

MVC SHOW CHOIR

MU 174/474

Fall 2009

2:00 – 3:30 MWF

Diana Malan
Morrison Fine Art Building
Office Hours: 9:00-11:00; by appointment
(e-mail: maland@moval.edu)

831-4215 (office)
886-2789 (home)

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A choreographed choir with repertoire consisting of contemporary music in the Show-Pop style. This group has limited membership and performs numerous times each year on campus, in the MVC area, and on tour. Auditions are required. It is preferred that students commit to participating for the entire school year. May be repeated for credit.
Fall. Spring. 1-2 credit hours.

RATIONALE

This choral group is designed for students interested in vocal music performance. It focuses on lyric analysis, expressive singing, stage presence, and choreography.

GOAL

To provide a choral experience that gives singers the opportunity to develop the highest possible level of musicianship through rehearsal and performance.

PURPOSES

- 1) To develop the “team” aspects of producing a good show choir through fostering pride and enthusiasm for the group.
Indicators: in-class singing, performance
- 2) To develop elements of a correct, healthy, and safe vocal technique.
Indicators: in-class singing, performance
- 3) To develop important musical concepts including interpretation, rhythm, phrasing, and phonation.
Indicators: discussion, in-class singing, performance
- 4) To gain skills in ensemble sight-reading and musicianship.
Indicators: in-class singing, performance
- 5) To develop a rich choral sound through blending, articulation, and phonation.
Indicators; in-class singing, performance
- 6) To develop performance confidence and professionalism.
Indicators: rehearsal and performance

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Music and folder will be provided for your use during the semester. These materials must be returned in good condition at the end of the semester. The cost to replace music and folder will be charged if materials are not returned. Parts are to be marked in pencil only. Your music, folder and pencil must accompany you to each rehearsal.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

Class attendance is mandatory. 60% of the final grade is based on your class attendance and class participation during the semester. It is *never* okay to miss class rehearsal. Please don't ask. As part of this group you have a commitment to each other and to the goals of the group. *Every member of this ensemble is a necessary piece of the whole.* If you are unable to sing, but able to get out, then you are still expected to attend rehearsal for listening and observing.

Students are allowed 3 absences during the semester (choose them wisely) without grade penalty. Further absences will lower the attendance/participation grade by one full letter grade for each absence. 7 absences will result in an F for 60% of the final grade.

1-3 abs. = A 4 abs. = B 5 abs. = C 6 abs. = D 7 +abs. = F

The following are considered excused absences. Absences are excused only if the professor has been notified via e-mail or phone prior to class.

- a. illness or death in the family
- b. an official college sponsored trip or activity
- c. student illness (verified by the school nurse or a doctor)

Special rehearsals outside of class may be called at the discretion of the director. Attendance is required except for those with academic, college business, and work conflicts.

Tardies and early departures are not acceptable and will be considered in the attendance part of the final grade. Class begins promptly at 2:00 and ends at 3:30. Students should be on time, materials in hand, and ready to work.

Participation in scheduled performances is mandatory. 40% of the final grade is based on your participation, knowledge of material, and stage presence at performances. Any unexcused absence from a performance will result in an F grade for that performance and will jeopardize your continuation with the group. *Absences from performances are excused only by the director, and only well in advance of the performance.*

ASSESSMENT

Semester grades are determined by:

- 1) Attendance, including attitude and participation during class (60%)
- 2) Performance, knowledge of music, overall contribution (40%)

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79% = C 60-69% = D 59 or below = F

APPAREL/FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS: Most costume apparel is provided for the singer. A \$10 fee is charged each semester for costume maintenance and use.

Ladies must have a pair of black character or capezio dance shoes. You must also have a pair of black dance briefs (if group uses skirts/dresses) or you may want to purchase a black body suit (please get a spaghetti strapped suit). Costs for these items vary depending on style, quality, where you purchase, etc.

Men must have a pair of black dress shoes (appropriate for dance and approved by the director) and black socks.

TENTATIVE SEMESTER SCHEDULE

Scheduled Performances to date: Mark these dates on your calendar.

