

Clovis East High School Choral Handbook/Syllabus 2019-2020

Course and Contact Information

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Course Purpose and Philosophy

Every student deserves the opportunity to engage in fulfilling musical experiences. As a member of Clovis East High School Choirs, you will be introduced to vocal repertoire of various cultures, languages, and traditions. You will be taught singing technique, music theory and musicianship; the basic ingredients of a well-rounded music education. As an ensemble, we value each student, strive for excellence, and commit to collaboration in order to create a safe learning community where every student can learn and thrive.

Classes/Ensembles

0 period (Mon, Tues, Thurs): **Show Choir** (mixed) – taught by Vanessa Gonzalez

0 period (Wed, Fri): **Packappella** (mixed) – student led

1st period: **Tenor Bass** (tenor bass voices)

2nd period: **Timberwolf Chorus** (mixed)

3rd period: **Soprano Alto** (soprano alto voices)

4th period: **AP Music Theory**

6th period: **Treble Chorus** (soprano alto voices)

After School (Mon, Wed 4:00pm – 5:30pm): **Choraliers** (soprano alto voices)

***All classes/ensembles are yearlong commitments**

How to Stay Informed

We are a very active program with the students participating in several performances and trips each year. We make every effort to keep our students and parents up-to-date on all of our activities.

Below are the many ways you can stay informed about everything going on in our program.

- Email
 - We send regular emails with important information about upcoming events, trips, classroom reminders, etc. Emails are sent through the school-wide program Zangle. Make sure your email address is registered through your student's Zangle accounts, and that these emails aren't blocked on your personal email account.
- Website
 - Our website contains a lot of information about our program. We will frequently post relevant information such as itineraries, media, and constantly updating our calendar. You can find our website at: cloviseastchoirs.com
- Calendar
 - You can always access our most current calendar by visiting our website. If you click on 'Calendar' in the menu at the top, you can see the calendar displayed in a monthly view. We typically avoid handing out hard copies of our calendar because things do change throughout the course of the year but we do provide list calendars occasionally. When receiving hard copies, realize that dates are subject to change.
- Instagram
 - Follow us on Instagram: [@cehschoirs](https://www.instagram.com/cehschoirs)
- Remind
 - Remind is an app for teachers, students, and parents, where you can receive text message reminders about your class.
 - Parents, text "@ceparent20" to 81010 to get notifications via the Remind app.

Office Hours

- **Tuesday** - Lunchtime (AP Music Theory only)
- **Wednesday** – Lunchtime
- or by appointment. Send a Remind or email Mr. Truong at carlintruong@cusd.com

Classroom Expectations

1. Enter class with a teachable spirit
2. Come to class punctually and prepared
3. Respect yourself and others
4. Strive for excellence

Class Materials

Students are expected to bring the following items daily:

1. Pencil(s) and eraser
2. Music Scores
3. Music Handouts
4. Music Folder

Uniforms

While much of our success is based on hard work, part of our success depends on our appearance as well. As one of the top choral programs, it is crucial that we look as good as we sound. No one will need to pay for dresses or tuxedos. It will be covered by the program. However, we do ask for assistance with footwear.

- **Students wearing dresses**
 - You will need to provide your own **Black Dress Shoes**. Flat, black “ballet flat” shoes.
- **Students wearing tuxedos**
 - You will need to provide your own **Black Dress Shoes** and **Black Socks**.

Other Purchases

- All choir students need to make sure that they wear conservative and modest undergarments with their uniforms.
- Music scores will be loaned to the students and each student is responsible for his/her own music. Students are expected to pay for any lost or damaged music.
- Please make checks out to **Timberwolves Foundation** unless otherwise stated.

Grading Policy

1. *Participation/Rehearsal Etiquette: 25%*

- Five points will be awarded to students for daily attendance and participation. Tardiness, absences and/or disruptive behavior will result in deductions in participation scores. See attendance policy below for more information.

2. *Written Assignments: 15%*

- Includes in-class assignments, program notes, and performance reviews

3. *Music Theory/Musicianship Assignments and Quizzes: 25%*

- Students will be given assignments on rhythm counting, sight-singing, music theory and dictation.
- Quizzes will be given to track student's progress throughout the academic year.

4. *Choir Performances: 35%*

- Students are expected to attend all performances and arrive at call times punctually. **5%** may be docked from your total grade for tardiness. See attendance policy below for more info.

A = 100-90%

B = 89-80%

C = 79-70%

D = 69-60%

F = 59-0%

Attendance Policy

1. Inform Mr. Truong in **writing** (e.g. email, remind, written note) every single time you will be late to a rehearsal or need to leave early as soon as you know. Do not tell me you're going to miss the class or rehearsal right before, during, or after the rehearsal
2. Tardiness is unacceptable. You will only earn 3 out of 5 rehearsal points if you are late to class. (If you have a pass from another teacher or staff member your tardy will be excused)
 - a. First tardy – Warning
 - b. Second tardy - Student teacher conference
 - c. Third tardy - Contact will be made with parents
 - d. Fourth tardy – Student will be sent to the Student Responsibility Center (SRC)
3. Unexcused absences will result in zero points for the day. You will not be able to make up any points associated with the absence.
4. All classes, rehearsals and performances are **mandatory**.

