

#### Course Description

**Beginning Chorus** is an introductory vocal music class where students will learn music notation, music history, music form & analysis, and vocal technique. Students will be assessed by daily sight-reading activities, participation and contribution to the chorus, and weekly quizzes.

**Intermediate/Advanced Chorus** is an accelerated music class. Students in this class are required to have previously taken a chorus class, or was selected through an audition process. Students will be assessed through daily sight-reading activities, participation and contribution to the chorus, and weekly quizzes.   
  
All students will learn performance etiquette as performers and audience members through experience on both sides of the stage. Performance opportunities are varied, and include on-campus and off-campus venues. Parent will be notified of specific dates, times, and venues for upcoming performances.

#### Course Objectives

1. Chorus students will develop and increase their music literacy fostered through reading, writing, reproducing, and creating music.
2. Chorus students will creatively express and apply their music literacy and critical-thinking skills of music to sing, play, read, write, and/or move.
3. Chorus students will perform and understand the relevance of music to history, culture, and the world, including the relationship of music to other academic disciplines and the vocational possibilities offered.
4. Chorus students will analyze, evaluate, and respond to music, developing criteria for making critical judgments and informed choices through critical listening and performance.

#### Quarterly Skills

1st Quarter

* **Music Notation:** Learn to read, write, and perform music notation (Pitch, Meter, Rhythm, Dynamics, Tempo) and use music vocabulary.
* **Vocal Placement:** Place students in their respective vocal range: Soprano, Alto, or Tenor. Placement is crucial to developing proper vocal technique.
* **Vocalization:** Study solfeggio, apply proper breathing, posture, vowel sounds, balance and intonation, and vocal exercises to promote healthy singing.

2nd Quarter

* **Sight Singing**: Develop music reading and solfeggio skills.
* **Into to Vocal Literature:** Perform canons/rounds, 2-3 part vocal harmonies based on level of achievement as an ensemble.
* **Ensemble Skills:** Develop skills of phrasing, dynamic expression, articulation, and choreography.
* **Evaluation:** Develop criteria for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of musical performances and apply the criteria in personal listening and performance.

3rd Quarter

* **Music Intervals**: Identify and write the distance between two notes using active listening and reference melodies.
* **Vocal Literature**: Sing a repertoire of songs representing various genres and styles.
* **Musicals**: Evaluate and study the diversity of Broadway musicals to enhance and inspire personal music performance.

4th Quarter

* **Advanced Sight Singing**: Perform sight-reading skills using solfeggio at mastery level.
* **Vocal Literature-** Perform higher-level choral music to include foreign languages and diverse musical styles
* **End of the Year Performance:** EOY performance will serve as final exam to evaluate skills mastered as a choir ensemble.

Untalan Middle School Chorus

## **GDOE Vision**

## Every Student: Responsible, Respectful, and Ready for Life

## **GDOE Mission**

## Our educational community prepares all students for life, promotes excellence, and provides support.

## **UMS Mission**

## The Luis P. Untalan Middle School Community will empower students with the knowledge that will enable them to be competent, productive and responsible citizens in our society.

## **ESLRs**

**W**orld Class Citizens

**I**nformation Users

**L**ifelong Learners

**D**ecision Makers

**C**ritical Thinkers

**A**cademic Achieves

**T**echnology Users

**S**olutions Seekers

## Instructor

## Christine A. Pama

## Classroom

## C115

## E-mail Address

## [cpama@gdoe.net](mailto:cpama@gdoe.net)

## School Phone

## 735-3110

## School Website

## [www.gdoe.net/ums](http://www.gdoe.net/ums)

## Length of Course

## 1 year

School of Excellence

**SY 2016 -2017**

**Course Syllabus**

Instructional Strategies

* Cooperative Learning
* Individual and Group Performances
* Demonstration
* Hands-on, active participation

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| --- | --- |
| Grading | |
| Final Exam / Semester Performances | 45% |
| Test/ Classroom Rehearsals Performances | 30% |
| Quizzes/ Vocal Harmony Quiz | 20% |
| Assignments | 5% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

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| --- | --- |
| Classroom Rules | |
| 1. BE RESPECTFUL: Making music requires teamwork and trust. 2. BE RESPONSIBLE: Being unprepared wastes time. 3. BE ACCOUNTABLE: Show up on time, have your materials ready. 4. PUR YOUR DEVICES AWAY: Great music takes great focus. 5. NO FOOD/DRINK: It's a choking hazard. Water is acceptable. | **Violations of classroom rules will result in the following disciplinary actions:**  1st offense – Verbal Warning  2nd offense – Call/Note to parents  3rd offense – Referral to counselor  4th offense – Referral to Office  5th offense – Parent/Teacher Conference |

Student Expectations

RESPECT

* Students are expected to show themselves and others respect.

