



Brookwood High School

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE.....**Chorus**
TEACHER.....Carter Still

TERM.....**2019-2020**
ROOM #.....**E5**

Email Address	Carter_Still@gwinnett.k12.ga.us
Chorus Web Page	brookwoodschorus.weebly.com
Contact Information	(770) 736-3151
Student Support	Help sessions are available after school most days from 2:30-2:50pm. Please schedule in advance with the director.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The focus of the BHS Choral Program is comprehensive musicianship, producing singers who can read music independently and make strong performance choices individually with regard to historical and theoretical context. Both *a cappella* and accompanied literature for the ensemble are studied. Students expand their choral/vocal repertoire to include all major historical and contemporary styles and genres written for the vocal ensemble. Increasing technical skills in sight-singing and musical analysis is expected. All students will learn performance etiquette as performers and audience members through experience on both sides of the stage. Performance opportunities are varied, and include on-campus and off-campus venues.

COURSE CURRICULUM CONTENT

The entire list of Academic, Knowledge and Skills for each of the following curriculum strands in this course can be accessed through the district web address at www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us

AKS STRANDS	UNITS/TOPICS
Creating Performing Responding Connecting	Creation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments • compose and arrange music within specified guidelines Performing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music • read and notate music • sing using correct posture and techniques Responding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listen to, analyze, and describe music • evaluate music and music performances Connecting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts • understand music in relation to history and culture

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

Textbook	Instructional Supplies – Student Responsibility
<i>Experiencing Choral Music</i> Choral Octavos BHS Chorus Sight-Singing Materials BHS Chorus Music Theory Workbook	Pencil Loose leaf notebook paper 1 ream of white copy paper

The syllabus may be updated as needed throughout the school year.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Grade Weights & Grade Scale	Make Up Work, eClass
<p>Summative Assessments 45%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unit tests/Theory Tests ➤ Concerts ➤ Dress Rehearsals ➤ Part Checks/Singing Tests <p>Formative Assessments 35%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quizzes ➤ Theory Work ➤ Rehearsal Skills/Competency <p>Final Exam 20%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Performance & written finals <p>Student Progress</p> <p>Students will receive Progress Reports at the 6-week and 12-week mark during each semester and will receive a Report Card at the conclusion of each semester. Student grades are available on the Parent Portal and eClass. Students and parents are advised to check the academic progress of students throughout the semester. Parents may request access to the Parent Portal by visiting the Brookwood High School Main Office.</p> <p>Students who do not meet the academic requirements of passing their classes may be assigned mandatory Academic Intervention which meets during Extended Lunch periods.</p>	<p>Make Up Work, eClass</p> <p>Make Up Work</p> <p>It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to make up work due to an excused absence within five days upon return to school. Concert attendance requirements are described in detail on the following page.</p> <p>eClass</p> <p>eClass is Gwinnett's digital content, learning, assessment, and support system. Brookwood students are expected to check their eClass course pages on a regular basis.</p> <p>Seniors</p> <p>Graduating Seniors may be able to exempt their 2nd Semester local final exams if they meet Academic, Attendance, and Behavior criteria. Students are not allowed to exempt mandatory EOCs, DAs, SPGs, or Performance Finals. Seniors will receive more information about exemptions at the start of 2nd Semester.</p>

ACADEMIC HONESTY & HONOR CODE

The Brookwood tradition of excellence requires an academic environment that rejects cheating or any other form of dishonesty. In addition, the academic integrity of all students is paramount in the pillars of citizenship and respect that describe a Brookwood UPSTANDER. An essential part of education is developing a sense of honor, responsibility, and ethical principles that extend to all facets of life. Our students can earn respect for themselves and their academic work through academic integrity and ethical conduct.

CHEATING

Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead a teacher in arriving at an honest evaluation of student achievement. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Looking at another student's answers or work or sharing answers on an independent assignment or assessment unless expressly permitted by the teacher.
2. Attempting to communicate information in any way during an independent assignment or assessment unless expressly permitted by the teacher.
3. Having cheat sheets or information written on the body or other personal objects.
4. Using programmed calculators or other electronic devices unless expressly permitted by the teacher.
5. Looking at quiz, test, or exam materials prior to their administration.
6. Sharing or receiving information regarding an assignment or assessment.
7. Failing to give credit when the ideas, words, or works of others are used. (See the information in your agenda book regarding Plagiarism.)
8. Submitting work that is not created by the student. This includes, but is not limited, to file sharing (submitting the same work with different header, copying files to and from electronic devices and web tools, and/or receiving or purchasing solutions or works from others).
9. Taking or transmitting photographs of secure assignment or assessments.
10. ANY electronic device (including, but not limited to, cell phones and smart watches) visible during ANY assessment can be considered cheating. At no time during an assessment should an unauthorized electronic device be visible or accessible.

