I. TITLE: Choral Methods

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES: 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. Prerequisite(s): MUS 123 and 134

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES: The student will
A. develop a working philosophy of choral music based on pragmatic skills;
B. demonstrate effective teaching through video-taped teaching practicums and on-demand task assessments;
C. be able to discuss potential classroom management strategies;
D. be able to demonstrate an understanding of sequential music learning through appropriately planned rehearsals; and
E. 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:
A. What do we teach?
   1. Curriculum Development
   2. Expression
   3. Style Characteristics
   4. Sight-reading
   5. Teaching Singing
      a. Voice Change – Male
      b. Voice Change – Female
      c. Middle School Voices
B. How do we teach?
   1. Research-based teaching strategies
   2. Choral Lesson Plans
      a. Preparing to Teach Choir
      b. Score Preparation
   3. The Teaching Unit
   4. Marking the Score
   5. Rhythmic Diction
   6. Auditions
   7. Seating Arrangements
   8. Repertory
   9. The Rehearsal
C. Assessment
   1. Terms
2. Testing Instruments
3. 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. TEXTS and RESOURCES:
MUS 302: Choral Methods Course Pack,
Various handouts, selected repertoire from MSU choral library and articles from appropriate professional journals.
SDHC Card for digital recording practicums.

VIII. GRADING PROCEDURES:
A. Completion of all On-Demand Task Assessments (300 points): (see grade sheet for descriptions. No late assignments will be accepted.
B. Two Observations (50 points)
C. 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.
D. 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 Bulletin. 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.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

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. For more information, contact the Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Diversity (IDEA), Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

**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).