

MUS 118 – University Chorus I (Credit Units: 2)

Department of Music

Faculty of Arts

University of Delta, Agbor, Nigeria

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Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

There are many ways to reach me. There is no substitute for face-to-face communication which often leads to more refined and focused questions resulting in your improved understanding. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of my office hours. Questions during class or immediately after class are always welcomed. Email is an easy way to ask questions outside of class but is not productive as face-to-face communication.

Meeting Time and Place: Music Ensemble Room

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class. If you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to make up for the work that you missed. If you are going to be absent from any class, you must please notify the instructor in advance.

Methods of Instruction

This syllabus contains an overview of what will be covered in class; for specific information, students are referred to the class web page maintained on the University website. Assignments will be posted on University of Delta LMS or given in the class and should be submitted through University of Delta LMS. Class attendance, doing all your practical and homework will help the borderline cases.

Overview

This course provides an instruction on principal choral performance. It comprises a practical study, and choral performance on African and Western musical compositions. This is an introductory level of this course where the students are first exposed to the rudimentary aspects of choral singing and voice classifications as the case may be.

It offers instruction on classical and indigenous music pieces for voice. The students are also exposed to the various keys (natural, sharp, and flat keys) on choral pieces that are performed, i.e. singing techniques. The students are required to perform their recital once per semester before juries.

Objectives

The objectives of this course are to:

- i. Demonstrate the singing of at least two choral pieces per semester.
- ii. Demonstrate how to sight-read musical pieces.
- iii. Demonstrate how to sight, sing/play music pieces.
- iv. Express and interpret music effectively.
- v. Identify instrumental and vocal pieces.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course the students should be able to; (i) Demonstrate the various singing skills acquired in the performance of repertoire. (ii) Demonstrate proficiency in performing a vocal piece. (iii) Express aesthesis in performance of musical pieces. (iv) Demonstrate the ability to perform individually, and in small and large ensembles. (v) Compare with the global standard.

COURSE CONTENT

Practical African choral music performance. Singing on C major scale. G major scale. F major scale. Two African choral pieces. Practical Western choral music performance. Singing on C major scale. G major scale. F major scale. Two Western choral pieces. Practical singing. Soprano. Contralto. Tenor. Baritone. Bass. Performance of two simple African vocal compositions. Western voice categories of soprano, contralto, tenor, baritone, and bass. Performance of two simple Western vocal compositions.

WEEK	CONTENT
1	Voice training
2	Singing different key scales
3	Introduction to African choral works
4	Practical singing
5	Practical singing continued
6	Conclusion of African choral piece learning
7	First Test and Mid semester break
8	Introduction to Western choral works
9	Practical singing
10	Practical singing continued
11	Conclusion of Western choral piece learning
12	Second test
13	Stage production of one African and Western pieces
14	Revision
15	Second semester Exam

Examination Schedule –

Attendance - Test – Stage Production - Examination at the end of the semester.

Practical Exercise - Listening to and performing selected choral compositions.

Grading - Attendance: 5% grade.

Test: 5% grade

Stage Production- 20%

Final exam for the semester: 70% of grade –

Text and References –

Ibike (a Kalabari praise song) by Professor Laz Ekwueme.

Halleluyah Chorus by George Fredrick Handel.

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behaviour conducive to a positive learning environment. The code of student conduct is described in detail in the student handbook or University website.

Academic Honesty

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behaviour conducive to a positive learning environment." It is the policy of the University, that no form of plagiarism or cheating will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as the deliberate use of another's work and claiming it as one's own. This means ideas as well as text or code, whether paraphrased or presented verbatim (word-for-word). Cheating is defined as obtaining unauthorised assistance on any assignment. Proper citation of sources must always be utilised thoroughly and accurately. If you are caught sharing or using other people's work in this class, you will receive a 0 grade and a warning on the first instance. A subsequent instance will result in receiving an F grade for the course, and possible disciplinary proceedings. If you are unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty, ask.

