



West Salem High School  
Choir Department

#### Course Information:

Course	Choir of the Titans	Room: A100
Course No.	UC3024	Phone: 503 399-5533 X-507615
Instructor:	Kimberly McConnell	
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:McConnell_Kimberly@salkeiz.k12.or.us">McConnell_Kimberly@salkeiz.k12.or.us</a>	

Choir Website: **Westsalemchoir.org**  
Calendar is located on the website, please check it often.

You should receive a weekly choir newsletter via email. If you are not getting this, please email Pam Halleen: [pam@halleen.com](mailto:pam@halleen.com) and she will take care of you 😊

Welcome to the West Salem Choir Department. I am excited for a new year together. Please read this, and return the attached sheet with your signature and your parent's signature indicating you have both read and understand the policies and procedures of the class.

Singing is FUN, EXPRESSIVE, EMOTIONAL, HARD WORK, ATHLETIC, REQUIRES PRECISION, TEAM WORK, singing is TREMENDOUS!!! I love to sing, and share my passion with others. Please review the course information. Every rule and expectation is there to help each student experience his/her utmost potential in choir at West Salem High School. Thank you for taking the time to read this document, and signing and returning the attached form.

#### Learning Outcomes

In this class students will learn: choral literature, proper vocal technique, diction appropriate to choral practice, solfege, sight reading, ear training, strong work ethic, and social skills promoting team work.

#### Readings

Sheet music and choir folder are provided by the Choir Department. Students must return all music and folders at the end of the year, or be charged a \$50. replacement fee.

**Students enrolled in Choir of the Titans should also take Class Voice.** Before we went to block scheduling, CT rehearsed 3 hrs per week outside of class. Students voted to take an additional class during the day in lieu of the extra out-of-class time. With an 8-period day, this is easily done.

#### Grading

Students are graded by :

Rehearsal Technique:	41%
Performance Technique:	21%
Sectional Rehearsal Technique:	11%
Rhythm/Solfege Homework:	11%
Concert Review:	11%
Final:	5%

**Students receive daily rehearsal technique points.** There are 10 pts available on All-Meet Days (Mondays 43 min classes), and 20 pts available on A/B days (90 min classes). These points are based on how hard students work in class.

**Each Monday students are given a theory worksheet.** It is a short one sided worksheet. They are due the last day of class each week. I encourage students to work on the theory sheet in class, perhaps while they are waiting for me when I work with another section. Most students are able to complete these during the week, and rarely have to take it home.

**Students are required to attend one “live” (not Youtube) Choral Concert per semester and write a review.** Students *may not* be a participant in the concert they review. Students must **attach the program** of the concert, and a **Concert Review Form** to the review. The Concert Review Form can be found on the website, or a student may obtain one from Ms .Mac at school. Students should follow the instructions on the Concert Review Form. The review must be at least two pages, double-spaced typed. An upper level choir concert is preferred (high school, college, professional). A middle school concert is acceptable, but not preferred. Elementary programs **do not qualify**. Musicals **do not** qualify. Professional commercial concerts **do not** qualify (Carrie Underwood, Justin Bieber, etc). If unsure, check with Ms. Mac in advance.

Please avoid scheduling medical, dental, and other appointments during choir period. Much of choir work is done in class, and is difficult to make up. Absences effecting loss of credit will follow the West Salem High School current policies.

### **Expectations**

Students are expected to have a positive and productive attitude each day. Students are expected to exhibit an exemplary work ethic. Students are expected to be on time. On time means in your place, with your music and pencil, ready to learn when the bell rings. Students will respect all students, faculty, parent volunteers, community members, and anyone else that may be involved with the West Choir Department. Students will sight read, learn music, perform occasional part tests, and be prepared for class each day. Students will attend a 30 minute appointed after-school sectional once a week. Students will be attentive to instructor, and save socializing for outside of class time. Students are expected to participate in every scheduled performance and rehearsal. Students must make advanced arrangements to miss after school performances and rehearsals. Students and parents are asked to participate in all fundraising events and activities. Students are required to wear the proper attire for the performing group in which they participate. Most importantly, students will experience the joy of singing!

### **Choir of the Titans Performance Attire:**

Choir Robes (provided by choir Department)

Boys: Black slacks, black socks, black shoes (please no tennis shoes), flat collared t-shirt

Girls: Off black nylons, dress shoes, no pants. Hair must be off face and shoulders. No boots, tennis shoes, or flip flops.

### **TAG Considerations**

TAG students will be given enrichment in the classroom through pacing and high expectations. For enrichment, there are many resources available to the talented student, TAG or not, including private lessons. Private lessons are highly recommended for all gifted students.

**FEES: \$40.** Fair Use fee is required for each CT student. This fee includes a choir T-Shirt. *Please make checks payable to West Salem Choir.*

## **Parent Meeting Monday Sept. 19, 6:30 – 7:30**

West Choir Room. Please make it a priority to attend. We will discuss the upcoming year, the Choir Department, talk about ways parents can get involved, and have trip information.



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\*\*\*\*\*Please detach and return by Monday, September 12.\*\*\*\*\*  
*Please include \$40. Fair use fee if you have not yet paid it.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, have read the course syllabus and agree to help my child meet all the expectations of class. I have read the choir event calendar and will keep it posted at home.

FAIR USE FEE: \$40. *Financial Aid Forms are available in the Choir Room.*

VERY IMPORTANT PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Parent Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child to travel by bus or parent driven car to performance destinations throughout the year.

Signed,

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Printed Name* *Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature* *Date*