5. Please look over the 2019-2020 choir calendar very carefully. An excused absence form must be submitted at least two weeks in advance to the event and must be approved by Mr. Truong. If the conflict is approved, you will be given the opportunity to make up the points. Reasons that will be approved include attending a wedding, a bar mitzvah, graduation, severe illness with doctor's note, or other school sanctioned event. In the event of a family emergency (e.g. the passing of a family member) please inform Mr. Truong in writing as soon as you know there might be an issue, you will be able to make up the points.
6. **If/when there are athletic/co-curricular event conflicts – let me know via writing ASAP.** We will always find a good compromise that is in the best interest of the student, choir and team. It is up to the teacher/coaches to determine where the student is needed the most.
7. Unacceptable reasons to miss a concert include, but are not limited to; not having a ride, a birthday, had to work, couldn't find my uniform, grounded, etc.

Make Up Work (assignments you missed as a result of missing class)

1. Weekly Homework assignments are due every week on block days. Check the website, cloviseastchoirs.com for the assignments that are due. If you don't understand it, ask a friend first. If you still don't understand it, then ask Mr. Truong.
2. Assignments that are *assigned* the day(s) you are absent must be turned in within 1 week of the due date for full credit.
3. Assignments that are *due* the day you are absent must be turned in the day you return.
4. If you will be missing class for a school related activity – like a field trip, assembly or athletic event - you must turn in the assignment by the end of that school day (This may mean you need to turn it in before you leave or even the day before)
5. Stressed out? Need some extra time? ASK :)

Late Work (an assignment that you did not turn in on time)

1. Each day an assignment is late, 10% is taken from the total. However,
2. You cannot earn less than 50% on an assignment you turn in before finals week.

Classroom Rules

1. Show good class/use excellent rehearsal etiquette every day.
2. Be on the risers in position when the bell rings with your music binder/folder and pencil.
3. Leave your backpack in the side cabinets.
4. Students are expected to quietly study their music when they are not singing or participating in a class activity.
5. You do not need to ask for permission to sharpen your pencil, drink water, get a tissue or grab a band-aid. Please choose an appropriate time and go quietly one at a time.
6. Gum is not allowed in the classroom.
7. Put away materials and clean up personal belonging before leaving class
8. Cheating/Plagiarism results in an automatic 0 on an assignment. *Copying is cheating*
9. Students who disrupt in the study of others and/or engage disrespectful behavior will be disciplined according Consequence Hierarchy below.

Consequence Hierarchy

1. Warning
 2. Student-teacher conference
 3. Written plan for improvement
 4. Parent contact
 5. Referral to Student Responsibility Center
- * Any Severe Infraction: immediate referral to Student Responsibility Center

Choir Cell Phone Policy

1. Cell phones must be silent
2. There will be opportunities to use cell phones during class for educational purposes, but they need to be silenced and put away during all other times.

Tour/Graduation Performance Policy

Choir students are expected be exemplary in and outside of the classroom in order to be eligible to travel with the choir program and perform at graduation. Failure to meet the following criteria may result in removable from activities at the discretion of Mr. Truong. These criteria include:

1. Informing Mr. Truong in writing before each class/rehearsal/performance tardiness or absence
 - a. Excessive excused absences will also result in loss of privileges (at teacher discretion)
2. Consistent respectful behavior to teacher, staff, and classmates

Academic Eligibility

Participating students shall meet the academic eligibility standards set forth below as part of his or her ethical responsibilities as a participant in this co-curricular activity:

All students must earn at least a 2.0 grade point average for the prior grading period in order to participate during the current grading period. A student who fails to achieve at least a 2.0 grade point average may be placed on probation for the current grading period provided the student complies with the school's tutorial assistance program. (CUSD Board Policy 2505).

****This applies to all CUSD and CMEA Festivals only – for any additional trips, students must have C's or higher in all classes unless otherwise approved by their teacher two weeks prior to the performance date.**

CUSD CODE OF ETHICS

“Students participating in District co-curricular and extra-curricular activities must follow the Code of Conduct standards at all times. This obligation and responsibility continues at all times, including summer vacation. Students are subject to the Code of Conduct and related school rules affecting participation in District co-curricular and extra-curricular activities when students are under the supervision of a District advisor/coach, while at school or at a school-related activity, as well as at non-school related activities/ Students and the coaches, advisors, and parents/guardians of the student participating in District co-curricular and extra-curricular activities will abide by this Code of Conduct. These persons must demonstrate honesty and integrity in compliance with the academic, residency and good citizenship requirements of the Code of Conduct.” (Board Policy 2505)

NOTE: Students are expected to comply with the CUSD Code of Ethics at all times in order to participate in the Clovis East Choral Program. Please complete the attached Code of Ethics documents and return to school by Friday, September 8th.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Clovis Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, or national origin in admission or access to and treatment of employment in its programs and activities and is required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. Complaints: Contact Dr. Sheryl Rogers, Human Resources, (559) 327-9308.

*Favor de llamar a la oficina para asistencia en español.
Thov tiv tauj peb lub hoob kas yag xav tau kev pab nrog hus Hmoob.*

Please review this handbook, review all policies and expectations, and return the fully signed Participation Form to your main ensemble director no later than Friday, September 6th, 2019.

Should you have any questions about anything in this handbook, please contact me. I am here to help!