



MUSC 4976

Division: Fine Arts

Department: Music

Course: MUSC 4976

Title: Chamber Vocal Ensemble, Fourth Year

Catalog Description:

This course will provide small group training in a variety of choral music literature. Those registering are expected to participate in major activities of the department. This course is open only to music majors pursuing the B. Mus degree. Audition required. May be repeated for credit.

General Education Requirements: N/A

Semesters Offered: TBA

Credit/Time Requirement: Credit: 1; Lecture: 0; Lab: 2

Clock/Hour Requirements: 0

Offered for Non-Credit: No

Prerequisites: MUSC 3976 or permission of instructor. Audition required.

Justification:

Performance in vocal ensembles teaches valuable musical and life skills for singers, including intonation, blend, balance, facility with language and an understanding of group dynamics. Vocal music majors are required to perform in at least one choral ensemble during each semester of their program at Snow College, and this course is the minimal requirement for all vocal music majors. This course fulfills one ensemble credit as required by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). Credit for the course transfers for both music majors and non-majors.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of each semester of this course, students will be able to:

- accurately perform the rhythms, melodies and harmonies of the music selected by the director;
- perform essential vocal music skills as part of a choral section, including, proper intonation blend and balance;
- show improvement in both speed and accuracy of literature memorization as measured by small group assessment;
- understand the music in its historical setting as well as the stylistic, expressive, and formal qualities associated with the particular era of music history;

- understand the textual meanings of the compositions;
- communicate the understanding which they have gained to their audiences.

Content:

- Sightsinging;
- Rhythmic accuracy;
- Pitch acuity;
- Balance and blend within the section and within the ensemble as a whole;
- Text review, historical context, accuracy of pronunciation and proper syllabification (emphasis);
- Vocal technique, including breathing, posture, tone production, placement and resonance.

General Education Outcomes:

9) Respond with informed sensitivity to an artistic work or experience.

Students will be able to respond more sensitively to a choral work which they have properly rehearsed, having learned to accurately reproduce it in terms of pitch, rhythm and dynamics. In addition, students will respond with greater sensitivity because they will have learned about the historical context of the work and the conditions under which it was composed.

Key Performance Indicators:

Students in choral music performance courses are assessed in the following ways (percentages are approximate):

- Participation Rates - Attendance at class sessions (60%);
- Written Assignments - Documented practice hours (10%);
- Presentation/Performance - sectional/quartet rehearsal participation and performance (10%);
- Presentation/Performance - Concert participation and performance (10%);
- Group Project - Participation in concert recording review and critique (10%);

Representative Text and/or Supplies:

Music for this ensemble will be taken from the Snow College choral library.

Optimum Class Size: 100

Maximum Class Size: 120

Signatures:

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

Steve Meredith, DMA, Associate Professor

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Music Department:

Steve Meredith, DMA, Associate Professor, Chair

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Fine Arts Division:

Vance Larsen, MM, Associate Professor, Dean

I have discussed the need for library resources related to this class with the person submitting the syllabus:

Lynn Anderson, MLIS, Technical Services Librarian (Main Campus)

Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)