



Thornton High School
 9351 North Washington • Thornton, CO 80229
 Office: (720) 972-4800 • Fax: (720) 972-4999
<http://www.thorntonh.adams12.org>

School Year	2017-2018	Teacher Name	Louisa Jones
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Email Address	Louisa.j.jones@adams12.org		

Course Name	Chorale I/ Chorale II		
Course Description	Chorale is a mixed group of 10th-12th graders with more advanced sight-reading skills and a strong grasp of vocal technique. Chorale will move more quickly, focusing on sight reading, vocal technique, music theory, music history, and advanced repertoire. Students are expected to have a great deal of focus and dedication to the study of singing.		
Unit of Study	Grade Level Expectations/Content Standards	Approximate Time Spent or Percent of time Spent	Targeted Date of Assessment
Fall Concert	Aims and Objectives (MYP): A: Knowledge and Understanding B: Application C: Reflection and Evaluation D: Personal Engagement State Standards: 1. Expression of Music 3. Theory of Music 4. Aesthetic Valuation of Music	8 Weeks	October
Winter Concert	Aims and Objectives (MYP): A: Knowledge and Understanding B: Application C: Reflection and Evaluation D: Personal Engagement State Standards: 1. Expression of Music 2. Creation of Music 3. Theory of Music 4. Aesthetic Valuation of Music	8 Weeks	December
Spring Concert	Aims and Objectives (MYP): A: Knowledge and Understanding B: Application C: Reflection and Evaluation D: Personal Engagement State Standards: 1. Expression of Music 3. Theory of Music 4. Aesthetic Valuation of Music	9 Weeks	March
Pops Concert	Aims and Objectives (MYP): A: Knowledge and Understanding B: Application C: Reflection and Evaluation D: Personal Engagement State Standards: 1. Expression of Music 2. Creation of Music 3. Theory of Music 4. Aesthetic Evaluation of Music	7 Weeks	May



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Grading Scale		Grade Percentages/Weights	
A	90-100	Summative Assessments & Projects	80%
B	80-89	Formative Assessments & Projects	20%
C	70-79		
D	60-69	*Weekly progress grades are posted at https://ic.adams12.org/campus/portal/adams12.isp	
F	59 or below		

General Expectations

- Grades are based upon the demonstration of proficiency on units associated with a standard given during each formative or summative assessment. Formative grades in addition to summative unit assessments will be used to holistically determine your grade.
- **Summative: 80%** Summative measures of achievement are taken when unit master is expected. (i.e., unit tests, culmination of a project, embedded assessments, etc.)
- **Formative: 20%** Formative assessments measure the scaffolding skills and/or content embedded in the unit. Formative assessments are taken frequently, after a student has practiced a skill or become familiar with content. Examples of formative assessments include but are not limited to exit tickets, paragraphs, oral check for understanding, warm-ups, stages in a large project, etc.
- Assessments will be graded based on teacher/district/state rubrics.
- On group projects, students will receive a grade for individual work and a group grade.
- Grades are based on achievement of Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations.

Class Expectations

Choir is primarily a performance-based class, so the majority of your grade depends upon the extent of your performance in class and at required evening events. Students will receive points for:

- *Daily performance/participation
 - *Written assignments
 - *Assessments and evaluations – written and performance-based
 - *Preparation – having your choir binder and a pencil in rehearsal every day
 - *Positive attitude and behavior
 - *Dress rehearsals and performances
- ** Please note – accommodations are available for students with special needs. **

Grade Breakdown

5% Formative – MYP Criterion A: Knowledge and Understanding
 5% Formative – MYP Criterion B: Application
 5% Formative – MYP Criterion C: Reflection
 5% Formative – MYP Criterion D: Personal Engagement

20% Summative – MYP Criterion A: Knowledge and Understanding
 20% Summative – MYP Criterion B: Application
 20% Summative – MYP Criterion C: Reflection
 20% Summative – MYP Criterion D: Personal Engagement

Scoring/Grading of Summative Assessments

- If no attempt to take a summative assessment has been made, a “no evidence” (NE) grade will be recorded until the assessment is completed. NE shall be defined as not attempting the assessment or not being present for the assessment. **NE will be equal to 0%.**
- In order to receive a passing grade, a student must **attempt ALL summative assessments.**



- The presence of a NE grade for any summative assessment at the end of a grading period will result in a grade of F for the course, regardless of performance on other assessments.
- If a student scores lower than a 50% on an assessment, the teacher will add a comment that states “Actual score is ___%”. This will flag the assessment for both the teacher and the student so they know what needs to be done as a retake. Once the retake has been completed, the teacher will record the new score.

Student Responsibilities with regards to Summative Assessments

- It is the **responsibility of the student** to make up any NE assessments as soon as possible in order to protect his or her eligibility and his/her GPA.
- If a student receives a NE on a final or semester exam, it is the **student’s responsibility** to provide documentation and make arrangements with administration to take the missed assessments.

Re-take Policy with regards to Summative Assessments

- This policy is in accordance with the THS 10-day retake policy.
- Any retakes past 10 days must be based on individual conversations between the student and the teacher. The teacher has final discretion on extending the 10-day policy.
- In order for a student to be eligible to retake a summative assessment, they must show evidence of learning by completing remedial work as indicated by the teacher.

PATHWAYS

General Pathway (For those who are not interested in pursuing music in postsecondary education) Examples of activities for students in this pathway are: ensemble singing, work in sectionals, encouraging each other to work their hardest, have a basic understanding of music theory, practice sight reading in groups, participate in performing in all concerts, and evaluate solo performances. This track has a focus on improving vocal technique and artistic presentation.

