



AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY Syllabus

ALA Course Name: HIGH SCHOOL SHOW CHOIR (Evolution)
Teacher: Rick Lunt
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Course: HIGH SCHOOL SHOW CHOIR (Evolution)

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Pre-requisites: Audition Only. Junior High show choir highly suggested!

Course Requirements: Materials fee, Costume fee, and Tour fee.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Evolution is ALA's advanced mixed show choir. Composed of more than 50 men and women, 10 tech crew, and a show band of 13, Evolution competes at the highest level, with specially designed sets, best-in-the-business choreography and in-depth vocal nuances that create performances second to none. The course is also designed to apply the musical and vocal skills learned in previous ALA choirs, and is to be taken simultaneously with Concert Choir. Evolution is an audition-only group. Performance and rehearsal demands are high. In addition to regular classes every day, students also have additional rehearsals weekly as deemed necessary by the director. Evolution seeks those who are talented, passionate, dedicated to their craft, and who are willing to put in the extra time and energy to reach the pinnacle of competitive show choir, representing ALA throughout the nation during our competition season, which runs February through April. Tours are included and required in the curriculum, as they provide unique opportunities for significant personal and ensemble musical enhancement, academic growth and life-lasting memories of incredible times with some of your best friends! Auditions are held at the end of each academic year and performance commitments begins in the summer.

II. CLASS PROCEDURES, GUIDELINES, & EXPECTATIONS

Class Procedures:

- Weekly updates will be recorded in Power School each Monday by 10:00 a.m.
- Assessments will be given often to assess current mastery of content.
- See school-wide disclosure for attendance or grading processes.

Class Guidelines:

- Respect the people, furniture, and equipment in the choir room and other rehearsal rooms.

- Do not speak when others are speaking.
- Be prepared and on task always.
- Listen to and follow directions the first time they are given.
- Be in assigned seat with music and pencil when the bell rings.
- Observe all school rules and the dress code in the student handbook.
- Students should demonstrate respect, responsibility, involvement, and appropriate and positive action.

Class Expectations:

- ALL Evolution students are required to live by and adhere to the Show Choir Contract that was signed in May of the previous school year at the Parent Meeting.
- Provide publicity and representation for ALA in our local communities, abroad at state and local events, and national competitions.
- Provide lasting memories and positive relationships by building people.
- Transfer all calendar dates to personal and family calendars.
- Participate in all rehearsals, performances, choir fund-raisers, etc.
- I allow ALA to use any photos, audio recordings, videotapes or films, including internet use, in which I appear as a member of the ALA Choir program without any restrictions. I understand that if I do not wish to grant this permission, I must present this in writing to Mr. Lunt by Sept. 1.
- I understand that even though I may be 16, I am required to travel to and from school functions on the school bus unless prior agreement was made between parent and Mr. Lunt.
- I understand that I am required to pick up every costume, music, instrument, etc. after each class period or concert. Failure to do so will be a loss in Participation Points and items will be placed weekly in the lost and found.
- It is the responsibility of students and parents to pay all financial obligations by the designated due dates.
- I understand that if a student needs special accommodations, (i.e. not reading out loud, needs to sit in the front, etc.) I am expected to email Mr. Lunt regarding the desired accommodations.
- I understand that for whatever reason a student may not be going on tour at the last minute, receiving a full refund is not possible. Unfortunately, your housing, travel, and others fees have already been calculated and paid for and those monies are not refundable to us.

Class rules.

- Respect the people, furniture, and equipment in the choir room and other rehearsal rooms.
- Do not speak when others are speaking.
- Be prepared and on task always.
- Listen to and follow directions the first time they are given.
- Be in assigned seat with music and pencil when the bell rings.
- Observe all school rules and the dress code in the student handbook.
- Do your best daily to assist in achieving our collective goals.

III. FINANCE REQUIREMENTS

Please see the attachment, "Choir Finance Form," online for further information.

- All Show Choir students are required to pay for the designated costume.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be graded on selected items from the State Core Standards included at the end of this document.

V. GRADING SCALE / ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

All choir classes will be graded on a Standard Based Grading scale indicated in the chart below.

GRADING SCALE

Level of Understanding	Letter Grade	What does it mean
4	A	Advanced
3.75	A	I completely understand the concept and can justify my thinking.
3.5	A	
3.25	A	
3	B+	Proficient
2.75	B	I can apply the concept on my own but need more practice to become advanced.
2.5	B-	
2.25	C+	Progressing
2	C	I'm beginning to understand the concept, but I still need help.
1.75	C-	
1.5	D+	Beginning
1.25	D	I'm just beginning to learn the concept, but don't understand the concept yet.
1	D-	
0.75	F	No Evidence
0.5	F	Not event evidence of learning the standard.

