

**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

**DEPARTMENT of MUSIC
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Prefix and Number: MU 2731

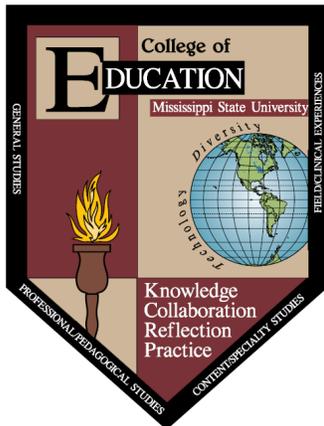
Course Title: Chamber Singers

Credit Hours: One (1) Hour

Course Type: Dir Ex Study/Pract/Co-Op/Intern

Catalogue Description: This course meets one to five rehearsals per week. The course explores the study and performance of significant choral literature. This course may be repeated for credit more than once.

College of Education Conceptual Framework:



The faculty in the College of Education at Mississippi State University are committed to assuring the success of students and graduates by providing superior learning opportunities that are continually improved as society, schools, and technology change. The organizing theme for the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State University is educational professionals - dedicated to continual improvement of all students' educational experiences. The beliefs that guide program development are as follows:

1. **KNOWLEDGE** - Educational professionals must have a deep understanding of the organizing concepts, processes, and attitudes that comprise their chosen disciplinary knowledge base, the pedagogical knowledge base, and the pedagogical content knowledge base. They must also know how to complement these knowledge bases with the appropriate use of technology.
2. **COLLABORATION** - Educational professionals must continually seek opportunities to work together, learn from one another, forge partnerships, and assume positions of responsibility.
3. **REFLECTION** - Educational professionals must be willing to assess their own strengths and weaknesses through reflection. They must also possess the skills, behaviors, and attitudes necessary to learn, change, and grow as life-long learners.
4. **PRACTICE** - Educational professionals must have a rich repertoire of research-based strategies for instruction, assessment, and the use of technologies. They must be able to focus that array of skills on promoting authentic learning by all students or clients, while exhibiting an appreciation and commitment to the value and role of diversity.

Course Objectives:**InTASC & CFPO
Standards
Correlations**

1.	Students will gain basic knowledge and skill in vocal pedagogy and diction.	InTASC #4
2.	Students will learn ensemble techniques and representative repertoire in both large and small musical ensembles and reflect on the differences	InTASC #4; CFPO #4
3.	Students will gain basic knowledge and understanding of historical choral musical styles, compositional techniques, and performance practices of the Post Common-Practice Period (1900-present), and those between 1600-1850.	CFPO #2, 11
4.	Students will gain a basic understanding of our global world cultures in music, history, and society.	InTASC #3; CFPO #2, 11
5.	Students will develop individual performing skills to include toned production, breath management, intonation, and expressive qualities.	InTASC #5
6.	Students will develop musical and technical skills and analytical judgments appropriate to perform selected literature.	CFPO #4
7.	Students will demonstrate of musical performance styles for community, school, parents, and the university at large.	InTASC #10; CFPO #1

Topics to Be Covered:

1. Ensemble Singing Skills (Daily – 3 hours 40 minutes per week)
 - A. Balance
 - B. Intonation
 - C. Style
 - D. Precision
 - E. Breath and Resonance
 - F. Diction
 - G. Expressive Qualities (crescendo, decrescendo, forte, mezzo, legato, etc...)
2. Performance Skills (Daily – 3 hours 40 minutes per week)
 - A. Attention to the conductor
 - B. Appropriate body alignment
 - C. Proper/Appropriate Facial Expression
 - D. Understanding of Riser Chart
 - E. Proper processional conduct

Required Texts: *(See Repertoire List)*

Recommended Texts: *(See Repertoire List)*

Methods of Instruction:

1. Instruction will be in the traditional conductor/ensemble style. **CFPO #6**
2. Student Leadership will be used to assist instruction. **InTASC #2**
3. Music preparation will be led by choral conductor and assisted by section leaders.

Suggested Student Activities:

1. Group warm-up and processional routines in class **InTASC #5 (Objective: 5)**
2. Chart-reading and interpretation. **InTASC #6**
3. Execution of music **CFPO #7**
4. The concert will perform two public performances **InTASC #8**

MSU Honor Code:

The Student Honor Code Council Office is responsible for coordinating efforts to promote academic integrity and to reduce and control academic dishonesty. The Office oversees all activities of the Student Honor Code Council to include the coordination of students and faculty training on academic integrity/dishonesty, the management, and organization of all procedural requirements of adjudicating academic misconduct, and the promotion of academic integrity.

The Student Honor Code Office is the central office maintaining records and providing assistance with academic integrity cases. Any member of the university community should call the Student Honor Code Office staff for clarification and assistance with a

"As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do."

For additional information please visit: <http://www.honorcode.msstate.edu>.

