances Paid

Festivals and Tours

Some music groups will be given the opportunity to perform at festival and take a tour this year. MHS Music department will follow district and school policies regarding all overnight trips. Attendance is mandatory unless grading criteria doesn't allow it. Trips will be counted as part of the performance grade. 50 points is given for each festival and tour. Students without an A in choir or if their citizenship grade is not outstanding, will not be allowed to go on tour. Any student with a failing grade in any class will not be eligible to attend tour or travel with the choir.

Exams and Assignments

Any Homework or part work will be due the beginning of the next class period. Late work due to illness or school approved absences will be accepted as outlined by district policy. Late work with no excuse will be accepted for two days with a half credit deduction. After two days, late work will not be accepted.

Exams and quizzes will be given periodically during the semester. Final exams will be given at the end of each semester worth 20% of the final grade.

Sectionals

Throughout the rehearsal process, there will be times when a certain section has a difficult passage or music that requires more time to learn than is allotted during rehearsal. The director or section leader will call a sectional, led by the section leader before the next rehearsal usually during lunch. Attendance is required for all members of that particular section. Sectionals will be counted as part of the Classwork grade.

Call Times

Students are required to be at the performance venue one hour before the concert time. This time is subject to change. Students late for call time will be penalized 25% of the performance grade.

Discipline

Most disciplinary issues will be dealt within the classroom with Mr. Child. Any extreme conduct will be referred to the HS office according to the procedures in the student handbook.

Academic Integrity (MHS Policy)

All work submitted by a student must represent his/her own ideas, concepts, and current understanding. All material found during research must be correctly documented/cited to avoid plagiarism. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on course assignments or exams will lose credit for that assignment or exam. The teacher will notify parents. Students may be subject to disciplinary action, including a parent conference.

Student & Parent Resources

School Website: <http://mhs.ms134.org/>