

**San José State University  
School of Music and Dance  
MUED 170B, Teaching Choral Music, Fall 2018**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Jeffrey Benson
<b>Office Location:</b>	MUS 262
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Thursday 12:30-1:30pm
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	TR 10:30-11:20am
<b>Classroom:</b>	MUS 182
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	MUSC 33, 147A, 147C and previous choral experience. Concurrent enrollment in a choir is strongly recommended.

**Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/jeffrey.benson>. You are responsible for regularly checking email to learn any updates.

**Course Description**

This is a survey course designed to help pre-professional music educators gain tools for teaching secondary choral music in the public schools. Topics to be explored will include choral literature appropriate for a variety of levels and learning styles, methodology involving sight-reading and strengthening musicianship, building a choral program, rehearsal techniques, and issues pertaining to the development of a choral ensemble.

**Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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

- CLO 1 Plan effective teaching sequences.
- CLO 2 Make decisions about appropriate choral repertoire based on student learning needs.
- CLO 3 Demonstrate the role of the teacher/conductor in a rehearsal and classroom.
- CLO 4 Demonstrate the ability to respond effectively to class needs with a variety of strategies for increased learning and performance.
- CLO 5 Articulate a philosophy of music education.
- CLO 6 Effectively assess student achievement.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

Holt, Michelle and James Jordan, ed. *The School Choral Program*. GIA. ISBN 978-1-57999-679-6 (\$45)

### Other equipment / material requirements

*Five Centuries of Choral Music for Mixed Voices*. G. Schirmer, Inc.

Assigned reading and scores (some provided by instructor, some obtained by students)

## Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Grades are based upon the following formula. In order to receive a passing grade for this course, the student must satisfactorily complete each of the constituent parts.

### Rehearsal Presentations - 40%

- Students will rehearse the class as a lab choir in a master class setting and choirs at Saratoga High School. All conducting and rehearsal presentations will be graded based on individual rubrics. Students are expected to treat rehearsal presentations as fully professional teaching situations.

### Assignments and Self-Evaluations - 20%

- Students will complete graded assignments throughout the semester. The student will also complete a written evaluation for each rehearsal presentation.

### Mid-Term Presentation - 10%

- Presentations on assigned topics will be required of each student at the mid-term.

### Final Resource File - 20%

- The Final Resource File will be a professional portfolio students will be able to use throughout their careers. This will be comprised of assignments students completed throughout the semester including the Philosophy paper, presentation materials, literature lists, sight-reading materials, rehearsal plans and choral handbooks.

### Professional Behavior - 10%

- Participation is essential for success in this course. Students must conduct and critique each day in order to earn full credit for participation.
- When not conducting, the student serves in the "performing ensemble."

### Grading Information

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
59 and lower	F

### Penalty for Late or Missed Work

Assignments are due on the dates stated in the Course Schedule. Students may not make up a missed test or assignment due to an unexcused absence. Missed tests or assignments due to

excused absences can only be made up at a time appointed by the instructor. You must notify the instructor of an excused absence *before* the absence occurs.

### **Classroom Protocol**

Class participation is essential. Students will be involved not only as conductors but as attentive and encouraging ensemble members. When your colleagues are conducting rehearsals, you are expected to sing and fully participate. You are expected to be in class on time (in your seat with all materials by 10:30am). Cell phones and other electronic devices should be turned off.

### **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>.

### **School of Music and Dance Policies and Procedures**

#### **Music Use Fee:**

Music majors and minors must pay a music equipment use fee each semester. The fee must be paid directly to the Cashier's Office, and you must bring the receipt to the Music Office before completing registration. Applied music instruction will not be authorized until this fee is paid. Music 10B students, or students enrolled in any sound recording course, must pay a fee each semester that they are enrolled in one or more of these classes. The fees are included in the student's bill, with other registration fees.

## MUED 170B, Teaching Choral Music, Fall 2018 Course Schedule

*The schedule is subject to change with fair notice. The instructor will notify students of changes in class or via email.*

### WEEK ONE

August 21	Course Introduction, Philosophy, Rote Demo	
August 23	History of Choral Music	Read Arasi/Raessler Chapter 1-2

### WEEK TWO

August 28	Vocal Technique through Warm-ups	Read Jordan Chapter 9 Warm-up assignments
August 30	ABSolutely Astounding Tone	

### WEEK THREE

September 4	Rote Presentations	
September 6	Stranding & Rehearsal Planning Finish Rote Presentations	Read Jordan Ch. 8, pp. 147-153

### WEEK FOUR

September 11	Tone Building Rehearsals	Philosophy Paper due
September 13	Tone Building Rehearsals	Rote Self-Evaluation due

### WEEK FIVE

September 18	Sight-reading and Assessment	Read Miceli Chapter 12 Read Jordan Ch. 8, pp. 173-183
September 20	Direct Instruction	Tone Self-Evaluation due

### WEEK SIX

September 25	Sierramont Middle School Rote Rehearsal (8:00-11:00am)	
September 27	Direct Instruction Rehearsals	

### WEEK SEVEN

October 2	Direct Instruction Rehearsals	Sierramont Self-Evaluation due
October 4	Auditions and Placement of Singers	Read Brinson handout

### WEEK EIGHT

October 9	Working with Male Voices	Read Reed Chapter 11 DI Self-Evaluation due
October 11	Improvisation in the Choral Rehearsal	Read Azarra Chapter 10

**WEEK NINE**

October 16	MID-TERM PRESENTATIONS	
October 18	MID-TERM PRESENTATIONS	

**WEEK TEN**

October 23	Recruitment, Retention & Organization	Read Holt Chapter 4
October 25	NO CLASS—Choraliers Tour	

**WEEK ELEVEN**

October 30	Movement in the Choral Rehearsal	Read Galvan Chapter 22
November 1	Movement Rehearsals	
November 2	Piedmont Hills HS Rehearsals (11:30am-2:00pm)	

**WEEK TWELVE**

November 6	Movement Rehearsals	
November 8	Guest Speaker: Dr. Josh Palkki	Read Sieck handout Piedmont Hills Self-Eval 1 due
November 9	Piedmont Hills HS Rehearsals (11:30am-2:00pm)	

**WEEK THIRTEEN**

November 13	Working with Middle School Voices	Read Bowers Chapter 16 Movement Self-Evaluation due
November 15	Independent Musicianship/MS Voices	Piedmont Hills Self-Eval 2 due

**WEEK FOURTEEN**

November 20	Guest Speaker: Susie Martone	
November 22	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY—No class	

**WEEK FIFTEEN**

November 27	Teaching Critical Thinking Skills	
November 29	Critical Thinking Rehearsals	Re-voicing Assignment due

**WEEK SIXTEEN**

December 4	Critical Thinking Rehearsals	
December 6	Professional Behavior & Communication	Read Raessler Chapter 13

**FINAL EXAMINATION:**

Wednesday, December 12	9:45-12:00pm	Final Rehearsal Evaluation Final Resource File Presentation
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