

# Amherst County High School Women's Ensemble Syllabus

Director: Melanie Coleman

## Course Description:

This course emphasizes singing and performing techniques, beginning theory, analysis of music and the development of basic vocal technique. A general overview of music development through history and careers in music will also be studied. Participation in a concert performance is a requirement for the class grade. Students will learn proper breath support, good posture and diction. A variety of choral literature and songs in foreign languages will be studied.

## Course Objectives: The student will...

1. demonstrate proper posture and breathing techniques to support vocal production.
2. sing with a free and clear tone, using accurate intonation.
3. sing with purity of vowels and clarity of consonants.
4. perform dynamics and tempos as indicated by markings in the score in both solo and ensemble singing.
5. perform an assigned vocal part in unison and in simple harmony.
6. respond to basic conducting gestures.
7. respond to music through movement.
8. read and write basic music notation.
9. study selections that represent various historical, stylistic, and cultural contexts of choral music.

## Classroom Expectations:

1. Be on time. (I am counting tardies.)
2. Be prepared. (Have your music and pencil ready.)
3. Be respectful. (Treat others the way you want to be treated.)
4. Do your best! (That's all I ask of you.)

## Consequences for behavior:

Any student not in compliance with the rules

- First offense: Verbal warning
- Second offense: Removal from room, alternative assignment given, parent notification
- Third offense: Written referral to office

**Academic Requirements:** You may earn one unit of academic credit.

- Class participation is key in a performing arts class. Classroom effort and completion of assignments will account for part of your grade.
- Individual and small group vocal assessments may be given periodically to assess understanding of content taught in class and to evaluate vocal technique and knowledge of vocal part.

60%  
Mastery of Content  
(understanding of content)

40%  
Measure of Progress  
(effort and completion)

**Concert Date:**  
To Be Determined

**Concert attire:**  
To Be Announced