

Course Overview Foundations of Vocal

Content Area: **Performing Arts**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **35 weeks**
Status: **Published**

School Mission Statement

The mission of Chartertech is to provide artists the opportunity to blend principles of artistic expression with cutting-edge technology, so artists will excel in academic, career, and civic pursuits and contribute to the harmony and productivity of the 21st century.

Artistic integration: Performing arts will be accessible to all artists as a skill and content area and will serve as a vehicle for imparting, enlivening, and motivating excellence in all academic topics, as well as providing a platform for learning multicultural appreciation and empathy, not just tolerance.

Technological integration: Technology will serve as the foundation for instructional delivery systems leading to knowledge acquisition, concept understanding, and skill mastery in all academic subjects. Technology will not be studied as a separate entity but infused into the very fabric of educational pursuits, exactly as it occurs in the business world. Artists will be prepared to compete in the modern workplace or post-secondary institution.

"Education has always been torn between vocational and utilitarian purposes on one hand and creative and holistic purposes on the other... We are rapidly entering a world that is hard to imagine. By developing the problem-solving skills, creativity, and discipline required in the arts, artists can prepare for life in the 21st century."

From Understanding How the Arts Contribute to Excellent Education

National Endowment for the Arts, 1991

School Goals

Goals for Arts Education:

Artists will learn the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to turn their passions and gifts in the arts into vocations or serious avocations.

Objective 1: Each year, each artist will take two semesters (10 credits) of career-oriented training (80 minutes per day) in their artistic major.

Objective 2: Each marking period, each artist will perform or produce frequently, in diverse settings and for diverse audiences.

Objective 3: Artistic instruction will be integrated into the study of all academic subjects.

Objective 4: Each year, each artist will complete at least twenty after-school “lab” hours in their artistic major. These will constitute career-oriented service to the school and/or community, and demonstrate accomplishment of the NJCCCS crosscutting workplace readiness standards.

Goal for Technology:

Chartertech will model the technology-intense workplace and artists will be able to compete successfully and perform well in a technology-intense workplace.

Objective 5: Each artist will routinely use technology in a workplace-like manner to acquire, analyze, communicate, and present information in every subject.

Objective 6: Each artist will have access to a computer every day, every class so that automated sources will be the main conduit for educational content.

Objective 7: All administrative and instructional functions of the school will be supported by the most modern technology available.

Goals for Academic Achievement:

Artists will apply themselves in the serious pursuit of knowledge and skills, especially skills in critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and communication.

Objective 8: Each year, and to be promoted to the next grade each artist will pass five credits in English, Health, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and PE/Health. Between grades 9-12 artists will also complete 1 year of Spanish.

Objective 9: In each academic subject, each year, each artist will complete a significant project that involves critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and communication skills, and which demonstrates cross-content workplace readiness skills.

Objective 10: Each year artists will develop a artist resume to guide his/her academic and artistic studies and to document his/her academic and artistic accomplishments. This work will be done under the mentorship of the faculty in the artist’s artistic major.

Objective 11: Academic instruction in all subjects will be highly cross-curricular, in accordance with curricula design and continuously improved by teachers, in compliance with the New Jersey Artist Learning Standards.

Course Description

Course Title:	Foundations of Vocal
Department:	Arts
Prerequisite:	85 or higher on a written and performed skills assessment
Number of Credits:	5
Grade Level(s):	9-12

Standards:	Aligned to New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards: Visual and Performing Arts and National Career Ready Practices
Description of Course	The Vocal department at Chartertech teaches every Artist how to be the best musician possible. At the Foundations level, each Artist receives a full range of instruction in vocal technique, music theory and history, sight singing, ear training, piano, beginning songwriting, and music recording/technology. There are many performance opportunities ranging from solos/duets and small ensembles, to full concert choir. All genres of music are studied and performed in our Vocal department. Our goal is to prepare these Artists for the Intermediate Vocal class or Advanced Vocal; and subsequently, college auditions and careers in vocal music.

Overview & Pacing

Unit #	Major Content	Expected Time
1	Linear Pitch	Approximately 8 weeks
2	Piano/Keyboard Knowledge	Approximately 35 weeks (ongoing)
3	Rhythms	Approximately 8 weeks
4	Proper Use of the Circle of Fifths	Approximately 15 weeks (ongoing)
5	Music Vocabulary	Approximately 35 weeks (ongoing)
6	Linear Melody	Approximately 15 weeks (ongoing)
7	Harmony	Approximately 15 weeks (ongoing)
8	Transposition	Approximately 8 weeks
9	Music Appreciation/ Individual Vocal Instruction	Approximately 35 weeks (ongoing)
10	Technology Integration	Approximately 35 weeks (ongoing)