

# Marina High School Choir & Vocal Music Program

## Distance Learning Syllabus

### 2020 – 2021

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY

You will be expected to attend our daily meetings (via Zoom/Google Meet/Other) **on time**, unless told otherwise. Please make sure you know when the bell schedule is, and what time you must be logged into our daily videoconferencing. Absences will result in 0 points for the missed class period.

If you cannot make a rehearsal or class session, it is expected for you to email Mr. Graham ([egraham@hbuhds.edu](mailto:egraham@hbuhds.edu)) or send him a message in *Remind*.

#### MATERIALS

It is expected that students will have the following materials:

1. Chromebook or a computer with camera and video capability
2. Access to Canvas
3. A clean place to record and rehearse
4. An open heart and mind to new things and new ways of performing.
5. Access to a USB microphone would be beneficial to improving the quality of audio recordings that you submit. However, this is not a requirement.

#### DAILY VIDEO CONFERENCING ETIQUETTE

1. To respect the safety and privacy of all students, students and their families **should not** record or take pictures of videoconference meetings that are attended by other students.
2. All school rules also apply online. This includes our guidelines for cyberbullying and discriminatory behaviors and comments while working digitally.
3. Where **school appropriate** clothes when visible on video.
4. Respect the time of others while distance learning. Wake up on time, stay attentive as much as possible, turn in assignments on time, and maintain academic honesty.
5. Being disrespectful to other students or to the adult(s) in the room will not be permitted. This includes giving spiteful or vindictive looks, blurting out or muttering inappropriate comments, using foul language, being argumentative, or social media inappropriateness.
6. Be respectful and kind in ALL of your interactions, especially when you do not agree with the person. Be kind and respectful when in person, in Zoom, in Zoom chat and on social media.
7. Practice good social skills online. Greet people as the meeting begins and say thank you/goodbye when the meeting ends. Be as polite and respectful towards others as you would in a face to face meeting.
8. Realize that there might be some delay from computer to computer, so don't interrupt and give some space between speakers.
9. The chat should be used to ask questions or clarifications, which may be especially important for your teacher to see. Be considerate with what you post, and ask questions if you have them.
10. Digitally raise your hand to be called on by the moderator or your teacher before speaking. This can be done by clicking on the "participants" box, which will then open up a list of everyone in the meeting. Find your name and hover to the right, you will see the hand icon there.
11. Be mindful of the surrounding environment. Have a clean, uninteresting background to ensure everyone can remain focused on the meeting.
12. Consider the angle of your camera when you are on video. If possible, consider adjusting the light in your surrounding area so you do not appear too dark or too bright.
13. Whenever possible, have your camera on, use headphones, and join meetings from inside your home.

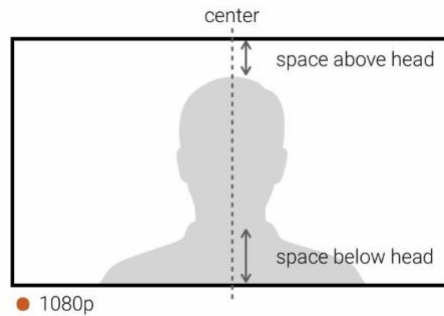
14. Close all unnecessary applications during your Zoom meetings so all processing power can be used to maximize the quality of your Zoom session.
15. When possible, use a computer, not a phone - so you can access documents.
16. Please do not text or message during a video conference, unless told otherwise.
17. Please keep an open line of communication with your teachers about online learning. If you have questions or feedback about your online learning experiences, please send me an email and we'll figure it out!

### **PERFORMANCE AUDIO RECORDING GUIDELINES**

1. Listen to your surroundings, can you hear the refrigerator buzzing? Is there a noisy air conditioner in your room? How about a fan? Traffic outside? Try to make your space as quiet as possible.
2. Try to be in a room that dampens sound. A bedroom, a closet or the living room would work best. **DO NOT record in the bathroom**; hard surfaces create sound reflections that will affect your recording.
3. **Listen back to the entire recording before you submit it.** I cannot stress how important this is. I know that you don't want to listen to yourself but you have to. There could be a weird loud noise, like a strange humming, that could occur in the middle of the recording that you didn't notice. If you submit that recording for virtual choir, it will be unusable.
4. It might take a few takes to get the recording right, and that is ok! Even the best musicians in the world do more than one take when they are recording in the studio.

### **PERFORMANCE VIDEO RECORDING GUIDELINES**

1. Please know that you will be expected to turn in performance videos to assess performance curriculum until we are back to in-person learning. All of the instructions to create videos will be available in Canvas.
2. Please find a clean and quiet place to record and rehearse. This can range from having a corner in your bedroom, to in front of your bedroom, door, to being outside under an awning with extra lighting. You should have minimal distractions around you. When you are filming for projects, try to make sure that your background is a solid color. Use a wall or put up a sheet to help you with this. Also make sure the color of your top is not the same as the background or you will look like a floating head.
3. For filming, make sure that you pay attention to details that are given to you by the director.
4. It is good practice to do a quick test recording and check that you are positioned in the center of the frame with some space above and below your head, and that your voice is clear.
5. After starting the recording, look at the camera for 2 seconds before starting to sing. After you finish, look at the camera for 5 seconds before ending the recording.
6. Your camera or phone should be as still as possible, not hand-held. Use a tripod or prop the device up against an object so that it doesn't move. The camera/phone should be about an arms length away. If you are using your phone, it is better to use the **main phone camera**, not the selfie camera. The main camera has better quality.
7. Film in WIDESCREEN and the resolution setting is at least 1080p.



8. If you are using sheet music, make sure that the sheet music is still at eye-level.
9. Headphones/Airpods are going to be needed for recording with multiple people. Solo singing with an accompaniment track can be done without headphones. Test the levels of the microphone with the accompaniment track and your singing voice by recording multiple times and reviewing.

### EXTRA REHEARSALS

In preparation for some performances and concerts, students in all choirs may have afternoon rehearsals, as needed. These extra rehearsals will be on the calendar (see online at [www.marinavocalmusic.com](http://www.marinavocalmusic.com)). Extra rehearsals are mandatory and it is a part of the student's grade that they attend and participate as long as at least 2 weeks notice has been given.

### GRADING CRITERIA

Daily ensemble contribution	10 points each day
Singing/Written Assignments/Tests	Varied
Music First Assignments/Tests	Varied
Concert Videos	100 points
Final Exam	To be determined

### GRADING WEIGHT

Daily Video Conferencing Attendance	40%
Digital Solo/Collaborative Assignments	20%
Music First Assignments	20%
Virtual Performance Videos	10%
Final Exam	10%

### GRADING SCALE

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F