

**San José State University
School of Music and Dance
MUSC 50A & 150A & 250A, Concert Choir, Fall 2017**

Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Jeffrey Benson
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Office Hours:	Tuesday, Thursday 12:30-1:30pm
Class Days/Time:	Monday, Wednesday 1:30pm-3:20pm
Classroom:	Music 150
Prerequisites:	Audition required

Course Description

Large select ensemble, specializing in advanced *a cappella* and symphonic major works from all periods. Students involved in the SJSU Concert Choir will have the opportunity to study and perform high quality choral literature. The ensemble works to the highest standards of choral excellence and performs a variety of choral music from all style periods.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

- CLO 1 Perform the music studied with correct rhythms, pitches and dynamics in public performances.
- CLO 2 Gain an awareness of their part within the fabric of the whole ensemble.
- CLO 3 Demonstrate expressive use of the voice while employing healthy singing technique.
- CLO 4 Understand and participate in the development of choral sound.
- CLO 5 Sing a wide variety of choral literature.
- CLO 6 Demonstrate an increased scope as a musician.
- CLO 7 Demonstrate professional standards of stage presence and concert etiquette during public performances.
- CLO 8 Graduate students will be expected to model entry-level professional activities, including, but not limited to, performance in leadership roles such as section leaders & conductors.

Required Texts/Readings

Music

Bach, J.S. *371 Harmonized Chorales*. G. Schirmer.

Other scores will be provided to the student and must be returned to the librarian after each concert. Failure to return music will result in the holding of grades. Students will be held financially responsible for replacing lost or damaged scores. Students should be prepared to purchase one or two scores of major works during the semester.

Other equipment / material requirements

Pencil

Black three-ring binder (1") with a flat finish

Concert Attire:

OPTION #1: Students are responsible for obtaining the dress through the choral department. More information will be given to the students during the first few weeks of classes. Students will wear black closed toe dress shoes with black hose. Hair should be kept away from the face.

OPTION #2: Students are required to provide their own black tuxedo with appropriate pleated tuxedo shirt, black cummerbund/vest, black bow tie, black dress socks, and black dress shoes. Shirts should have cuff links and black stud covers. Hair should be kept away from the face.

Classroom Protocol

Participation: All choral rehearsals are mandatory. The only excused absences are conflicts that are outside of the control of the student (e.g. illness, death in the immediate family). All excused absences must be documented the day of the occurrence by emailing the instructor and/or calling the choral office. If this process is not completed, the absence will be counted as an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences are conflicts that are within the control of the student. Each unexcused absence will be considered in the semester evaluation.

Participation at all performances is mandatory. Failure to participate in a concert performance will result in no credit for the course.

Dress Rehearsals: Participation in the entire dress rehearsal before a concert is mandatory. Students may not perform in the concert if they fail to attend the entire dress rehearsal; thus resulting in no credit for the semester.

Tardiness: You are expected to be in your seat with materials before 1:30pm. Any person entering after 1:30pm is tardy. Three unexcused tardies will carry the weight of one unexcused absence.

Service Hours: Students will assist the choral office 1.5 hours a semester. Students will arrange work times with the instructor and choral office manager.

Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off during rehearsal and concerts.

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>.

Grading Policy

The Concert Choir exists to provide opportunities to learn about and experience a variety of music styles, to work together with peers to obtain excellence of performance and to sing with other musicians who share an interest in choral music. The following criteria determine your grade as well as the success of the ensemble:

A. Participation 49%

1. Positive participation factors into your grade.
2. **Failure to attend a performance and/or dress rehearsal will result in a failing grade for the semester.**
3. Grades will be based upon satisfactory performance of ensemble music within the rehearsal. Punctuality and regular attendance are mandatory. Unexcused absences may be cause for removal from the ensemble.

B. Preparation 40%

1. Music and pencil are required at each rehearsal.
2. Individual and Small Group Exams: Students may be called to perform music individually in small groups. Such exams will be announced in class.

C. Service Hours 11%

1. Each student is required to give 1.5 hours of time each semester. Examples of possible service hour activities may include: assisting with concert set-up, assisting with concert publicity, or filing music.

Grading Scale:

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

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.

SJSU Concert Choir Calendar Fall 2017

Subject to change with fair notice

Wed, August 23	First rehearsal	1:30-3:20pm	MUS 150
Fri, October 6	Real Men Sing!	9am-1pm	SJSU Concert Hall
Sat, October 14	Dress Rehearsal w/ Alumni Choir	2:00-3:30pm	MUS 150
Sat, October 14	Dress Rehearsal w/ Alumni Choir	5:30pm	St. Joseph's Cathedral
Sat, October 14	Concert: <i>70 Years of Singing</i>	7:30pm	St. Joseph's Cathedral
Mon, October 16	Chanticleer Masterclass	1:30pm	MUS 150
Fri, October 20	<i>Kaleidoscope</i> Dress Rehearsal	12pm-5pm	Hammer Theatre
Sat, October 21	<i>Kaleidoscope</i> Concert	7:00pm	Hammer Theatre
Thur, December 7	Dress Rehearsal	1:30-5:30pm	Mission Santa Clara
Sat, December 9	Concert: <i>Home for the Holidays</i>	7:30pm	Mission Santa Clara