

# *Springfield High School Music Department*

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**To: All Students in Madrigal Singers**  
**Date: Feb. 1, 2010**  
**RE: Course Syllabus (Arts Festival date change)**

The first semester is past and we're looking forward to spring! Due to a change in schedule for the Arts Festival, I decided to go ahead and send another syllabus out as a reminder of class expectations. Please be sure to return your signed syllabus to me by the end of class on Friday, Feb. 12.

**The purpose of this class is to learn music through advanced choral singing and other activities that teach the skills for vocal performance.** Naturally, your fellow madrigal singers and I expect that each of us will participate actively and fully in all learning activities.

Expectation #1: Each class member will participate actively and fully in learning.

In order for us to work and perform at a high level, students are expected to maintain 90% attendance (81 of 90 days per semester); the following guidelines will apply to students who do not:

- 1) All work missed must be made up within a week of returning. Performance make-up work must be documented by recordings or equivalent work, as agreed to by the instructor. Work for unexcused absences will receive half credit only.
- 2) After 7 absences, excused or not, the student and his/her parent/guardian must meet with the instructor to explain the absences and develop a plan for dealing with any future attendance issues.
- 3) After 9 absences, the student may be dismissed from the group. If all the absences were unexcused, dismissal will be immediate. If some were excused, consideration will be given to the student's compliance with guidelines 1 and 2 above and the instructor will meet with the student's guidance counselor and/or principal and/or parents to decide appropriate action.

Expectation #2: Each class member will maintain 90% attendance.

For all the rest, **respect is key**. Everyone, including me, will show self-respect by arriving on time, following school procedures, coming to class prepared, keeping on task and working hard. We will also respect each other by providing productive criticism, avoiding derogatory remarks or uselessly negative comments. Finally, we will respect our school by not bringing food or drinks other than clear water into class, and by taking care of our music and equipment.

Expectation #3: Respect yourself; respect each other; respect this school.

All students must participate in any official concerts in order to earn credit. Only emergency situations for which I have advance parental/guardian notification will be considered as exceptions; in such cases, I will propose an alternate performance as a makeup. Dates for the year are listed on the back of this page. Because we are the premier choral group at SHS, expect that other required concerts will be added to the schedule, with at least two weeks' written notice.

Expectation #4: All students will participate in all official concerts.

On the back of this paper, you'll find the "rules" written between the lines of these expectations.

*Train your brain. Expect success.*

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## GRADING

- 1) 50% - Class participation (every day)
  - have a pencil
  - have a notebook (I suggest a three-ring binder)
  - have your music folder with music inside
  - stay on task
  - participate actively (whether alone or in groups)
  - participate fully (arrive on time, avoid leaving during class)
  - demonstrate respect
- 2) 50% - Quizzes and performance grades
- 3) Concert participation – a quiz grade for those who participate; a 50% cut in final grade for those who do not.  
**Dates for Semester 2: Arts Festival, March 9 (5 to 7:30 p.m. – exact time TBA);  
June 4 @ 7 p.m.; June 10 @ 7 p.m.**
- 4) 90% attendance required
- 5) Concert dress for ladies: madrigal dresses (provided, but you must adjust); black flats.  
Concert dress for gentleman: madrigal tux (provided); bow tie and white shirt, black shoes.

**Finally, did you catch the part about getting this paper signed by your parent/guardian and getting it back to me by the beginning of class on Friday, February 12?**

**It's your first quiz grade of the semester. Do it on time and get an A!**

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**I have read this document front and back and so has the student for whom I am responsible.**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print parent/guardian name)**

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/guardian signature)**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print student name)**

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