

## **Madrigal Choir Disclosure Statement**

Alan Scott, aScott@murrayschools.org mhschoirs.com

Required Materials or Fees: \$20 Participation Fee Uniforms: \$110

Credit: Fine Arts Core, Arts and Recreation Career Field Credit.

## **Course Objectives:**

### **Integrity**

- Students will cultivate integrity through adherence to the choir contract.
- Students will cultivate integrity through adherence to the musical score.

Music literacy will be pursued so that we may reproduce the musical ideas of the composer with integrity.

### **Communication**

- Students will effectively communicate with their peers and the director as invaluable collaborators in every rehearsal.
- Students will communicate with the director early and well regarding the choir contract and attendance.
- Students will work to effectively communicate the spirit, intent and language of the best choral music.

### **Attendance**

- Choir will model and promote attendance habits that will set students up for future success.
- Successful students and successful choirs always have exemplary attendance.
- At collegiate and university levels those students who consistently attend are the most successful.
- In the workplace those who consistently attend are valued employees.

### **Hard Work**

- To prepare our students for a life of joyful hard work, we will cultivate excellent rehearsal habits every day, with every student and at every opportunity.

## **Behavioral Guidelines**

Madrigal Choir students serve as examples to all other choir members at Murray High.

They will promote the very best in choral discipline.

Students are responsible for their own actions.

Students have a right to learn. Interruptions and deterrents to the learning process will not be tolerated.

Students respect the rights and property of the school and those around them.

Students are in class on time daily.

'On time' means that students are seated at the bell.

Students later than 10 minutes are considered absent.

Students who leave the room for 10 minutes or more will be considered absent.

Students participate positively and actively in every rehearsal.

Students are welcome to bring water to class, and food to the commons area.

## **Citizenship and Attendance:**

The citizenship grade is determined by a student's behavior in class, attendance, or truancy. Students will receive a satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) citizenship grade. Any U received must be remediated prior to graduation.

A 'U' in attendance will be given for 4 absences in any quarter. A 'U' is also given for unexcused absence or truancy, or for uncorrected inappropriate behavior. Students with two unresolved tardies will receive a 'U'. Students are allowed five (5) school days to remediate a tardy through detention. In order to be considered on time for class, a student must be in his/her seat when class begins.

## **Eligibility:**

In order to participate in region and state events students at Murray must meet the following criteria:

1. A 2.5 cumulative GPA and/or a 2.5 GPA the term preceding the region event in question.
2. A student may earn no more than one 'F' per term. More than one 'F' per term violates state standards and automatically results in ineligibility. No Exceptions.
3. A student may not earn more than one U per term. If more than one U is earned, the student will be ineligible to participate in any activity until the U's above one are remediated.
4. Students may not be truant. The first truancy results in suspension from one activity. The second truancy will result in ineligibility for the entire season. No exceptions.

Final notes: Students may not make up any performances missed because of ineligibility.

## **Course Grading Policy**

93 - 100 % = A      90 - 92 = A-      87 - 89 = B+      83 - 86 = B      80 - 82 = B-      77 - 79 = C+  
73 - 76 = C      70 - 72 = C-      67 - 69 = D+      63 - 66 = D      60 - 62 = D-      57 - 59 = F

Grades will not be rounded up. Grades will be updated weekly and are available online.

**Absent Work:** A student is allowed as many days to turn in work, due to excused absences, as the number of days that the student missed.

**Late Work:** Late work will receive a reduction of 10% per day that it is late. Work that is handed in more than one calendar week late will not be accepted.

**Cheating:** Cheating will not be tolerated. Any student that participates in cheating will receive a zero on that assignment (i.e. test, quiz, assignment or homework). The teacher will notify the student and parent. Any student that participates in cheating a second time in the same class will receive an F for that term.

## **Participation/Attendance - 30%**

Students must attend class to develop as musicians. Visible, consistent effort contributes to the success of the group. Students can receive up to twenty points for every rehearsal they attend. This daily score will be reduced by 6 points for gum, tardiness, cell phone use, failure to participate or other unprofessional behavior. Rehearsals that are held on the day of a performance are worth 50 points. Students who are absent will not receive credit. Errors in attendance must be resolved within one week of the day in question. Requests must be submitted in writing. Perceived discrepancies that are not resolved within this time frame will not be changed. Students should expect some kind of graded assignment in addition to their daily participation. Your presence in class every day ensures the success of the group. Extra credit is not offered in this course. Make up work for missed days will be given if and only if the student has no unexcused absences, truancies or more than one unresolved tardy.

