

# Disclosure Document for Vocal Techniques at AFHS

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## Course Description and Expectations

This class is for the beginning to advanced singer. The emphasis of this semester long course will be vocal production. Students will learn to sing healthily in both musical theater and classical styles. **Students will be expected to sing solos and duets in both mater classes and tests each term.** Parents are welcome to observe any performance throughout the semester. Vocal physiology will be the primary focus in this course. Two hours or more of practice per week is expected and factored into student grades.

**The teacher's job is not to teach notes and rhythms, that is the student's responsibility. The teacher will be focusing on teaching vocal and performance technique.** To aid students in learning the notes and rhythms of assigned literature, the accompaniments to assigned songs are available on line through the choir website: [www.afchoir.org](http://www.afchoir.org). Most songs are also readily available on YouTube; therefore, students will need internet access to be successful in this course.

Students must be prepared to sing in class for master class or performances on the day assigned. "I'm not ready," a "bad throat," cramps, fatigue, or not knowing the notes, or not practicing with the accompaniment are not acceptable excuses. If a student is too sick to sing, they should be at home rather than infecting the rest of the class. **Only students with extreme laryngitis will be excused from masterclass or performing on the assigned day in class.** If a student can talk, they can sing.

**Students are required to video and complete a self-evaluation of each of their performances. Evaluations of student performances are due in Canvas within two class periods of their performance.**

## Materials and Supplies

- Music is provided. However, students may perform a song of his/her choosing for the unit if it is teacher approved and the student has both the sheet music and an accompaniment track in the correct key. Students will need a three-ring binder in which to store the music for class.
- Students must have their music, notebooks, and a pencil in class each day. Students without these items will not receive full participation points for the day.

## Homework, Late Work, Extra Credit

Homework/Memorization assignments will be given most class periods. All assignments will be posted in Canvas. If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to complete the assignment given. Late assignments and performances are not accepted in this class unless they have accommodations formally recorded with the school or are due to an excused absence. Students may attend and write a critique for up to two musicals, vocal recitals, or operas per term for extra credit points.

### Grading Break Down:

- Essential Standards (Participation) 20%

This includes coming to class on time with the proper materials and working throughout the class period. This also includes not talking or doing homework from other classes during the performance or master class sessions of other students in the class. Students who do not pay attention to masterclasses or talk during masterclasses or performances will lose points toward this grade.

- Master classes (Lab) 25%

Students must be prepared for the master class by knowing all notes and rhythms to the song and being able to sing it with the accompaniment. The music does NOT need to be memorized for the master class, but must be well learned. **Students unprepared for master class will not get a second chance to earn these points for the unit.**

- Performances (Project) 30%

Students are required to perform their music memorized. **Students who do not have a song memorized will lose 10% of the points for that performance.** Students will be graded on using a vocal solo rubric.

- Tests 15%

Students will have tests on core vocal principles to help them become adapt at diagnosing and correcting vocal and performance errors.

- Assignments 10%

Performance evaluations are required after each performance in the class. Students will video record his/her performance and then write a full paragraph or two evaluating the performance with at least two things they did well and two things upon which they can improve.

### Attendance and Discipline Policy

Students are expected to adhere to the attendance and discipline policies of AFHS as set forth in the student handbook.

**There will be a quiz in Canvas for students on the information in this disclosure document.**