

Lyman IS 7th & 8th Grade Choir Syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVE

Students will learn techniques and skills to create and perform while collaborating with others in a choral setting. They will connect music with history, cultures, and society. This is a participation and performance-based course. Out of school performances are required.

CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

1. Sing
2. No food, drinks (water is acceptable in a clear container), gum, candy, etc.
3. Be in your seat, ready to work, when the bell rings
4. Have your music with a pencil at all times (no pens please)
5. No excessive talking
6. No homework in class
7. No cell phones or other electronic devices

GRADE BREAKDOWN

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| • 93.5% - 100% A | • 76.5% - 79.4% C+ |
| • 89.5% - 93.4% A- | • 73.5% - 76.4% C |
| • 86.5% - 89.4% B+ | • 69.5% - 73.4% C- |
| • 83.5% - 86.4% B | • 69.4% & below F |
| • 79.5% - 83.4% B- | |

GRADING

Assignments, Evaluations, etc. – 2%

Daily Participation – 49%

Concert Attendance & Behavior – 49%

ASSIGNMENTS, EVALUATIONS, etc. (2%):

Every music class will have class specific items that will account for **two percent** of the student's grade. These items may include clinic/festival participation, other performances, other performance tests, post-concert evaluations, theory assignments, etc.

DAILY PARTICIPATION (49%):

The participation grade will comprise **forty-nine percent** of the student's semester grade and is based primarily upon an individual's classroom behavior and that individual's ability to follow classroom rules and directions. Students will receive **nine points per quarter** for their participation grade. Failure to perform any of the aforementioned will result in a one-point deduction from the original nine points. Also, please note that students will be charged for lost or damaged music.

CONCERT/PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE (49%)

Performances make up **forty-nine percent** of the student's trimester grade. Grading will be based on concert behavior, attire, and attendance. (See pg. 3 for behavior expectations.) Missing a performance will result in a "0" for that event. Please notify Mr. Willie of any conflicts by Sep 1st. In the case of extreme illness, please call as soon as possible **before** the performance, even if school is missed on the day of a performance. Work is not and will not be considered an excuse for missing a concert or performance. Students are responsible for the following performances:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Fall Concert – Oct 16 | • Winter Concert – Feb 12 |
| • Christmas Concert – Dec 17 | • JH Musical – May 12-13 (7 pm) |

Other Dates to Consider:

- Advanced MS Interscholar Clinic (EMS in Evanston) – Oct 24
- Pre-Festival Recitals – Mar 24 & 25
- Young Musicians Solo Festival (EMS in Evanston) – Mar 28
- HS Choral Auditions - *May 18-22

**Auditions will take place in class throughout the week. Additional auditions will take place on that Friday, via sign-up.*

CONCERT ATTIRE

All male choir members will wear a collared shirt and tie, slacks (no jeans), dark socks, and dress shoes (preferably dark in color; no tennis shoes); while women must have dresses or skirts, knee-length and below. Additionally, all concert attire must comply with school dress code policies.

MUSICAL

Every spring, during the second semester, the 7th & 8th Grade Choir will combine with the LIS Theatre class to produce a musical. Almost all rehearsals for this musical will take place during class. However, as the performance draws near, additional dress rehearsals will be scheduled outside of class in order to provide the necessary rehearsal time to successfully get through a full-length Junior High play. Though we will do our best to limit the amount of time students will be required to rehearse outside of class, **attendance at these extra rehearsals is mandatory and will affect students' grades.** Students and parents will be notified of dates and times of these rehearsals as they draw nearer. Also, please note that producing a musical of this caliber is a costly and time-consuming endeavor, and students will not always be provided with necessary props, costumes, makeup, etc. As a result, students may be asked, at times, to provide their own props or costumes, and having them on time will also affect students' grades.

MAKE-UP POLICY

Any lost points in any of the aforementioned categories can be made up in one of two different ways. For more information on our make-up policy, please visit the department website, shown below.

CHORUS ONLINE

Please visit the Music Department's website for additional information regarding chorus classes at LIS:



(<https://jessewillie0.wixsite.com/mrwillie>)

Or, simply go to the District website, click on "Students," then "Music Department Website."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Jesse E. Willie".

Mr. Jesse Willie
williej@lymanschools.org – e-mail
786-4100 ext. 6112 – phone
307-600-3040 – cell

Uinta County School District #6
Lyman Intermediate School
P.O. Box 1090
Lyman, WY 82937

The Seven Rules of Concert Etiquette (for performers)

1. **Refrain from talking**
The first and greatest rule. It also includes whispering during the music.
2. **Please tap fingers or feet quietly**
The musicians do not need your help, and your neighbors need silence. Learn to tap your toes quietly inside your shoes—it's a good exercise to reduce toe fat.
3. **Please have nothing in your mouth, besides your teeth and tongue**
Gum and candy are not allowed.
4. **Do not flip hair, wear watches with alarms, or jangle jewelry**
Not only does this send the impression that you don't care, but the added percussion is disturbing to everyone around you.
5. **Do not sigh with boredom**
If you are in agony, keep it to yourself. Your neighbor just may be in ecstasy, which should also be kept under control.
6. **Do not wave to your parents (or anybody else) during the concert**
After all, they do know who you are, and they know you are there; they most likely brought you to the concert.
7. **Do not read nor play with a toy in your pocket**
To listen means just that. Use the time to turn on a "video screen" in your mind and create a story to the music.

The Eleven Rules of Concert Etiquette (for audience members)

1. **Refrain from talking**
This is the first and greatest rule. This rule includes whispering to or talking to your neighbor.
2. **Refrain from unwrapping noisy candy wrappers during the performance**
If the composer wanted to include crinkly paper noises to the music, he/she would have written it into the parts.
3. **Do not open and close your purse nor rip open your velcro wallet**
The best plan is to leave purses, etc., back at school or on the locked bus.
4. **Turn off pagers, cell phones, and watch alarms**
While many phones and pagers now have very symphonic-like rings, they don't always fit into the musical score, nor do they provide pleasant sounds for your neighbors.
5. **Do not wave to (or make faces at) your friends or siblings during the concert**
They, too, know you are here. You can talk to them after the concert is over.
6. **Do not take flash photography**
You don't want anyone to walk off the edge of the stage from flash blindness, do you?
7. **Please do not walk down the center aisle with your video camera**
Video cameras work just as well from the back of the auditorium (besides; the light is usually not good enough for video taping anyway.)
8. **Do not leave as soon as your portion of the concert is over**
All of the students deserve a full audience for their performances. Remember, next time your song could be last!
9. **Applaud at appropriate times**
Some music has several sections. Remember, it's not over until all of the sections have been performed.
10. **Do not leave the auditorium during the music**
Wait for a break in the concert to visit the restroom or to do anything else that probably isn't all that important anyway. The same goes for re-entering the auditorium, as well.
11. **Do not wander around the performing venue**
There's a reason concessions aren't sold outside the auditorium. One of those reasons is to prevent children from running in and out during the performance. Pick a seat, stay there, and only get up during emergencies.

THE GOLDEN RULE

Do not embarrass your teacher, your parents, or your school; a/k/a DON'T BE STUPID

Remember that you are representing your school, and you want to be on your best behavior. There are many eyes looking at you both on stage and in the audience.