OWNERSHIP

* Students are expected to complete course assignments on time.

ACADEMICS

* Students are expected to try their best to succeed in all classes.

RESPONSIBILITY

* Students are expected to model the school’s ESLRS and behavior expectations, CATS.
* Students are to take responsibility for their behavior in and out of the classroom.



Assignments

# Textbook & Resources

# *Teaching resources include but are not limited to:*

# L.P. Untalan Middle School Music Curriculum Guide

# Experiencing Choral Music (Beginner, Intermediate, Proficient for Mixed Voices)

# National Core Arts Standard, http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/mca/music

# Music handouts, worksheets, and supplemental music material

# *Textbook & Workbook Policy*

# Students will be assigned an in-class music workbook. Workbooks must remain in the classroom and will be used as supplemental material for understanding and reading choral music at their respective skill level. Students will be responsible for the wear and tear of the book. Any damages or loss must be reported to the teacher. Parents will be charged the cost of the book if damaged by graffiti, mold, water, or tearing. Please refer to Board Policy 601 relative to textbooks.

**Issuing of Passes**

Students needing to leave the classroom for any reason will be issued a signed pass from the teacher. The teacher will address requests to the nurse’s office and restroom. However, excessive requests may be denied. Please notify the School health counselor if your child has any health issues to avoid being denied a pass when needed.

Supply List

* 1 3-Ring binder (1.5 inches)
* 1 Ream of copy paper for music sheets
* 1 Red pen
* #2 Pencils with eraser
* 1 Highlighter

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Citizenship | | | |
| Excellent  95-100% | Satisfactory  70-94% | Needs Improvement  60-69% | Unsatisfactory <60% |
| Note-Taking | | | 30% |
| Participation | | | 30% |
| Behavior | | | 40% |
| TOTAL | | | 100% |

* K-W-L
* Reinforcing music reading skills through practice
* Think-Pair-Share
* Modeling

Late Assignments  
When a student does not complete an assignment in class, that assignment will be given as homework. Homework assignments will be due the next meeting day. For each day the assignment is late, there will be a 10% deduction to the total grade. For example, if the assignment is turned in 3 days after the due date, regardless whether it is a Black or Gold day, there will be a 30% deduction off the grade of the assignment.

Make-Up Assignments  
All students will be given at least three opportunities for submitting make-up work. It is the student’s responsibility to ask the teacher or his/her classmates about missed work. Grading will follow the same SOP as for late assignments.

Concert Performance Policy

Chorus is a performance-based class. All students must participate in on/off campus performances to receive a passing grade. Make-up work for students who are unable to attend a choir performance will be determined on a case-by-case basis in communication with a parent.

Attendance

UMS will follow the district policy for attendance. Please refer to the complete policy for details.

*Board Policy 405: Suspension/expulsion*

The following policy shall be observed for suspensions and expulsion of students in the public schools. Officials should use the least amount of discipline necessary under the circumstances to correct a student and to protect the school’s educational environment.

*Board Policy 411: Attendance*

* **Tardiness**: A student who is 15% or less late from the start of their regularly scheduled class period for secondary students.
* **Absence**s: Students are absent during a school day when they are not present for (Middle School) half the instructional day
* **Excused Absences**: Absences incurred for any of the following reasons are to be considered excused. These types of absences should be appropriately considered when calculating a student’s grade(s).

1. Illness of the student. Illness absence of three or more consecutive days requires a written certification from a physician attesting to the nature of the illness.
2. Scheduled medical or dental visits.
3. Death in the immediate family. Immediate family: mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, guardian or caretaker, brother, sister, stepbrother or stepsister, spouse, grandparent, and child. (5 GCA 5601 (g))
4. Required appearances at court or other legally related proceedings.
5. Lack of available bus transportation if the student relies on bus transportation to go to school.
6. Off-island travel, which requires prior approval of the school administrator. If off- island travel exceeds 25 or more days, the parents shall withdraw their child from school. (1 GCA 715.12 (m))
7. Natural catastrophe or disaster.
8. Participation in authorized school related activities such as field trips, conferences
9. Observance of holidays recognized by a religion of which the student is a member. Parents shall present evidence of religious affiliation.
10. Students having, or suspected of having, a communicable disease (defined by Center for Disease Control)

* **Habitual Truancy:** A pupil who has incurred twelve (12) or more unexcused absences in a school year, and is of compulsory attendance age. (17 GCA 6402).

Uniform Policy

UMS follow the district policy for uniforms.

*Board Policy 401: Uniform Policy*

Schools may adopt a uniform policy consistent with the District standard operating procedure, to include appropriate physical education attire that is supported and embraced by the school community.