

**MUSIC
FORM 4
2024-2025 Syllabus**



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PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE:

According to the Westminster Catechism, “man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever.” A key way of fulfilling this teleological calling is through the mode of worship. Indeed, it is through communal worship that we are able to give God the praise he is due and to mediate upon his everlasting goodness, faithfulness, and beauty. Through worship, we use our bodies as instruments of praise for our Creator, ascribing to him glory and honor via an embodied faith. Further, by singing together as a group, we proclaim our identity as the united Body of Christ. For this reason, the end of music at SBH is to provide a space and time for students to learn, practice, and perform singing as a structured, unified, and effective whole. Put simply, we sing because God commands it, because it is a common artistic birthright as humans, and because we can serve our brothers and sisters in Christ through our combined voices. Thus, the greatest purpose of this class is to glorify and enjoy God through learning to sing individually and corporately with greater beauty, clarity, and musicality.

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the role and function of singing in our societies in the light of the Gospel.
- To gain confidence and skill in our individual voices, so that no student’s voice is missing from the chorus.
- To gain a sense of unity as a choir, a body of people come together to sing as one.
- To serve the SBH family through various performances and gatherings and to perform in these contexts with humbleness and a high degree of excellence.
- To learn the rudiments of music theory and score reading as they apply to singing in choir.

PARTICIPATION:

Student participation is required in class each day for full credit. Classroom expectations are as follows:

- Students must always respect their instructor, just as the instructor will always endeavor to treat the students with fairness. Students should utilize, not waste, classroom time.
- Students are expected to attend and participate in all performances. Performances this year will include the Christmas Program and a Spring Performance.
- Students should treat the classroom with respect, cleaning up any messes and behaving with a proper level of decorum.

MATERIALS:

Students should plan to come to class each day with the following supplies: a pencil for Music class (when required) and a joyful attitude.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

In conjunction with parents/guardians, Saint Benedict Hall has the goal of developing not only habits of good scholarship and critical inquiry, but the virtues of courtesy, promptness, forgiveness, self-control, responsibility, diligence, courage, generosity, and magnanimity. Good behavior is expected of all students and will not be specially rewarded at school. Rather, it should be its own reward in the esteem earned from teachers and fellow students.

The classroom is a communal meeting place founded on mutual respect where the joy of learning is cultivated and the love of Christ is reflected. Student behavior should align with this philosophy. When behavior fails to do so, the instructor will first invest in a conversation with the student using love and logic, as well as the tenets set forth by the class creed below, and proceed from there using the disciplinary guidelines set forth in the SBH Program Handbook.