WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O‘ahu’s Ko‘olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Rehearsal and performance of classical, popular, and Polynesian/ethnic choral literature. Open to all students. No previous choral experience required. Extra-curricular concert attendance may be required. Up to 7 credits applicable toward A.A. degree. (3 hours rehearsal) There will be extra rehearsals before performances, which you will be required to attend. All rehearsal and performance times will be made available on the chorus calendar accessible through laulima.

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

Students will be asked to attend and participate in extra rehearsals before concerts. There will be a degree of flexibility for all choir members to attempt to adjust their schedules to fit choral rehearsals and performances. We will deal with each case on an individual basis.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:
1. Read basic pitch and rhythmic notation in simple choral parts
2. Learn choral parts using basic music elements
3. Demonstrate the importance of ensemble singing in terms of musicianship and performance practice by learning all choral parts thoroughly and attending all rehearsals and performances.
4. Experience the transformative nature of choral performance in the human experience.
COURSE CONTENT

Concepts

• Ensemble
• Intonation
• Expression
• Polyphony
• Homophony
• Dynamics
• Breathing
• Diction & Phrasing

Skills or Competencies

1. Starting together
2. Staying together
3. Stopping together
4. Independent voices
5. Timbre
6. Performance Practice

COURSE TASKS

Besides the requisite rehearsals and performances listed above, each student is required to attend one outside choral performance this semester and produce a 1.5-2 page, double spaced, 12 point font, reflection paper on the concert. An acceptable performance is ANY performance in which a choir is involved (a church service, an opera, a high school/collegiate choir concert, etc.). A hard copy of the report is due no later than 10 days after the concert itself; the paper needs to be accompanied by a program or ticket.

Attendance and class participation is absolutely key to your success in this class. While I will “compensate” you some of the time that you will be required to participate in choir-related activities outside of normal class time, I do expect that you attend EVERY formal class session. There will be no such thing as an excused/unexcused absence. You are allowed 3 absences for any reason. After those three absences, your grade will be reduced by one entire letter per absence. Therefore, on absence number 4, your grade drops from an A to a B; on absence 5, from a B to a C; and, so forth. Also, rehearsals and performances on the Chorus Calendar are mandatory. If you miss ANY of them, your grade will be reduced by a letter grade for each rehearsal/performance missed, regardless of reason.

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Attendance and participation count for everything. At this point, you are all receiving an A in this class. As you continue to attend and to participate, you will continue to receive an A. If your attendance and attitude in class begin to slip, your grade will reflect that drop. All concert reports must be turned in to me at the end of class on the final WEDNESDAY of the semester.

LEARNING RESOURCES

All music will be provided for the student but is either the property of Windward Community College or borrowed from other institutions. Therefore, IN ORDER TO RECEIVE ANY GRADE AT ALL IN THIS CLASS, ALL music must be returned at the end of each semester. Each student will receive a number and black folder, in which all music will be kept. Students are encouraged to make occasional marks on the music to reflect conductor’s changes; however, all marks must in done IN PENCIL, and will be erased at the end of the semester.
A primary objective for each student will be to develop and maintain a positive attitude in class and especially during performances. Our choral tone will be dependent on everyone coming to class with an upbeat frame of mind, ready to sing together.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale 'Akoakoa 213 for more information.

Revised 9/1/14