The syllabus may be updated as needed throughout the school year.

Cheating is inexcusable conduct and will be dealt with strictly. A zero will be given for the assignment. The teacher will contact the parent(s), and a record of the incident will be placed in the student's disciplinary file. On the second and future offenses, students will receive consequences in addition to a zero. Students may lose other privileges, positions, or opportunities as determined by the administration.

EXPECTATIONS

Expectations for Academic Success	Classroom Management
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professional Chorus Rehearsal etiquette 2. Memorization of music for performance 3. Increased proficiency in Music Literacy and Theory 4. Attend after school help sessions, if needed 	<p>At all times, students are expected to adhere to the GCPS Student Code of Conduct and Brookwood High School policies as outlined in the student agenda book.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be Respectful 2. Be Responsible 3. Be Honest 4. Be a Good Steward

REHEARSAL COMPETENCY

A student's rehearsal competency grade indicates how well she or he performs during music rehearsal, including important points of performance such as correct singing posture, using a pencil to mark music, and staying on task. This grade is assessed weekly. Gum and candy are not allowed in chorus both for safety reasons, since students can choke while singing and chewing gum at the same time. These items also affect the ability to produce acceptable tone and create correct vowel shapes. Water is the only drink permitted in the chorus classroom.

CONCERT PROCEDURES

Performances are the culmination of every choral objective and are considered extremely important. **Every student is expected to perform at concerts and dress rehearsals and may only be excused due to illness or emergency.** Students excused from concert attendance must schedule a time to perform the concert repertoire individually for the choral director. Parents are notified well in advance of each performance date in order to plan effectively. Because chorus is a co-curricular subject and every voice is critical, students are graded for concerts beyond the normal school day and must make every effort to attend.

- Please be aware: No electronic devices (including, but not limited to cell phones) may be used at any point DURING a concert or rehearsal. If a student is observed using an electronic device at a concert, the director will hold it for the student until the end of the concert and the student will be assigned 3 afternoons of after school detention.
- **Attendance is expected at required after school rehearsals and performances.** Required dates are listed on the chorus calendar, chorus website, and on eClass. Student illness or death in the family will be an excused absence provided that the student returns to school with a parent or doctor's note. Conflicts with other school related activities must be submitted in writing to the choral director at least two weeks prior to the event to be considered as a possible excused absence. Examples of conflicts that would be unexcused are (but are not limited to) work, transportation issues, and rec league athletic events. Only excused absences are eligible for makeup work.

CONCERT UNIFORM

Students are required to wear the formal BHS Chorus uniform for concerts. Ladies will wear the BHS Chorus black dress. Gentlemen will wear the BHS Chorus black vest, white pleated tux shirt, tux pants, and maroon pre-knotted Windsor long necktie. More detailed information regarding the chorus uniform, including pricing, is available a separate document.

PROGRAM FEE

While the BHS Chorus receives some funding via GCPS, the chorus relies on additional funding to provide a high quality choral program. All BHS Chorus members are asked to pay a \$30 program fee, made payable to the Brookwood Performing Arts Boosters. You may write your check to *BPAB*. More details are available in a separate document.

Funds will be used to cover materials (such as music/octavos), certain events like the Large Group Performance Evaluation field trip (LGPE), accompanist fees, and more. The program fee is separate from the concert uniform, and should only be paid once per year.

The syllabus may be updated as needed throughout the school year.

CONCERT DATES

BHS Chorus will hold five major public concerts during the 2019-2020 school year. Each chorus student is required to be at each concert and dress rehearsal. Making music is like playing a team sport. **Every** team member counts toward the outcome of the team – or the concert. These events count as a test grade. Per GCPS Board of Education policy, “Required out-of-class activities, as stipulated by the teacher, will determine a portion of the student’s grade.”