- Students must complete the assignment by assigned due date in order to receive full credit. *Assignments more than 4 days late will be ineligible to receive more than 50% credit for work submitted.*
- Students will be given the opportunity to retake tests for two weeks following the original assessment date.
- Retakes are available to students during that 2 week period only after they have demonstrated at least 30 minutes of afterschool tutoring, approved online study, or some other acceptable verification of remediation.

EVIDENCE: (tests, quizzes, projects, assessments, performances, etc.)

- A. Concert Attendance: 50 points each, 40 if late, 25 if excused one week in advance.

1. Each required performance is worth a pre-determined amount of points. If the student attends all performances on time, they will earn all possible points.
 2. All choir members must sign in at each function to receive points. If you are caught signing someone else in, whom is not attending, you will lose all points possible for that event.
 3. Criteria and Points Eared for Concerts, Performances, and Extra Rehearsals
 - On Time for Call Time = .5 points
 - Correct Concert Attire = .5 points
 - Concert Etiquette = 1 points
 - Compelling Performance = 2 points

TOTAL POINTS = 4
 4. Excused Performance Absense
 In the rare circumstance that a student needs to miss a performance, the instructor must receive e-mail notification from a parent/gaurdian at least one week prior to the performance. If the instructor receives adequate notification and the instructor deems the circumstances justified, the student will be eligible to make-up a portion or all of that performance's points by copleted the performance make-up assignment.
 5. Unexcused Performance Absences
 If a student misses a performance without prior notificaiton, the student may not be able to make-up that performance's points and it may result in the student being dismissed from the choir. Of course, the instructor reserves the right to discern when circumstances are emergency situations out of the hands of the student. Nevertheless, the eligibility of the student to make-up points will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- B. Formal Assesements
1. Quizzes may cover classroom procedures, sight-reading, sectionals, music marking, dance checks, singing checks, or choreography. Quizzes must be made up within two weeks of the absence or they will not be able to be made up.
 2. Students will be asked to memorize, perform, and show musical skills of selected repertoire.
 3. Students will receive several quizzes during each term based on music knowledge, music memory, preparation, etc.
- C. Donation Letter Participation
1. Students are required to participate in the Show Choir Donation Letter Fundraiser by providing addresses to send the letters to.
- D. Flier and Poster Distribution
1. Before each major concert, all choir students will be asked to hang fliers around their neighborhood. They simply need to tape them on your neighbors doors. The guardian and student will then sign and return the form and place it in the assigned choir box.
 2. *No points will be given once the concert has passed.*
- E. Choral Enrichment Exercise

1. You must complete one Enrichment Exercise per semester. If you are enrolled in more than one choir, only prepare **one** Enrichment Assignment. All submissions are to be typed and double-spaced and are due one week before the last day of the quarter. Late Enrichment Exercises will only be accepted until the end of that quarter and points will be deducted.
2. Deadline reminders will be discussed in class, as well as on the board. It is the students responsibility to turn these in in a timely manner.

B. PRACTICE: (rehearsal, homework assignments, reading, etc.)

1. Rehearsal Participation

- a. There are two elements of the rehearsal participation score: attendance and rehearsal participation. Students are given 5 points each rehearsal for attendance. The students' rehearsal participation score will be determined by level or participation, their attitude, and their behavior during rehearsals.

b. Daily Choral Self-Participation Evaluation

Point System (Maximum points per day = 16)

The following are additional causes for losing points:

- talking during a rehearsal, putting on makeup, wearing a hat, folder not put away, doing other homework in class, using improper language, costumes left behind, not having a pencil, using a cell phone, or leaning in chair.

c. Making up Rehearsal Participation Points

To make-up excused absences, students must use an Absence Make-up Form available in the Choir Room. The students must complete 30 minutes of private rehearsal with our current repertoire to make-up the absence. In most cases, the student will be able to make-up all the points they missed by being absent, but the instructor reserves the right to reward or to remove points as necessary. Students will have 2-weeks from the day of the absence to make up the points.

d. Sit-Out Day

Students will be allowed one sit-out day per term. He or she will be expected to document the procedures of the class that day and new knowledge that was obtained. Personal meaning and discoveries must be documented. This information should be written in an essay format and will be turned into the teacher at the end of the period. If this information is not turned in, the student will be treated as if he or she were absent. The 2nd time that the student sits out, 5 points will be given for participation that day, 3rd time is 4 points, 4th time is 3 points and so on.

A. GRADING | ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

- a. Competency = 90%
- b. Practice = 10%

VI. CLASS POLICIES AND DRESS/COSTUME CODE

Class Policies:

- Music should be handled with care. During the semester you will be handling a lot of music. It is your responsibility to return the music in the same condition that you received it in or you will be billed \$3.00 per octavo missing.

