

Freshmen Chorus

Syllabus

Mrs. Amy Rolniak

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Freshman Chorus (FC) is a mixed ensemble, composed of freshmen students. In some situations, upper class men may enroll in this class with instructor approval. This ensemble is one of two **non-audition** ensembles at Westlake High School, which meet during the normal school day. This class is designed specifically to meet the needs of the younger adolescent singer. Music is selected to help these growing voices continue to mature and develop. Each student's voice is carefully checked for correct placement at the beginning of the school year. Because young voices are in a constant state of change, students are re-checked throughout the year as needed. This ensemble performs a wide variety of choral literature and also participates in a show choir format during the mid-year concert. The show choir numbers require light dancing and movement on stage. This group participates in all public concerts held at WHS and will also be involved in at least one festival trip a year giving students an amazing opportunity to see other choirs, get feedback from professional choral music educators, and enjoy time with their peers. Other concerts may be added throughout the school year as well. The course meets the "f" requirement in our a-g requirements.

Goals:

- Work on good vocal intonation
- Study beginning music theory and sight singing
- Develop skills of good vocal production
- Work on rhythmic articulation
- Expand knowledge of history through music
- Expand knowledge of choral genres
- Develop an appreciation for choral singing
- Develop a critical ear

Materials Used and Needed:

- Daily sight-singing and theory activities
- Choral music repertoire
- Folder dedicated to choir. If you need one please let me know

Method of Student Evaluation:

<u>Performances</u>	See Handbook for Policies and Dates	45%
<u>Rehearsal Engagement</u>		40%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be engaged at all levels during a rehearsal - this means no cell phones unless requested by teacher for instructional purposes.• Have a pencil and your music at each rehearsal.• Focus physical energy on the correct application of proper singing technique. Demonstrate respect for the rehearsal facilities and equipment.• Be ready to sing when the bell rings• Leave food, soda, gum, and candy out of the rehearsal room. (Water is fine)	
<u>Assignments</u>		10%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part Quizzes• Small Group Assignments• Theory and Sight-singing assessments occur throughout the year as well• Various Written Assignments	
<u>Final Exam</u>		5%