

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

[CLASS]

[MUSIC]

Expanded Course Outline

Course Subject Area:	MU
Course Number:	3640L
Course Title:	Chamber Singers
Units:	1
C/S Classification #:	20
Component:	Laboratory
Grading Basis: (graded only, CR/NC only, student's choice)	Graded only
Repeat Basis: (may be taken once, taken multiple times, taken multiple times only with different topics)	Up to 8 units
Cross Listed Course: (if offered with another department)	
Dual Listed Course: (if offered as lower/upper division or undergraduate/graduate)	
Major course/Service course/GE Course: (pick all that apply)	Major/Service
General Education Area/Subarea: (as appropriate)	
Date Prepared:	3/23/15
Prepared by:	Iris Levine

I. Catalog Description

Rehearsal and performance of choral literature for small choral ensembles, from all musical periods by composers from around the world.

II. Required Coursework and Background

Enrollment by audition

Considerable prior choral experience, significant singing skills and ability to sight-read. Pleasant tone quality and pitch accuracy are prerequisites for this course. Proficiency will be determined by a preliminary audition.

III. Expected Outcomes

Students will:

1. rehearse a broad selection of repertoire by composers, representing both genders, from around the world and from all style periods
2. expand his/her knowledge of the repertoire on an experiential level
3. improve development of breathing techniques, tone production, diction
4. improve development of self-confidence and poise through public performance
5. improve development of musicianship skills such as pitch accuracy and sight-reading.

6. Practice behaving like a professional musician.
7. Reflect upon concert performance and personal growth as a musician.

The outcomes of this course relate to the following Music Department Student Learning Outcomes:

- #1: Perform a variety of music with expression and musical accuracy.
- #3: Demonstrate musicianship skills (including those involving technology) and conceptual understandings.
- #4: Demonstrate and articulate personal growth as a musician and student of music in the world.

BA in Music:

- #2. **Perform** a variety of music with expression and musical accuracy.
- #4. **Demonstrate** creativity, musicianship skills, an understanding of appropriate technology, and conceptual understandings.

BA in the MIS Option:

- #1. **Interpret** relationships between music and: commerce; technology; media; and audience.

BM in Music:

- #1. **demonstrate** a high level of musicianship that facilitates independent preparation of music for performance.
- #4. **articulate** the distinguishing characteristics of multiple musical styles, traditions, and historical periods, **and apply** that knowledge to performance.
- #5. **perform** a wide variety of solo and ensemble repertoire for varied audiences.
- #6. **analyze, interpret, and defend** judgments of various musical works for audiences of scholars and amateurs.
- #7. **demonstrate** healthy body mechanics and technique.
- #8. **promote** musical culture in the community.

BM in Music Education/Pre-Credential:

- #1. **demonstrate** foundational skills on instruments commonly taught in schools.
- #2. **display** effective conducting skills for choral and instrumental ensembles.
- #3. **evaluate, select, prepare, and assess** music for performance.
- #8. **demonstrate** a deep understanding of performance through presentation of a recital or a lecture-recital.

BM in Composition:

- #2. **oversee** fully realized public performances of their original compositions, with critical assessments.

BM in Performance:

- #1. **apply** skills for collaborative music making (including chamber music and conducting).
- #3. **discuss** pedagogy of their instrument at a foundational level.

#4. demonstrate specialized expertise in interpreting the music of one or two particular styles, including the utilization of improvisation.

#5. model entry-level professional performance skills on a primary instrument or voice, through a capstone recital.

IV. Instructional Materials

Jordan, James. Whitbourn, James. The Musician's Trust, Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2013.

Shrock, Dennis. Choral Repertoire, New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Numerous articles from The Choral Journal, American Choral Review, Music Educators Journal.

Additionally, there is an immense library of works, inclusive of most of the well-known composers, available for performance. Inasmuch as this is a performance class, there are generally no auxiliary readings, except on occasion as the situation warrants.

V. Minimum Student Material

Acquisition of performance attire chosen by the membership of the ensemble.

VI. Minimum College Facilities

Large rehearsal classroom with piano and chairs.

VII. Course Outline

1. Reading sessions devoted to familiarizing the ensemble with a modest amount of repertoire.
2. Narrowing of focus to select pieces for performance at semester end.
3. Subsequent rehearsals are for improving all aspects of performance as well as providing students with additional knowledge about the works being performed, i.e., historical period, stylistic characteristics, form, etc.

Ongoing throughout the semester:

1. Development of choral tone. The study of good tone production
Special emphasis on vowel formations, consonant production, diction and controlled breathing.
2. Development of musical style. The study of musical style as it pertains to music being rehearsed.
3. Development of aural acuity. Study of scales, rhythms and harmonies as they pertain to music being rehearsed.
4. Development of stage presence and standards of performance etiquette.

VIII. Instructional Methods

Rehearsal and lecture modes

IX. Evaluation of Outcomes

1. Attendance (required) and class participation.
2. Demonstrated accuracy of performance of individual part
3. Dress rehearsal and final performance (functioning as the final exam).
4. In the event that a final public performance is not scheduled, the class will meet during the assigned final exam time for an informal performance/presentation of its accomplishments.