Enrichment option: Performance Pathway (For those who are interested in pursuing music in postsecondary education) Examples of activities for students in this pathway are: help substitutes to lead class, sing in front of the class, sight read well and impart their sight reading abilities to others, tutor other students musically, direct ensembles, improvise solos, audition for all-state choir, lead sectionals, be section leaders, and have a solid understanding of musical theory. They are expected to perform at higher levels of proficiency and difficulty than students on the general pathway. This track has a focus on improving leadership and communication with people in addition to musical technique and artistic presentation.

TARDY AND ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of class. Tardiness and absences will be noted by the teacher on Infinite Campus. If a student misses an assignment because of a tardy or an absence, they will adhere to the guidelines outlined in the syllabus and Adams 12 Five Star Schools policy. Any student coming in late must check in with Ms. Jones at the end of class in order to be removed from the absent list.

COMPETITIONS, CONCERTS AND EVENTS

CONCERTS

All students are required to perform in the following concerts: Fall, Winter, Spring, and Pops Concert. Every choir will perform choral pieces at each concert that have been learned and rehearsed in class. These concerts will serve as the largest portion of our **Summative Grade** for each quarter so every student **MUST** participate in order to successfully fulfill their goals and expectations for their choir class. Talk to Ms. Jones at the beginning of the quarter to communicate any conflicts with the concert dates.



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Anyone receiving an **excused absence** from a concert will complete an alternate assignment to be determined by the director. An excused absence consists of serious personal illness, unforeseen family emergency, or school activity in which there is no possible option to attend any portion of the concert. An **unexcused absence** will result in an NE and this grade may be fulfilled with an alternate assignment upon conference with the parents and student. **It is the responsibility of the student and parent to determine any possible scheduling conflicts, such as sporting events and other school activities, and notify Ms. Jones at least a month in advance.**

FIELD TRIPS

We will have several field trips this year in addition to our performances. A few of the field trips that will likely happen are the CHSAA Music Festival in April, the Adams County Festival in January, and Graduation in May. Students are responsible for making up any work missed in other classes. You will be notified of all field trips.

ALL STATE CHOIR

Juniors and Seniors in the choir program have the opportunity to audition for All-State Choir. Students are responsible for preparing a solo and learning the aural music skills for the audition. Ms. Jones will help by appointment. The application form is due Sept. 8th. Please let Ms. Jones know if you are interested!

FEES AND FUNDRAISING

CHOIR ACTIVITY FEE

At the beginning of the year, a class fee of \$15 is required from each student and will be charged to his or her school account. The student program fee will continue to help our choir establish a fund to help pay for our music, accompanist, field trips, and other necessary materials.

FUNDRAISERS

The Thornton Choirs will be involved in a variety of fundraisers this year in order to help cover additional choir program expenses. Fundraising is voluntary and will not affect a student's grade if they choose not to participate. If you elect not to participate in this year's fundraisers, please consider a donation to support our program.

CHOIR UNIFORMS

It is important for the choirs to look as uniform as they sound. If a student does not wear the proper attire for a concert, their grade will be lowered. For a competition, they risk losing the privilege of singing all together. Therefore, it is vital that students are dressed properly. I would love for all of our students to participate in all of our events this year!

All students are expected to dress in professional black clothing.

Women: Black Dress **OR**
Black Skirt + Black Shirt (no writing on the shirt; must be solid black) **OR**
Black Pants (no leggings) + Black Shirt (no writing on the shirt; must be solid black)
Black Shoes

Men: Black Pants + Black Shirt (no writing on the shirt; must be solid black)
Black Shoes

Please let Ms. Jones know if you have any difficulties finding appropriate attire!



IMPORTANT DATES

Dates in **BOLD** help make up 80% of a student's grade and therefore are needed to be successful. Plan ahead to make sure that you do not have any conflicts! Take work off if you need to.

September 8, 2017- All State Registration Due (only interested Juniors and Seniors)

October 5-7, 2017- All State Auditions at Colorado Academy (only interested Juniors and Seniors)

October 10, 2017 from 7PM-9PM (6:30 call time)- Fall Choir Concert

December 13, 2017 from 7PM-9PM (6:30 call time)- Winter Choir Concert

January 19 and 20, 2018 (all day)- Adams County Festival

February 1, 2, and 3, 2018 (all day)- All State Choir (only selected Juniors and Seniors)

February 10, 2018 (all day)- District Choir Festival (selected students)

March 1, March 2, and March 3, 2018- Spring Musical

March 15, 2018 from 7PM-9PM (6:30 call time)- Spring Choir Concert

Early April 2018 (all day)- CHSAA Large Group Festival

May 3, 2018 from 7PM-9PM (6:30 call time)- POPS Concert

May 15, 2018- Graduation

Student Expectations

Take Responsibility

- Students are prompt (on time) for their classes and appointments
- Students arrive prepared for class with their choir binder, pencil, and any other necessary materials

Honor Each Other

- Students are polite to each other and to adults
- Students comply with reasonable requests from adults

Strive for Success

- Students produce work that demonstrates their skills and abilities
- Students actively participate in classroom activities
- Students come to class with a positive mental attitude

CELL PHONE POLICY:

Students are expected to put away their cell phones, iPods, headphones, and other devices at the beginning of each class and not use them unless otherwise told by Ms. Jones. There may be special circumstances where using a phone is appropriate. Ms. Jones will always let you know when you can use them. If a student chooses not to follow this expectation, they can expect the following consequences:

1st time a cell phone (or other electronic device) is used without permission in class - There will be a warning and a reminder of the expectation to put the phone away.

2nd time - Students will be required to give their phone to Ms. Jones and she will hold on to it for the



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remainder of the class.

3rd time - Students will be required to give their phone to Ms. Jones and she will bring it to the Student Relations Office, where it will stay for the remainder of the day.

All remaining times – The student will work directly with the Student Relations Office and parent involvement will occur.