

SELECT WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE

Emily Verdonk

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Instructor availability: I am here after school every day and frequently in the evening.

Course Description:

Select Women's Ensemble is an intermediate to advanced skill level high school SSA choir. Students in this ensemble are expected to have a heightened understanding of breathing technique, vocal physiology, expressive elements of the voice, and demonstrated at least intermediate level proficiency in sightreading. Members of the Select Women's Ensemble exhibit positive leadership and communication skills, have good work ethic, and function well as part of a team. Major performances during the year include the Fall Concert, Holiday Pops Concert, District Choral Festival, and Collage Concert. Other performances may be scheduled as the opportunity arises. A wide variety of literature will be rehearsed in this large group setting. This is a year-long (three trimesters) course.

Major Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Sight read at the Intermediate to Advanced level.
- Have an advanced understanding of vocal physiology.
- Demonstrate the ability to sing in three foreign languages.
- Demonstrate advanced breathing technique.
- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the expressive elements of the voice.
- Have an advanced understanding of the major styles of music.
- Function as part of team using advanced communication skills.
- Demonstrate the ability to sing 3 parts a cappella.

Assessment Strategies

- Students will provide a written self-evaluation of every performance.
- Students will participate in choral performances for an audience.
- The choir will participate in District Choral Festival.
- The choir will participate in Solo & Ensemble.
- Brief, small group singing tests may be administered.

Textbooks / Resources

Music will be provided. It is the student's responsibility to maintain the music in a folder and return all in good condition.

Classroom Expectations

GRADING CRITERIA: grades are derived from the following.

Attendance and rehearsal participation	50%
Concert performance and self-evaluations	40%
Tests	10%

GRADING STANDARD: Letter grades are determined on the following scale.

	A 93%-100%	A- 90%-92%	
B+ 88-89%	B 83-88%	B- 80-82%	
C+ 78-79%	C 73-77%	C- 70-72%	
D+ 68-69%	D 63-67%	D- 60-62%	F 59-0%

Extra Credit Policy – Will accept extra credit in the event of a missed, excused performance. Extra credit will consist of a special classroom project.

Rules/Behavior Expectations –

- Students will bring a positive attitude to rehearsal and be actively involved in the rehearsal process.
- Students will bring their music and a pencil to class every day.
- Students will focus on the music being rehearsed.
- Students will have nothing in their mouth that is meant to be chewed.
- Students will demonstrate their professionalism to the public when in the position to do so.