Spring Choral Show – April 23 & 24, 2009: 7:30 pm (Eckilson-Mabee Theatre)

****Tech Rehearsal – 19 & 21, 2009: 6:00-9:00 (theatre) – set lights & staging**

****Final Dress Rehearsal – April 22, 2009: 6:00 pm call (theatre); 7:00 pm run**

This involves hair, make-up, costuming (pictures will be taken during this rehearsal); Please clear your schedule for this rehearsal

Other performance dates to be announced.

Class rehearsals (2:00-3:30) will consist of vocal warm-ups, sight-reading, choral work (vocal techniques, sectional work, small group, etc.) and performance work.

Other important dates:

Frog & Toad: February 18-22, 2009

Ain't Nothin' Quick 'n Easy: April 1-4, 2009

Band Concert: April 14 – 7:30 pm

Spring Dance Concert: April 30 & May 1, 2009 (7:30 pm – theatre)

Department Banquet (open to all students of Theatre, Music, Dance) – May 3 – 6:00 pm

*****Note: This syllabus and schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.***

TENTATIVE SEMESTER REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

WEEK OF January 12: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF January 19: No class 1/19; Everyone meets WF

WEEK OF January 26: Men meet M; Ladies meet W; Everyone meets F

WEEK OF February 2: Men meet M; Ladies meet W; Everyone meets F

WEEK OF February 9: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF February 16: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF February 23: Men meet M; Ladies meet W; Everyone meets F

WEEK OF March 2: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF March 9: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF March 16: *SPRING BREAK*

WEEK OF March 23: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF March 30: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF April 6: Everyone meets MW; no class April 10 (Food Friday)

WEEK OF April 13: Everyone meets MWF

WEEK OF April 20: *Spring Music Show week* – move to the theatre for class

Tech rehearsal: April 19 & 21 – 6:00 pm

Full dress rehearsal: April 22 – 6:00 pm

April 23 & 24 (7:30 pm) – performance days

WEEK OF April 27: Meet on Monday (4/27) to return music/folders and do evaluations
4/29 and 5/1 TBA

WEEK OF May 4: Finals (May 5-8); Baccalaureate & Commencement (May 9)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- McKinney, James C. *The Diagnosis and Correction of Vocal Faults*, Nashville: Broadman Press, 1982.
- Stanton, Royal. *Steps to Singing for Voice Class*, 3rd ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1983.
- Kenney, James. *Becoming a Singing Performer*. Dubuque: Wm. C. Brown Publishers, 1987.
- Christy, Van A. *Foundations in Singing*. 5th ed. Dubuque: Wm. C. Brown Publishers, 1990.
- Miller, Richard. *The Structure of Singing*. New York: Schirmer Books, 1986.
- Craig, David. *On Singing Onstage*. Rev. ed., New York: Applause Theatre Book Publishing, 1990.

PORTFOLIO

Students are encouraged to keep a portfolio of their best class work during their college careers. Portfolios are one method of retaining your work to show to prospective employers. It is the student's responsibility, not the professors, to maintain the portfolio. Please check with your advisor in your major area of study to determine exactly what to include in your portfolio.

MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

It shall be the responsibility of every student enrolled at Missouri Valley College to support the academic integrity of the institution. This applies to personal honesty in all aspects of collegiate work, all student records and all contacts with faculty and staff. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.

It shall also be the responsibility of every student enrolled at Missouri Valley College to be respectful of the right of other students, staff and instructors to ensure a safe, peaceful atmosphere conducive to the educational goals of an institution of higher learning. Rude or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

Student actions that do not adhere to the MVC Student Code of Conduct will be addressed according to College policies regarding academic dishonesty and disruptive behavior. Students who exhibit dishonest, disruptive, or disrespectful behavior risk suspension or expulsion from the institution.

MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE ADA STATEMENT

Special Needs: If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact your instructor immediately. After proper documentation, reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Any student who misses two consecutive weeks of class will be administratively withdrawn from class. If the withdrawal takes place within the first 6 weeks of class, the student will receive a grade of "W" or "WP." The student will be notified of this action by the Registrar's Office. Readmission will be considered only for extenuating circumstances as approved by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Registrar. In such cases, where readmission is approved, a readmit fee of \$350.00 will be charged. If a student drops below full-time status of 12 hours, financial aid may be adversely affected. Resident students dropping below 12 hours will be asked to move out of campus housing.

***Note: If you know that you want to drop or withdraw from a class please see your advisor. Do not count on this policy to automatically withdraw you.*

