

**San José State University
School of Music and Dance
MUED 170B, Teaching Choral Music, Fall 2015**

Instructor:	Dr. Jeffrey Benson
Office Location:	MUS 262
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Email:	jeffrey.benson@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	T 12:30-1:30pm; R 12:30-1:30pm
Class Days/Time:	TR 10:30-11:20am
Classroom:	MUS 182
Prerequisites:	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 9:30am). Cell phones and other electronic devices should be turned off.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90-5](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](#), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](#) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](#) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](#), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course.

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](#) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](#) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

School of Music and Dance Policies and Procedures

Music Use Fee:

Music majors and minors must pay a music equipment use fee of \$30 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 of \$22 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.

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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 20	Course Introduction, Philosophy, Rote Demo
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WEEK TWO

August 25	History of Choral Music	Read Arasi/Raessler Chapter 1-2
August 27	Vocal Technique through Warm-ups	Read Jordan Chapter 9 Warm-up assignments

WEEK THREE

September 1	ABSolutely Astounding Tone
September 3	Rote Presentations

WEEK FOUR

September 8	Stranding & Rehearsal Planning	Read Jordan Ch. 8, pp. 147-153 Philosophy Paper due
September 10	Tone Building Rehearsals	Rote Self-Evaluation due

WEEK FIVE

September 15	Tone Building Rehearsals
September 17	Saratoga High School Rote Songs (7:50-9:25am)

WEEK SIX

September 22	Sight-reading and Assessment	Read Miceli Chapter 12 Read Jordan Ch. 8, pp. 173-183 Tone Self-Evaluation due
September 24	Direct Instruction	Saratoga Self-Evaluation due

WEEK SEVEN

September 29	Direct Instruction Rehearsals
October 1	Direct Instruction Rehearsals

WEEK EIGHT

October 6	Auditions and Placement of Singers	Read Brinson handout
October 8	Improvisation in the Choral Rehearsal	Read Azarra Chapter 10 DI Self-Evaluation due

WEEK NINE

October 13	MID-TERM PRESENTATIONS
October 15	MID-TERM PRESENTATIONS

WEEK TEN

October 20	Movement in the Choral Rehearsal	Read Galvan Chapter 22
October 22	Movement Rehearsals	
October 23	Silver Creek HS Rehearsals (10:25am-12:15pm)	

WEEK ELEVEN

October 27	Movement Rehearsals	
October 29	Saratoga HS Rehearsal (7:50-9:25am)	Silver Creek Self-Evaluation due

WEEK TWELVE

November 3	Guest Lecture: Dr. Biddlecombe	Movement Self-Evaluation due
November 5	Working with Middle School Voices	Read Bowers Chapter 16 Saratoga Evaluation 2 due

WEEK THIRTEEN

November 10	Independent Musicianship/MS Voices
November 12	No Class

WEEK FOURTEEN

November 17	Working with Male Voices	Read Reed Chapter 11
November 19	Recruitment, Retention & Organization	Read Holt Chapter 4

WEEK FIFTEEN

November 24	Teaching Critical Thinking Skills
November 26	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY—No class

WEEK SIXTEEN

December 1	Critical Thinking Rehearsals	Re-voicing Assignment due
December 3	Critical Thinking Rehearsals	

WEEK SEVENTEEN

December 8	Professional Behavior & Communication	Read Raessler Chapter 13
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FINAL EXAMINATION:

Wednesday, December 16	9:45-12:00pm	Final Rehearsal Evaluation Final Resource File Presentation
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