## **Tests and Assignments - 25%**

Tests and other written work will be used to assess student progress. If a student scores less than 80% on any such assignment, that student may redo the assignment and the higher of the two grades will be recorded. Tests will be used to assess memorization, musicianship skills, vocal development, score marking and pronunciation. Students will be graded on their own best ability and on improvement. Tests will be administered to assure privacy and protect student self concept. The director reserves the right to call rehearsals for credit outside of the school day. Students enrolled in this class will also demonstrate their thinking and learning through oral and written expression. All members of the Madrigal Choir will be expected to participate in All State Choir or Men's and Women's Honor Choir, and should adjust their schedules accordingly. All members of Madrigal Choir will be expected to perform a solo at the school's Solo and Ensemble Festival and are encouraged to perform their solos for Region Solo and Ensemble Festival.

## **Sustained Silent Reading 10%**

Men's Choir has the unique opportunity for the first 15 minutes of every class period to engage in Sustained Silent Reading. SSR gives the students and the instructor the opportunity to read daily for fun. The literature they choose can include novels, stories, graphic novels, or magazine articles which are suitable for all high school students and might be found in the school's library. Students will receive points daily for successfully using their SSR time.

### **Expectations:**

Students are prepared daily with reading materials of their choice that is appropriate for the high school setting.

Reading materials will be recreational in nature.

Students may choose to use a kindle or similar device for SSR. SSR is a period of time during every school day where students and teacher are freed from the need to text, socialize or contend with homework.

### **Points:**

5 Points      Students are prepared with reading material that is appropriate.

5 points      Students are consistently engaged with their chosen reading.

## **Performances - 35%**

Students will be provided with a list of performances at the first of the year. Students receive points for each of the following:

Punctuality - 10                      Appropriate Concert Attire - 10  
Appropriate Behavior - 10            Staying the entire length of the concert - 15

Students may be excused from a concert only in cases of dire emergency, serious illness or death. Work is not an excuse. Community based performing groups are not an excuse. A substantial excusal assignment will be given to students with legitimate, excused absence. Students may not garner points toward their final grade from an excusal assignment, but may in legitimate cases remove zeros from their performance grade. Students who abuse this option will not be eligible for excusal consideration during subsequent years.

**Family Education Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA):** Ongoing critical evaluation by peers, which may include the exchanging of papers, will be used to enhance the educational process. Ultimately, the final assessment is the job of the teacher. It will also be necessary to post informational lists by a student's ID number in the classroom. Student privacy will be respected when providing class grade and other confidential information.

As in every class at Murray High School, if there is a perceived error, any grade change must be completed within the following quarter or by June 30th for the fourth quarter.

## **Student Code of Conduct:**

Representing Murray High School is a privilege that is earned by meeting the standards set by Murray High School and the Utah High School Activities Association. The following guidelines apply to every student that participates in extra-curricular activities.

1. Students must be in attendance at school on the day of a performance. If a student is absent from school on the day of a performance they will be ineligible to participate that day/evening.
2. Students suspended from school for any reason cannot participate or practice with the choir during the period of suspension.
3. The use and consumption of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or non-prescription controlled substances is prohibited at any time or at any location.

Involvement in vandalism or any other illegal activity could result in immediate dismissal from choir.

## **Performances and Travel in the Community**

Every year, the Madrigal Choir performs within the community as often or more often than any other school group. For these community based performances the students will be responsible for their own transportation. Every student will need to submit a travel form to the school, xerox copy of Driver's license as well as insurance information. The Madrigal Choir has distinguished itself by performing without a director and entirely under student supervision at every performance. This has become a point of honor with the students over the years and it is important that parents recognize this as the modus operandi of the choir in performing situations. Every year the choir receives numerous requests to perform in the month of December. It is impossible to give the students a complete and detailed performance schedule in the month of August. All available performance dates for the year will be given out in August. An updated performance schedule will be distributed on or about the first day of November. Students who audition for Madrigal Choir are aware of the performance demands of the group at the time of their audition and are expected to keep their December schedule reasonably free to support the group. Students will not be excused for work, or community theater obligations.

## **The Student Contract**

The student contract is a prerequisite to membership in this choir. A signed contract from each student must be on hand and is usually completed at the time of audition. In signing the contract the student agrees to do the following:

1. I will serve in A Cappella Choir as a mentor and positive example to all other choir members.
2. I will contribute actively and positively in every rehearsal.
3. In class on time Daily.
4. Maintain a 3.0 GPA.
5. I will take personal responsibility to learn and memorize all music.
6. I will be present and on time at all performances.
7. I will consistently work for the success of all other choir members.
8. I will maintain eligibility for all region and state events.

Detach Here

---

We have read the disclosure statement for Madrigal Choir.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Printed \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_