Costume Expectations:

- See "Choir Finance" attached form. Students pay a Costume Rental Fee!

VII. ELIGIBILITY

- Students must be eligible to participate in all performances.
- Students are expected to be in class prior to and immediately following a performance.
- Students are expected to follow all ALA policies.
- Students must be eligible to participate in all performances.
- Students must have an accumulative GPA of 2.5 from the previous quarter and must maintain the ALA Eligibility expectation. Also, in order to maintain eligibility status, the current grades must be passing.
- For tours, local performances during school time, and region or state events each student must be eligible by the Friday previous to the trip, performance, or state UHSAA event.
- There will be NO MAKE UP for ineligibility the week of the event.
- Should a student not be eligible to participate on tour, the fees are non-refundable.
- Co-curricular activities and concert attendance: Eligibility is a requirement for students attending home concerts at ALA.

VIII. REQUIRED MATERIALS

- **Purchase on your Own:** ONE black, 3-ring, 1" binder, with cover sheet window to put a coversheet in.
- Pencil at each rehearsal.
- For class costume information, see website under "Forms; Wardrobe Instructions."

IX. FINANCE REQUIREMENTS

Please see the attachment, "Choir Finance Plan," online for further information.

- The FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL by the final deadline on March 1st. All choir students are encouraged to sell tickets to designated concerts.
- All choir students will be asked by The Choir Booster Club to participate in their annual Donation Letter Campaign. Each student will be asked to supply 10 addresses of family and friends, both in and out of state, whom they believe would be willing to donate to the ALA Choir Program. Donations over \$100 qualify as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes. Each donor will be listed in our concert programs throughout the year. You are not expected to pay postage.
- Fund Raisers will be provided for those going on tour or that need costume assistance.
- All choir students are encouraged to sell tickets to designated concerts as well as pass out the flyers.
- The Choir Parent Association may ask for assistance with various fundraisers and students going on tour are encouraged to participate.

- There will be fundraisers to assist with show choir fees in which all show choir members are required to participate. (Daddy Daughter Dance, Singing Valentines, and others as indicated.)
- All choir students will be asked by The Choir Booster Club to participate in their annual Donation Letter Campaign. Each student will be asked to supply 10 addresses of family and friends, both in and out of state, whom they believe would be willing to donate to the ALA Choir Program. Donations over \$100 qualify as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes. Each donor will be listed in our concert programs throughout the year. You are not obligated to pay postage.
- Fund Raisers will be provided for those going on tour or that need costume assistance.
- Each Evolution member is required to obtain a Program Sponsor of \$100 or more. The business must provide the add to be placed in our programs.
- Boot Camp Payment is due whether or not you attend.

X. CLASS POLICIES AND DRESS | COSTUME CODE

Class Policies:

- Music should be handled with care. During the semester you will be handling a lot of music. It is your responsibility to return the music in the same condition that you received it in or you will be billed \$3.00 per octavo missing.
- REPERTOIRE SELECTION: Students in ALA Choirs will sing a variety of literature and will experience a wide spectrum of music from the early Renaissance through the 20th Century. By studying these genres one will expect to perform religious music.

It is the position of MENC, The National Association for Music Education, that the study and performance of religious music within an educational context is a vital and appropriate part of an comprehensive music education. The omission of sacred music from the school curriculum would result in an incomplete educational experience.

If one were to attempt to exclude religious music from school performances, one would basically eliminate all the classical church literature. It is the intent of Mr. Lunt and ALA to treat with honor and dignity the rights of all students to worship as they choose according to their own conscience. The study of nondenominational church music will be limited to its musical, historical, and cultural elements. See Mr. Lunt with any questions.

Costume Codes:

- The Concert Choir student owns the dress and tuxedo. Any alterations and cleaning are the responsibility of each individual student.
- If assigned jewelry is lost, you will be required to purchase another set. If jewelry is not worn during a concert, you will not receive full participation points.
- Concert Choir members are required to purchase the required costume as designated online under "Forms" as *Wardrobe Instructions*.

XI. SCHOOL POLICIES AND ELIGIBILITY

Concert Choir students are expected to follow all ALA policies.

Concert Choir students must be eligible to participate in all performances.

- Students must have an accumulative GPA of 2.5 from the previous quarter and not have received 2 "F's." If he/she has 1 "F," it is considered eligible. Also, in order to maintain eligibility status, the current grades must be passing.
- For tours, local performances during school time, and region or state events each student must be eligible by the Friday previous to the trip, performance, or state UHSAA event.
- There will be NO MAKE UP for ineligibility the week of the event.
- Should a student not be eligible to participate on tour, the fees are non-refundable.
- Co-curricular activities and concert attendance: Eligibility is a requirement for students attending home concerts at ALA.

HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC | Core Standards of the Course

(Standards each term will be selected from the following State Core Standards)

Strand: CREATE (L1.MC.CR.)

Students will conceptualize, generate and organize artistic ideas and work. They will complete and refine musical works (Standards L1.MC.CR.1–6).

- **Standard L1.MC.CR.1:**
Listen to and discuss a variety of musical styles and ideas with guidance.
- **Standard L1.MC.CR.2:**
Sing a consequent phrase for a given antecedent phrase.
- **Standard L1.MC.CR.3:**
With guidance, improvise/generate rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic ideas and phrases.
- **Standard L1.MC.CR.4:**
Develop aural skills: intervals, major/minor modality, and rhythmic and melodic dictation.
- **Standard L1.MC.CR.5:**
Develop, organize and notate, with guidance, basic rhythmic and melodic ideas and phrases with guidance.
- **Standard L1.MC.CR.6:**
Evaluate musical ideas, with guidance, and identify and rehearse elements of musical expression that lead to a creative interpretation of a musical work.

Strand: PERFORM (L1.MC.P.)

Students will analyze, interpret and select artistic work for performance. They will develop techniques and concepts to refine artistic work, and express meaning through the presentation of musical works (Standards L1.MC.P.1–7).

- **Standard L1.MC.P.1:**
Select appropriate music, with limited guidance, to perform for a short solo or ensemble performance, and explain why each was chosen.
- **Standard L1.MC.P.2:**
Discuss, with guidance, various elements of a musical work such as form, phrasing, and style.
- **Standard L1.MC.P.3:**
Sing with an appropriate tone over an appropriate range with consideration of the following skills in combination:
 - Vowels and diction
 - Intonation
 - Placement
 - Correct breathing and singing posture
 - Vocal physiology and vocal care
 - Flow phonation
- **Standard L1.MC.P.4:**
Demonstrate technical performance skills by singing correct pitches and rhythms in skill appropriate literature.

- **Standard L1.MC.P.5:**
Demonstrate notational literacy in correctly sight-singing simple melodies, harmonies, and rhythms.
- **Standard L1.MC.P.6:**
Demonstrated productive rehearsal habits, both as an individual and as an ensemble member.
- **Standard L1.MC.P.7:**
Perform an artistic work with technical accuracy, responding appropriately to the conductor and using musical elements to express ideas and emotions.

Strand: RESPOND (L1.MC.R.)

Students will perceive and analyze artistic work and process. They will interpret intent and meaning, and apply criteria to evaluate artistic work and process (**Standards L1.MC.R.1–5**).

- **Standard L1.MC.R.1:**
Respond to a musical performance by identifying the musical elements within a piece and in a given context, discuss their effect on both listener and performer, and exhibit appropriate performance demeanor and audience concert etiquette.
- **Standard L1.MC.R.2:**
Identify and discuss how musical elements are embedded within a musical work to express possible meanings, and consider how the use of musical elements helps predict the composer’s possible intent.
- **Standard L1.MC.R.3:**
Identify and describe, with guidance, the musical and structural elements that contribute to a quality musical work.
- **Standard L1.MC.R.4:**
Identify and describe, with guidance, the technical and musical skills evident in a quality performance.
- **Standard L1.MC.R.5:**
Judge and improve the quality of student’s own musical performance using self-assessment.

Strand: CONNECT (L1.MC.CO.)

Students will synthesize and relate knowledge from personal and collaborative experience to make and receive art. They will relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding (**Standards L1.MC.CO.1–4**).

- **Standard L1.MC.CO.1:**
Examine how music relates to personal development and enjoyment of life.
- **Standard L1.MC.CO.2:**
Self-assess and document personal growth as a musician.
- **Standard L1.MC.CO.3:**
Experience how music connects us to history, culture, heritage, community and to other academic subjects.
- **Standard L1.MC.CO.4:**
Demonstrate and understand, with limited guidance, how musical works are influenced by the composer’s heritage and experiences.



American Leadership Academy
Fine Arts Department
CHOIR

Disclosure Document
EVOLUTION
HIGH SCHOOL SHOW CHOIR

- I allow ALA to use any photo's, audio recordings, videotapes or films, including Internet use, in which I appear as a member of a Evolution without any restriction.
- I agree to abide by all of the above policies and procedures in the Evolution Choir Disclosure Document, which I have read and understand.

Print student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Print Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____

If you are not receiving emails from Mr. Lunt, please provide the emails below:

Student Email: _____

Parent Email: _____

**TURN IN ASSIGNED BOX
IN CHOIR ROOM**