Required dates that are part of your student’s evaluation:

Fall Concert:	September 24; <i>Time TBA</i>
Winter Concert:	December 10; <i>Time TBA; Location TBA</i>
Pre-LGPE Concert:	February 25; <i>Time TBA.</i>
LGPE:	March 3, 4 or 5; <i>TBA</i>
Spring Show:	April 30 & May 1; <i>TBA</i>

Optional events open through invitation and audition:

October 24	GMEA All-State Reading Chorus Auditions (North Gwinnett HS)
October 25-26	GMEA District 13 Honor Chorus (Athens, GA - Classic Center)
November 9	GMEA All-State Chorus Audition 1 (North Gwinnett MS)
January 16	GMEA All-State Chorus Audition 2 (Discovery HS)
January 23-25	GMEA All-State Reading Chorus (Athens, GA – Classic Center)
February 27-29	GMEA All-State Chorus (Athens, GA)

*Please note that dates and times may change, and additional events may be scheduled at the discretion of the director. After-school dress rehearsals will be added for the Fall Concert and Spring Show. Changes in dates will be announced as soon as possible. Updated information is always available on eClass.

SELECT ENSEMBLES

Chorale and *Camerata* are auditioned ensembles that meet outside of regular school hours. Additional information will be available on the chorus eClass page.

CHORAL COUNCIL

The BHS Choral Council is comprised of 10th-12th grade choral students who serve the chorus in a leadership capacity. Applications and additional details, including deadlines, will be posted on the chorus eClass page.

MUSIC & FOLDERS

Students are responsible for keeping their music in their chorus folders. These folders are provided by the chorus department, and are to remain in the chorus room. Any music/octavos brought home for private study **with permission of the director** must be returned the next day. **Students are responsible for the cost of music and/or folders that are destroyed or damaged.** Music folders will be charged at the current rate plus shipping (approximately \$10), and music will be assessed at the current market price, which could be higher than the price printed on the music as set by the publisher.

COMMUNICATION

Mr. Still communicates to all parents primarily through email newsletters and eClass. Please make sure your GCPS portal account email is accurate. All email changes are handled through the front office – please call the front office for exact procedures. In addition, you can receive occasional text message reminders for upcoming concerts and events by signing up for the free remind service.

2nd Period Beginning Women’s Chorus: text @636fdk to the number 81010

3rd Period Int. Women’s Chorus: text @89kah4 to the number 81010

4th Period Adv. Women’s Chorus: text @73fa77 to the number 81010

7th Period Men’s Chorus text @gfkbe to the number 81010

Online: Search for Brookwood High School Chorus on Facebook.

The chorus website (brookwoodhschorus.weebly.com) provides basic information about the chorus program and contains the chorus newsletter for parents. All course related content, including (but not limited to) interactive lessons, study guides and permission forms, are available on your child’s eClass course page for chorus.

The syllabus may be updated as needed throughout the school year.



Brookwood High School Chorus

COURSE SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

RETURN BY AUGUST 9, 2019



COURSE TITLE.....Chorus
TEACHERCarter Still

TERM.....2019-2020
ROOM #.....E5

Parent Volunteers:

If you are interested in volunteering to help out the 2019-2020 season of BHS Chorus, please check where you can get involved.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chaperoning Day Trips | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography / Videography (Circle) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chaperoning Night Trips | <input type="checkbox"/> Concert Chaperone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry / Costumes / Painting / Special Skills |

Other: _____

Contact Information (Print clearly please):

Parent name: _____ Chorus Class: 2nd 3rd 4th 7th
(please circle)

Student name: _____

Note: Mr. Still communicates to all parents primarily through email newsletters and eClass. Please make sure your GCPS portal account email is accurate. **All email changes are handled through the front office in-person.**

Media Release:

The Chorus Department maintains a website with photos of chorus students, and small video clips. Also, the Gwinnett County Fine Arts Department is asking for pictures of different programs. I would like to send pictures, but need parental consent for a picture to be published; therefore, we need a media release from each child. In the past, my students have been featured on GCPS TV, etc. Simply check the appropriate box for your child.

- I give permission for my child’s photograph to be used on the BHS website, BHS Chorus website, or the Gwinnett County Public Schools website.
- I do not want my child’s photograph used.

PLEASE SIGN BELOW:

We read and understand the 2019-2020 chorus syllabus, and will keep our copy for future reference. We will also attend every required concert unless there is an emergency, about which we will notify the choral director before the concert if at all possible, or immediately following. We understand that a portion of our student’s grade is derived from required activities that take place outside the school day.

Parent Signature

Student Signature