

# Muscle Shoals High School

## Vocal/Choral Studies Syllabus

Mrs. Hannah Bradford, Director of Choral Music

Room: 506

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### Course Description

Block: 1  
Grade Levels: 9-12

I am so excited to offer this new opportunity to this class. I have designed this course to be more than just a choir. This course is made up of mixed vocal parts of Soprano (1&2), Alto (1&2), Tenor, Baritone, and Bass. Students will acquire knowledge and skills in the use of the basic music terms, sight singing ability, ear training ability, and basic music theory. Beyond that, the performance opportunities for this course will extend from choral settings to individual solo, duets, and small group vocal performances as well. The students will also have the opportunity to sign up for Alabama Honor Choir, Alabama All State Chorus and All State Show Choir, UNA Honor Choir, and more.

### Grading

Each nine weeks, a grade will be given for each student taking this course. Primary factors determining grades are:

- Individual growth and progress in choral discipline observed
- Active productive participation in all rehearsals and performances observed
- Acceptable positive self-disciplined rehearsal attitude (conduct grade)
- Rehearsal and Performance Attendance
- Repertoire checks as well as some daily assignments

Grades are divided up by the following percentages:

**60%-Daily Grade:** Mostly based on participation and following instructions. These grades are given based on following the routine in class, working on music outside of class, showing up for trips, concerts, etc., and putting forth 100% effort each day. Each day the students will be given a grade for participation. If a note has been taken about participation, the student's grade will be affected and the notes will be kept on file. A conduct grade will be given each nine weeks as a part of the daily grade. Some daily assignment grades will be factored into this category also.

**40%-Test Grade:** Several different factors make up the test grade percentage. For every concert or competition the group performs, the individual student will rate his or her performance honestly for a grade. The teacher will also give the student a rating and the scores will be combined. (The rating will come based on accuracy of music knowledge, performance appearance, and attendance.) The students will also be given repertoire checks periodically to make sure that he or she individually knows his or her part.

### Attendance

**In a performing ensemble, it is so important to show up. If you are sick, the group would prefer you not share your germs. But if you are here, and in class, you WILL rehearse. THE ONLY OPTION TO EXEMPT A PERFORMANCE IS A HOSPITAL NOTE, A FAMILY DEATH. OR DOCTOR'S EXCUSE. GUARDIAN'S EXCUSES WILL NOT BE TAKEN. If a student misses a dress rehearsal or performance for an approved reason, he or she must complete an alternate assignment to make up the grade.**

### Advanced Chorus Concert Attire

For this semester, we will not require students to purchase a tux or dress for performances. However, if you are interested in purchasing a chorus dress or tux early for the spring semester or future years, the details and information are listed below:

*Each student will be required to order a choral uniform. These uniforms will be worn for all choral performances (with the exception of Show Choir). Vest Ensembles for the men are \$90 and Dresses are \$75. Each student will have the option of selling lollipops to raise money for their uniform. All uniforms must be ordered by February 1, meaning all money must be turned in by then. If you have any questions or concerns regarding uniforms, please let me know. All uniforms must be accompanied by black, closed toe shoes, appropriate hairstyles and make-up, as well as minimal jewelry.*

### **REHEARSAL AREA RULES FOR ADVANCED CHORUS**

1. Enter quietly. Grab your chair and put it in its correct spot. Place personal belongings by your chair, grab your folder, and be seated immediately in your correct seat for attendance. If you are not in your seat by 8:15AM, you're late.
2. Participate in all warm ups (breathing, physical, and vocal) in an appropriate manner.
3. Remain in your assigned seat-Face forward-Hands to yourself and feet on the floor at all times.
4. You can have drinks and food BEFORE 8:15AM unless you prove to need the privilege revoked. After 8:15AM, water bottles only. No gum, ever.
5. Absolutely NO cell phones (see Cell Phone Policy in Handbook) unless instructed.
6. Respect the director, the members, and the property of MSHS Choral Program.

Failure to follow the above rules will immediately affect grades for individuals as well as dismissal from the MSHS choral program.

Concert, Festival, and Other Dates

<i>Event</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
• First Day of Class	All	August 1	MSSHS
• Stanley Awards	Optional	August 3	Shoals Theater
• Show Choir First Rehearsal	Show Choir	August 5	Chorus Room
• Show Choir Camp	Show Choir	August 10	Chorus Room
• Booster Meeting	Parents (Optional)	August 19 5PM	Chorus Room
• UNA Honor Choir	Optional	September 17 (Field Trip)	UNA
• Fine Arts Night/Show Case	Chorus/SC/TS	September 26	Stratford Auditorium
• University of Alabama Honor Choir	Optional	October 27-28 (Overnight)	U of A
• Trumbauer Competition	Drama and Optional Chorus	November 2	Cullman High School
• All State Chorus Auditions	Chorus Optional	November 13	Muscle Shoals High School
• High School Musical Auditions	Optional	November 5	Chorus Room
• Show Choir Performance	Show Choir	November 17-18	Stratford Auditorium
• Trumbauer State Competition	Optional	December 6-December 7	Troy State University
• Christmas Choral Showcase	Chorus/SC/TS	December 2	Stratford Auditorium

Date TBD: All State Show choir Auditions, OCS Auditions, All State Honor Choir Auditions, and Veterans Day Program

### Course Fees and Folders

- Membership Fee: Each member of the chorus must pay a \$25.00 fee to join. This fee pays for music, equipment, transportation, competition entries, etc. Member fees are due by August 9. ALL fees must be paid online. You can find the online payment link from the high school website or from my page on the chorus page listed under the faculty under "Hannah Bradford". If you prefer to pay at the school, you are welcome to come to the office and use your card to pay through our Square software.
- Folders: Each student is responsible for purchasing a black, 1 inch, three ring folder. This will be your folder that you will use for this course to store music in. It should not be glossy on the exterior since it will be used in performance.

### Remind 101

- The Muscle Shoals High School chorus has a Remind 101 set up to inform you of the different events happening in chorus. It is imperative that you sign up for this reminder. In order to sign up, text @mshchoral to the number 81010.

### Fundraisers:

- Chicken Stew
- Lollipop Sales
- Rock-a-Thon

*More information on fundraisers to come at a later date*

# Bradford Syllabus Approval

***I have read, and I understand all of my responsibilities as a student/parent. I will do my part to uphold my responsibilities and follow the rules as a student/parent. If I have any questions, I know to first contact Mrs. Bradford.***

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(Parent Signature)

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(Student Signature)

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(Date)

RETURN TO MRS. BRADFORD BY August 9, 2019 with fee.