Technology:

Limited technology will be utilized, however when available reputable audio recordings will be played during rehearsal in order to grasp an aural idea of the tone/style

Diversity:

A diverse selection of music will be performed in several languages including Latin, German, English, and Swahili. The translation of the piece will be discussed as well as other relevant social, cultural, religious, artistic, or political aspects that MAY have influenced the creation of the work.

Students with Disability:

Student Support Services assists in determining the classroom accommodations that are most appropriate for students with disabilities based on documentation of their disability. Student Support Services encourages communication with instructors regarding accommodations. Student Support Services will provide eligible students with Notification Letters regarding their classroom and testing accommodations to give to their professors. Examples of classroom and testing accommodations are varied, but may include: Adapted testing arrangements, extended time on tests, testing in a distraction-free environment, assistance with alternative formats of textbooks, and advocacy with the MSU Housing Department for help with living arrangements.

Guidelines for Documentation of Students with a Learning Disability, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), or Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD), or a Psychiatric/Psychological Disability are located at:

<http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/91130.html>

Evaluation:

- 1. 40 pts. - Class participation:** The following criteria will be used to determine the class participation portion of your grade: *(3points are deducted for each infraction)*
 - *Work ethic* while in class (positive attitude and contribution):
 - Do you follow instructions by marking your score?
 - Is your participation conducive or disruptive to the rehearsal process?
 - Do you respond favorably to constructive criticism?
 - Do you bring your score, music, folder, and a pencil to every rehearsal?
 - If you are unable to phonate or can't sing because of illness, do you follow along in your music, while marking your score?
 - *Professionalism:*
 - Do you show respect for the conductor and your fellow students?
 - Do you adhere to the absence and tardy policy of the ensemble?
 - *Concert Attire:*
 - Do you arrive in the fully assigned uniform for concerts, tours, or performances?
 - Is your uniform clean and pressed or ironed?
 - *Returning materials:*
 - At the end of the semester, did you return all of the music that was assigned to you undamaged? **Remember: Students are financially responsible for lost or damaged music.**
- 2. 40 pts. - Attendance/punctuality at sectional, rehearsals, and performances:**
 - Each section (soprano I, soprano II, alto I, etc...) meet outside of the regular rehearsal time once per week, for one hour, to review notes, rhythms, and other musical elements. The section leader schedules sectionals the first week of class, however if you are unable to attend you must see the DCA and schedule a sectional with him.
 - If you are going to be late for a rehearsal, sectional, performance, please call Dr. Packwood as soon as you become aware of your situation. **DO NOT SPEED OR PUT YOURSELF IN LEGAL OR PHYSICAL DANGER.**
 - You are allowed to **miss two sectionals** before your grade becomes affected. For sectionals missed beyond the two, the grading scale is:

- 0 – pts. deducted from grade – no more than 2 absences
- 5 – pts. deducted from grade – no more than 3 absences
- 8 – pts. deducted from grade – no more than 4 absences
- 10 – pts. deducted from grade – no more than 5 absences

MORE THAN 5 Automatic FAILURE of this COURSE

- Absences from regular classes are spelled out below - Minimum grade requirements for attendance/punctuality:

STUDENTS may not be ABSENT the WEEK before a performance!

3 TARDIES EQUALS ONE MISSED CLASS - IF YOU ARE NOT IN YOUR SEAT WITH A PENCIL AND MUSIC FOLDER IN HAND, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TARDY.

- A — no more than 3 absences from rehearsals (40 pts)
- B — no more than 4 absences from rehearsals (32 pts)
- C — no more than 5 absences from rehearsals (28 pts)
- D — no more than 6 absences from rehearsals (24 pts)

ABSENCES FROM ANY DRESS REHEARSALS OR PERFORMANCES WILL RESULT IN FAILURE OF THIS COURSE

3. **20 pts. - Aural/oral performance exam:** This exam is based and graded by the DCA after the performance. The criteria include: engaging faces, engaging voices, and engaging bodies, the quality of the performance, and your ability to have music memorized for each performance.

Repertoire List:

Titles	Composer/Arrangers
Lord Nelson Mass	J. Haydn
Idumea	R. Bjello
The Roof	A. Ramsey
Two Puccini Psalms	G. Puccini, Sr.
Credo	L. Pitombeira
I Surrender All	J. Rouse
Nearer, Still Nearer	J. Rouse

Gentlemen & Ladies Uniforms:

Ladies: Black uniforms (see me if you do NOT have one), black shoes (no open-toed or heelless (flip-flop type) shoes) No dangly or noisy jewelry although a strand of pearls is acceptable. Hair should be neatly styled and pulled back out of your face. A NEW dress will cost approximately \$74.00, plus earrings at \$9.00. These items are purchased through the department and charged to your account unless you pay for them by the *end of the first week of classes*. We have a few used dresses for \$55.00. If you are interested in the used dresses please see the Director of Choral Activities as soon as possible. Your account will NOT be charged for the purchase of used dresses, please see the DCA for payment instructions.

