

UC RECOMMENDED COURSEWORK FOR VOCAL MUSIC MAJOR (This is a **sample** schedule that exceeds the UC A-G recommendations)

	Freshmen Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
English	English I acc.	English II acc.	AP Language	AP Literature
Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
Science	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	N/A
History	N/A	AP European History	AP US History	Civics Economics
World Lang.	World Language	World Language	World Language	N/A
PE/Elective	PE*	PE*	Drama*	AP Music Theory
Elective	Choir	Choir	Choir	Choir
7th Period (Optional)	Sport/Musical Theater*	Sport/Musical Theater*	Sport/Musical Theater*	Sport/Musical Theater*

*See Notes - Section 2

Notes:

1. The above is a sample schedule. Refer to your academic advisor to see how these courses work in your personal 4 year plan. 2. Students need to take 4 years of Choir, one year of Drama, and one year of AP Music Theory to meet the conservatory requirements. Students may substitute the year of Drama with a year of Musical Theater for equivalent credit.
3. Dance counts for PE credit. Because PE is mandatory for freshman, dance can be taken this year. Drama/Musical Theater MAY count as PE credit depending on which musical is chosen and how strong the dance requirements are. Check with your academic advisor to see if musical theater can be your PE requirement during your Sophomore-Senior years.
4. The most impacted years are usually Sophomore and Junior year. Therefore, students may have to utilize a 0 period to fit in additional electives. 5. Health and CCP are not listed in this example. They must be taken during the summer either before or after their Freshmen year in the above scenario. Different scenarios may allow for CCP and health to be taken during the regular school year.
6. Adjustments to this schedule can be made to this model. For example, you may choose to take 4 years of a world language, or you may choose to take your 3 years of world language through grades 10-12 instead of 9-11. There are also options to take a foreign language through a community college (with some restrictions). Depending on the level of math you begin with, 3 years may be sufficient to be highly competitive. You may want to take a 4th year of science or take some at an AP level. The model above acts as just a guide with many options still available to you.
7. The schedule above exceeds the UC requirements for admission. It was designed for those seeking an extraordinarily competitive schedule for all universities. It includes 5 AP classes (6 if one of the math classes is AP calculus or AP statistics), and you can certainly add AP classes in foreign language, civics, economics, and science if you wish. Many students' schedules will look different than the one above. This was provided to you so you could see that the music conservatory course work can fit with the most rigorous of schedules.

The purpose of this schedule is to show that you can participate in the Performing Arts Conservatory and still fit an incredibly challenging academic schedule. Every family needs to decide for themselves what 'competitive' means. Obviously, if your 4 year plan allows for less rigor, more flexibility is available to you. As always, please schedule a meeting with your academic advisor when determining the 4 year plan that works best for your family.

SJHHS Performing Arts Conservatory – Vocal Music Emphasis (Updated for 2025-2026 Academic Year)

- Core Classes
 - Choral Music
 - 4 years of enrollment in choir/double enrollment does not apply
 - Drama
 - 1 year of enrollment in Drama or a Musical Production is required (or participate in equivalent opportunities - must be pre-approved by Mr. Ushino)
 - AP Music Theory
 - 1 year of enrollment is required
 - If unable to complete AP Music Theory, students will be required to take equivalency exams
- Performance Requirements
 - Informal/Formal Performance - Art Songs/Arias/Jazz Standard/Show Tune
 - 1 performances per semester – must utilize different languages
 - Juries
 - Once per Semester [Junior and Senior Year only once per year]
 - Recitals/Opera Scenes
 - Junior and Senior year. All solo/chamber recitals are mandatory.
 - Sophomores may qualify for recital performance through exceptional performances in their Fall Semester Juries
 - Masterclasses
 - Students will be expected to attend and participate with Masterclasses as scheduled
- Skill-Based Requirements
 - Theory
 - Musical terminology, note names, rhythmic values, key signatures, intervals, circle of fifths, figured bass, and chord identification
 - Ear Training
 - Interval identification and chord identification
 - Sight-Singing [Required for higher level ensemble auditions]
 - Students must demonstrate proficiency with sight-singing on solfege in two octaves with varying key and time signatures
 - Piano Proficiency
 - All 12 diatonic major scales, 3 forms of diatonic minor scales, whole tone scale, pentatonic scale, basic open score sight-reading, 4-part grand staff sight-reading, triads, and 7th chords
- Other Requirements
 - Lessons
 - Students must receive lessons and prepare their solo classical repertoire with the requirements listed below (see Repertoire Binder)
 - Lessons and voice teachers will be assigned by Conservatory Director(s)
 - Outside teachers may be permitted to be used as long as conservatory requirements are met
 - Not recommended to have multiple voice instructors concurrently
 - Repertoire Binder
 - Repertoire learned must include art songs/arias in English, Italian, French, German (minimum 5 pieces at program completion)
 - Each piece must have a 1 page write up on the piece history and context
 - Additionally translations and International Phonetic Alphabet for each piece is expected

- Professional Concert Attendance
 - Attend 1 per year – one write-up (Free opportunities available)
- Honor Groups/Youth Ensembles
 - Must audition for SCVA and ACDA honor choirs (or participate in equivalent opportunities - must be pre-approved by Mr. Ushino)
- Community Service
 - Required 10 hours per year service through arts agencies such as VSA, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, local retirement homes
- Auditions
 - Applicants must be between Sophomore and Junior years of High School
 - Applicants must perform a classical art song of their choice or equivalent from memory for their audition
- Qualifications
 - Grades
 - To be eligible, students must receive A's in all core academy classes [minimum of a B in AP Music Theory]
 - Students must also maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0
 - Transfer Students
 - Certain requirements may be waived only if equivalent credit is presented to the Academy Leadership Committee – Exceptions will only be granted for special circumstances