

Silverton High School
Choir Department

Course Information

Course	Men's Chorus	Instructor	Cole Haole-Valenzuela
Course ID	5008827-1	E-mail	Valenzuela_Cole@Silverfalls.k12.or.us
Room	E139	Phone	503-873-6331 X-3771

Website: www.silvertonchoirs.weebly.com

Welcome back to the Silverton High School Choir Department! I am looking forward to this upcoming year. Please read this syllabus, and return the attached sheet with your signature and your parent's signature indicating that you have both read and understand the policies and procedures of the class. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me through email, phone, or in-person.

Learning Outcomes

In this class students will learn choral literature from various periods of times and cultures, healthy vocal technique, diction appropriate to choral practice, solfege, sight-reading techniques, aural dictation, strong work ethic, and the importance of community and collaboration within an ensemble.

Grading

Daily participation

Following the 60-second grace period after the tardy bell has rung, each student will be seated and prepared to commence tuning and begin warm-ups. There are 10 possible points per week, or 2 points per day. Failure to participate, disruptive behavior, and unexcused tardiness will result in loss of points.

In-Class Assignments and Assessments

Music theory is a vital component to learning how to sing and read music literature. There will be quizzes and tests on basic music theory throughout the course on information that is given in class. Our main focus will be on: note names, clef identification, solfege, key signatures, major and minor scales, and intervals. If students have experience in these concepts, please talk to Mr H. I may ask students to assist in teaching and helping others during in-class work.

Music listening is also important to develop your ear for choral music. There will be listening exercises throughout the semester. Our main focus will be: identifying healthy and non-healthy singing within an ensemble through listening, differences in styles of music, and evaluating tone, diction, pitch, and balance within a choral performance.

Students will need to bring paper and pencils to class EVERYDAY. Students are highly advised that they make a folder of blank paper or purchase a spiral bound notebook specifically for choir.

Concerts and Performances

Concerts, assemblies, festivals, adjudications, out-call performances all have a potential 30 point possible. Participation includes being in proper dress attire. Non-participation in a concert, assemblies, festivals, adjudications, or out-call performances without proper excuse will result in a loss of 30 points. Scheduled concerts appearing on the school calendar are mandatory unless a family emergency or illness precludes

participation in those scheduled events. Parents MUST contact Mr H via e-mail or phone in order to excuse a concert absence. An alternate assignment will be given to the student in order to make up concert points. Unexcused absence from any scheduled events. i.e. concerts, festivals, etc. will result in the loss of all points associated with that particular event.

Progress, semester and final grades are determined by the total points earned from the part tests, concert scores, and in-class participation.

Expectations

At the beginning of every rehearsal, students are expected to be in their seats, with their music, pencil, and clear of any distractions (e.g. phones, food, pets, fireworks, etc.). Rehearsal time is for rehearsal. This means that when the bell rings, we have just below of 50 minutes of singing and learning ahead of us. Sectionals are to be treated in the same manner. Rehearsal tasks will change day to day, be prepared for anything.

Socializing is a great way to build a community within an ensemble – make sure you pick the right time to do this. Talking during instruction (given by myself or a section leader) is not a good time to socialize. There will be times in rehearsal where we will take some much needed mental breaks, but we must be able to bounce right back to work.

Give the ensemble, and most importantly yourself, your best effort every day; even if your 100% is different from day to day. If you have an emergency or situation that is keeping you from being focused in class, please let me know. I am happy to accommodate and help as much as I can.

Always keep in mind that you represent the choir and music program as well as the school. Lead by example and be a positive role-model for all ensembles and the student body.

Concert Attire

Black shoes, black socks, black belt, black button up, with a tie (color TBD)

Important Dates

Dates may be added or change as the school year unfolds. Mr H will do his best to keep students and parents as well keep the website calendar up to date with all performance and meeting dates. If a student has a conflict with any concert date, please let Mr H know in advanced.

PARENT MEET AND GREET - September 21, 2016 @ 6:30pm

Meet and greet with the parents for introductions, looking ahead for the year, the future of the program.

Students are also welcome to join. Meeting to be held in the choir room (E139).

FALL CHOIR CONCERT - October 19, 2016 @ 7:00pm

Held in the Silverton High School Auditorium, Admission \$3, students FREE

WINTER CHOIR CONCERT – December 13, 2016 @ 7:00pm

Held in the Silverton High School Auditorium, Admission \$3, students FREE

CABARET NIGHT FUNDRAISER – March 16, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

Held in the Silverton High School Auditorium, Admission \$7, students FREE

FINALE CHOIR CONCERT – May 25, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

Held in the Silverton High School Auditorium, Admission \$3, students FREE

Please return this sheet to Mr H by September 12, 2016 with the below information

I, _____, parent/guardian of _____, have read the course syllabus and agree to help my child meet all expectations of class. I have read the choir event calendar and will keep the dates posted at home.

Please print clearly

Parent Phone _____

Parent Email _____

Student Email _____

Signed,

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date