

COURSE SYLLABUS--NWACC CHAMBER SINGERS. MUSI 1101. FALL 2004

COMMUNICATIONS & ARTS DIVISION

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Steve Cooper
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OFFICE HOURS: Mon 11-12, 3-4, Tues 10-10:45, 3-4, Wed 11-2, 3-4, Thurs 10-10:45, 3-4, Fri 10-12.
If you cannot meet me during these hours, please call for an appointment. I will be happy to meet with you at other times of mutual convenience.

COURSE: MUSI 1101 NWACC CHAMBER SINGERS

DESCRIPTION: The Chamber Singers are an auditioned ensemble at NWACC. This small ensemble performs a mixture of styles ranging from madrigals to jazz. Most of the work is a cappella, and the group often joins for performances with other area choirs.

REQUIREMENTS: Singers enrolled for college credit are required to attend rehearsals, participate in scheduled concerts, assist with the production of the concerts, and generally support the other members of the ensemble. All singers must be available for two weekends in November and March for the Flying Tomato Cabaret. The group will perform 25-30 concerts this year, including a 5-day tour in April. All singers will be expected to participate in the Cabaret and tour as well as all other scheduled events.

COURSE PLAN: Each rehearsal will begin with warmup and sightreading exercise. The remainder of the period will be spent in preparing music for concert. Selections for rehearsal will depend on the abilities of the singers and the degree of difficulty of the titles.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course will address several of NWACC's Institutional Goals, specifically:

- Goal 1** To provide general education courses enhanced by library resources and academic support services that develop basic academic skills, knowledge, and intellectual curiosity.
- Goal 3** To provide courses and services that promote physical and mental health, develop problem solving skills, and increase respect of self and others.
- Goal 4** To develop cooperative relationships designed to promote community education and business/industry training sensitive to the needs of the community.
- Goal 7** To provide mechanisms and opportunities for improving communication among all areas of the college and between the college and the community.

The main objective of the course is to complete successful performances. Other goals include:

1. An improvement in sightsinging ability (Institutional Goal #1)
2. Exposure to new musical styles (Goal #1)
3. Practice in diction, both English and foreign languages (Goal #1)
4. Practice in learning to work cooperatively with respect for colleagues (Goals #3 & 4)
5. Service as representatives of the college in the community (Goal #7)
6. A satisfying and nurturing group experience (Goal #3).

TEXT: None. Musical selections are different each semester. A folder will be issued to every student each semester. Failure to properly care for the music or to promptly return the folder in good condition at term's end will result in an account-and-transcript block and a charge of \$30.

ATTENDANCE: Due to the nature of music ensembles, all members depend on all other members. For this reason more than any other, attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is vital. All absences should be cleared with the director in advance of the event. If you have to miss a rehearsal due to an emergency, I will expect you to call as soon as possible to explain your absence. This is minimal professional courtesy.

EVALUATION AND GRADING: Both are somewhat subjective outside of the stated attendance requirements. In order to achieve an A in the course, a singer must participate as described above in an enthusiastic and capable manner. This is a minimum requirement as well as a prescription for an A. Anything less than this level of participation will usually result in the lowering of a grade, particularly for the infractions shown below:

Late for rehearsal

Each unexplained rehearsal absence (no phone call)

Rehearsal absence: after 2 misses, the grade drops

Absence from a required concert = 1 letter grade off final grade

Points may be added to your grade for special service to the group.

If at any time I feel you are not pulling your weight (not learning pieces according to schedule, not concentrating in rehearsal, etc), I will visit with you and suggest correction. Failure to correct the situation will result in a lowered grade.

Special circumstances may warrant special consideration. If you have a problem, please talk to me.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY: Last day to drop the course with a W is Nov.7.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: Closing announcements will be broadcast on KURM radio, or students may call NWACC at 636-9222 or at the special weather line, 619-4377.

By next rehearsal, please have the following memorized:

“Yes, Cooper, I will obey! Whatever you command, I will obey without question or hesitation.”

(Hey, I can dream, can't I?)

We're going to have a great year! I'm glad you're here!