

**MVC GOSPEL SINGERS**  
**MU 175, 475**  
**SPRING 2009**  
**12:00 – 12:50 MWF**

**Diana Malan**  
**Morrison Fine Arts Building**  
**Office Hours: 9:00-11:00 MWF; by appointment**  
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**831-4215 (office)**  
**886-2789 (home)**

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

A choral ensemble with repertoire consisting of contemporary Christian, traditional gospel, and other styles of music that fit the style of the choir. The choir performs throughout the school year for a variety of events. Open to all interested students. May be repeated for credit. Fall. Spring. 1-2 credit hours.

**RATIONALE**

This choral group is designed for students interested in the study and performance of Christian styles of music. It focuses on lyric analysis, proper vocal techniques, expressive singing, and performance techniques.

**GOAL**

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

**PURPOSES**

- 1) To foster pride and enthusiasm for working within a group situation.  
Indicators: in-class singing, rehearsal, 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 are to be returned in good condition at the end of the semester. The cost to replace the 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 12:00 and ends at 12:50. 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, low heeled dress shoes (please use a simple round toed shoe that allows you to move and stand with comfort and ease) and hose (natural color).

*Men* must have a pair of black dress shoes and black socks.

#### **TENTATIVE SEMESTER SCHEDULE**

**Scheduled Performances to date: Mark these dates on your calendar (now).**

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

**\*\*Tech Rehearsal – April 20: 6:00-9:00 (theatre) – set lights & staging**

**\*\*Final Dress Rehearsal – April 22: 6:00 pm call; start run at 7:00 pm (theatre)**

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

Other performance dates to be announced.

**Class rehearsals (12:00-12:50)** 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:** Men meet M; Ladies meet W; Everyone meets F

**WEEK OF February 16:** Men meet M; Ladies meet W; Everyone meets MWF

**WEEK OF February 23:** Everyone meets MWF

**WEEK OF March 2:** Everyone meets MWF

**WEEK OF March 9:** Everyone meets MWF

**WEEK OF March 16:** ***SPRING BREAK***

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

**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 20 – 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*, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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*. 5<sup>th</sup> 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.*