

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
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COURSE SYLLABUS

DEPARTMENT: MUSIC

COURSE PREFIX: MUS COURSE NUMBER: 302.01

CREDIT HOURS: 2

- I. **TITLE:** Choral Methods

- II. **CATALOG:** Methods, materials and pedagogy related to the teaching of choral music in the elementary, junior high/middle school and senior high school choirs. Students must be of junior standing. Required for all music education majors. Vocal Proficiency must be successfully completed. Prerequisite: MUS 123 and 134.

- III. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
The student will:
 1. Design and plan Kentucky Academic Standards and national content standards-aligned music instruction at a variety of grade levels.
 2. Develop a working philosophy of choral music based on pragmatic skills;
 3. Demonstrate effective teaching through video-taped teaching practicums and on-demand task assessments;
 4. Be able to discuss potential classroom management strategies;
 5. Be able to demonstrate an understanding of sequential music learning through appropriately planned rehearsals;
 6. Develop a packet of materials for use in the academic justification and promotion of choral music programs to school administrations and parents.

- IV. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**
 1. What do we teach?
 - A. Curriculum Development
 - B. Expression
 - C. Style Characteristics
 - D. Sight-reading
 - E. Teaching Singing
 - F. Voice Change – Male
 - G. Voice Change – Female
 - H. Middle School Voices

 2. How do we teach?
 - A. Research-based teaching strategies
 - B. Choral Lesson Plans

3. Preparing to Teach Choir
 - A. Score Preparation
 - B. The Teaching Unit
 - C. Marking the Score
 - D. Rhythmic Diction
 - E. Auditions
 - F. Seating Arrangements
 - G. Repertory
 - H. The Rehearsal

- III. Assessment
 - A. Terms
 - B. Testing Instruments
 - C. Grading

V. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:** Lecture, teaching practicums, on-demand task assessments, observations, portfolio, and choral style characteristics and repertory lists.

VI. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:** The students will complete two (2) field observations, 2 on-demand task assessments, and 3 teaching practicums.

- VII. **TEXT(s) and RESOURCES:**
- a. **MUS 302: Choral Methods Course Pack.** Bradley L. Almquist, 2014.
 - b. Various handouts, selected repertoire from MSU choral library and articles from appropriate professional journals.
 - c. SDHC Card for digital recording practicums

- VIII. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**
1. Completion of all On-Demand Task Assessments (300 points): (see grade sheet for descriptions).
 2. Two Observations (50 points)
 3. Portfolio (50 points): Portfolios should be maintained during the semester. They should be kept as up-to-date as possible and be neatly and efficiently organized. They should include all class notes; observations; on-demand tasks; handouts; and other appropriate materials.
 4. Class Attendance (100 points) as per grade sheet

IX. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current MSU Bulletins. Attendance for this class is mandatory. Each student will be allowed 1 (one) unexcused absence from class. Any student will fail the class if she/he misses over 25% of the class meetings regardless of reason.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Equal Opportunity. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon

request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. In particular and without limiting the preceding and pursuant to and consistent with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its regulations 34 CFR 100 et seq.; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its regulations 34 CFR 104; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 1681 et seq., and its regulations 34 CFR 106 et seq; and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and its regulations 34 CFR 110, Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its educational programs and activities. This non-discrimination in education programs and activities extends to employment and admissions and to recruitment, financial aid, academic programs, student services, athletics, and housing. Murray State is required by Title IX and 34 CFR part 106 not to discriminate on the basis of sex and the prohibition against sex discrimination specifically includes a prohibition of sexual harassment and sexual violence. For more information contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access/ Murray State University Title IX Coordinator, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071 Telephone: (270) 809-3155 Fax: (270) 809-6887; TDD: (270) 809-3361; Email: msu.titleix@murraystate.edu

Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889(TDD).

About Field Observations

1. About field experiences:
 - Observations: *Form in this packet*
 - Students must observe two **choral rehearsals** (not performances). One must be of Dr. Almquist and the Paducah Symphony Children's Chorus. The chorus meets Thursday evenings 6-7:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church, Paducah. The other may be of a middle school or high school in the area. A schedule will be provided to you of area rehearsals. A church choir rehearsal will not be accepted.
 - Plan ahead and contact the teacher you would like to observe *in advance*.
 - Form must be completed and turned within 3 days following the observation.

GRADE SHEET: MUS 302: Choral Methods

Fall 2016

Grade Sheet must be turned in on the last day of class or a failing grade will be recorded.

NAME: _____ Student # _____

1. ON-DEMAND TASKS: (300 points) _____

- 1. Choral Warm-up (50) _____
 - a. (10)
 - b. (10)
 - c. (10)
 - d. (10)
 - e. (10)

3. Music Literacy I (15) _____

4. Music Literacy II (15) _____

(Examinations)

5. Mid-Term Exam (100) _____

6. Final Exam (120) _____

2. OBSERVATIONS: (50 points) _____

1 completed _____

2 completed _____

3. PORTFOLIO: (50 points) _____

Instructor Assigned

4. ATTENDANCE: (100 points) _____

0-1 Absence: 100 points

2-3 excused absences: 50 points

More than 3 absences: 0 points

More than 7 absences: Failure of the class

Total: _____

Grade Earned: _____

Signature of Student

A = 500 - 450 points

B = 449 - 400 points

C = 399 - 350 points

D = 349 - 300 points

E = 299 and less