

**San José State University
School of Music and Dance
MUSC 50A & 150A, Concert Choir, Spring 2015**

Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Jeffrey Benson
Office Location:	Music 262
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Office Hours:	Tuesday 11:30am-12:30pm; Thursday 11:30am-12:30pm
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.

Required Texts/Readings

Music

Bach, J.S. *371 Harmonized Chorales*. G. Schirmer. \$12.99

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:

WOMEN: 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.

MEN: 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.

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

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](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), 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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/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](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) 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), <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](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (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.

Concert Choir Calendar Spring 2015

Subject to change with fair notice.

Mon, January 26	First rehearsal	1:30-3:20pm	MUS 150
Fri, March 6	Choral Invitational	ALL DAY	SJSU Concert Hall
Tue, March 10	Dress Rehearsal	7-10pm	Mission Santa Clara
Fri, March 14	Mozart <i>Requiem</i> Concert		Mission Santa Clara
	6pm call; 7:30pm concert		
April 24-28	NYC Trip: Carnegie Hall		
Fri, May 1	Dress Rehearsal	7-10pm	St. Joseph's Cathedral
Sat, May 2	Faure <i>Requiem</i> Concert		St. Joseph's Cathedral
	6pm call; 7:30pm concert		