

GCMS 7th and 8th Grade Chorus Syllabus 2018-2019
Miss Broaddus

Welcome to a new year in the choral program at GCMS Middle School! This is going to be an exciting year, and I am honored to have the opportunity to direct you once again. In order to help the year run as smoothly as possible, below I have outlined important expectations and dates for the year.

Learning Goals

- To study and perform a wide variety of music, and develop your musical knowledge and vocal abilities in the process.
- To challenge and increase your musical knowledge and personal artistry.
- To learn and perform as an ensemble, not simply as individual performers.
- To enjoy the music making process.
- To grow as a person, not just as a musician.

Classroom Expectations and Procedures

- Don't chew gum in class. (This is for your own safety!)
- Arrive on time to class- if you are not in your seat when the bell rings, you will be marked tardy.
- Cell phones are only to be used at teacher direction or with teacher permission.
- Come prepared and remain alert and on-task throughout the entire rehearsal.
- Be a kind and considerate person to your classmates and to me. This is most important and basically covers it all!

Materials Required

- A pencil
- A folder
- Music will be provided by the school. You will be held responsible for replacing any music or material belonging to the school that is damaged or lost while in your possession.

Absence Policy

- If absent during the school day, you are responsible for obtaining and turning in make up work.
- Choir is an ensemble, and the entire group counts on one another to be at performances. **All** performances and rehearsals outside of the school day are required. If you do miss a performance or rehearsal, the instructions below describe how points can be made up.
 - If your absence was **excused**:
 - This means I was notified *in advance* of the absence and the reason for it, and the absence was approved (if there was an immovable conflict like a wedding, or a family emergency).
 - You will receive full credit for the performance if you complete the *make up assignment* (details for this can be found on the music website), which is due *before the concert*.
 - If your absence was **unexcused**:
 - This means your absence was not approved (it was not an immovable conflict), or I was notified of the absence the day of the performance or later.
 - You will receive *partial credit* for the performance if the *make up assignment* is completed and turned in by an agreed upon date.
 - If your absence was due to **illness**:
 - A parent will need to call me or write me a note.
 - You will receive *full credit* for the performance if the *make up assignment* is completed and turned in by an agreed upon date.
- If there is a conflict with a choral rehearsal or performance and another school activity (athletics, clubs, etc.), you must let both the other teacher and me know of the conflict *as soon as the conflict is known*. The other teacher and I will then decide how to best resolve the conflict in schedules.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the following:

- ***In class assessments***: These assessments will be earned multiple ways and may include but are not limited to: score marking, active participation in rehearsal and warm-ups, following instructions, and section singing tests.
- ***Written Homework***: This category will include assignments such as: worksheets or online exercises on music theory, and writing solfege in music
- ***Quizzes and Tests***: Two types of quizzes and tests will be given: written assessments on music theory, and singing assessments on music from class or musical concepts learned in class.
- ***Projects***: We will have a few in-class composition/arrangement projects this year, and you will have time to work on these in class.
- ***Performances***: You will be given full points for a performance if you arrive promptly, are in the proper attire, and actively participate in the performance.

Late Work will be accepted, but may be marked down for being late. Students must have work at the beginning of the class period in which it is due unless otherwise specified. **Redos/Retakes** will be allowed on most assignments and quizzes in order to ensure student learning.

Concert Attire

You are responsible for providing the following for performances:

Women:

- Black pants or a black skirt that goes below the knee
- A black or white dress shirt OR dress
- Black dress shoes (little to no heel, no boots)

Men:

- Black pants
- A black or white dress shirt
- Black socks
- Black dress shoes

Please feel free to contact me throughout the year if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by email at: broadus.amanda@gcmk12.org or by phone at (217) 784-8731. I also can easily be reached through the **remind text service** with the class code **@chorus7th8**, which can be used to join the class in the app, or texted to 81010. I am truly looking forward to teaching you this year, and thank you in advance for your hard work in making this year successful!

Sincerely,

Miss Amanda Broaddus

GCMS Chorus Performance Calendar 2018-2019

ILMEA All-District and All-State Choir Auditions* *7th and 8th grade students only*
Monday, October 8th at Bloomington High School- time TBA

Winter Choral Concert
Sunday, December 16th, 2:30 pm
Band follows at 4:00

Spring Choral Concert
Sunday, May 5th, 2:15 pm
Band follows at 4:00

Solo and Ensemble Contest*
Wednesday, May 9th, 4:00 pm

*denotes a performance that is not required of the entire choir

Note: Other performing opportunities and practices may arise throughout the school year, and students and parents will be notified as soon as possible when those occur. This entire schedule, as well as updates throughout the year, can be found on our music department website, www.gcmsmusic.org.

Syllabus Acknowledgement and Comprehension Form

Due: Friday, August 24th

I understand that Chorus requires some time outside of the school day. I have read and understand the syllabus, and I have **written the required dates on my calendar** at home and my school planner to ensure my attendance. It is clear that missing a performance is like skipping a test, and **I intend to be at the required performances.**

Student's signature

Date

Student's printed name

I have also read this form and the required dates of this class. I understand the expectations of this class and the commitment my student is making.

Parent/Guardian's signature

Date

Parent/Guardian's printed name

daytime phone

email address

Parents: *I would like to get to know, you, too! This part is completely optional, but, if you care to, please answer the following questions.*

- 1. Were you ever in a music ensemble when in school? If so, which one(s)?**
- 2. In which city did you grow up?**
- 3. Is there anything you would like me to know about your child?**