



Syllabus

15800 Calvary Rd
Kansas City, MO 64147

Course: MU340 Choral Techniques
Credit: 2 Semester Hours
Semester: Spring 2025/Session 2
Day/Time/Place: MW 1-2:20PM/E. ED109
Instructor: Heather Wilson
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I. DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to prepare the music education student to successfully build and maintain a viable secondary school choral music program. Proper classroom management, rehearsal techniques, professional conduct, recruitment, and program building will be covered.

** This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. **Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom.** All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. understand how to plan and organize a choral music program.
 - i. PLO 2. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D
2. demonstrate proper classroom management and rehearsal techniques.
 - i. PLO 1. 2. 3. 4
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E
3. research and review appropriate choral literature for the secondary choir.
 - i. PLO 1. 2. 3. 4
 - ii. A, B, C, D

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Musicianship & Performance
 - a. use musical terminologies.

- i. PLO 1. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E
 - b. determine guidelines for musical interpretation.
 - i. PLO 1. 3. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D
- 2. Aural Skills & Analysis
 - a. analyze the basic elements present in a composition including texture and form.
 - i. PLO 1. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E
 - b. understand the basics of sound reinforcement and necessary modifications to chorale technique to adjust to acoustical demands.
 - i. PLO 1. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D
- 3. Conducting
 - a. prepare a musical score for rehearsal and performance.
 - i. PLO 1. 3. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E
- 4. Synthesis
 - a. prepare a plan to build and maintain a choral music program.
 - i. PLO 2. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E
 - b. understand the role of the judge and judging criteria for choral festivals.
 - i. PLO 1. 2. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D
- 5. Professional Practices
 - a. apply accurate copyright law for varying situations.
 - i. PLO 2. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E
 - b. apply professional ethics and best practices.
 - i. PLO 2. 4.
 - ii. A, B, C, D
- 6. Teachers of Vocal Music
 - a. demonstrate healthy sing technique.
 - i. PLO 1. 3.
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E
 - b. articulate the needs for special music events and groups.
 - i. PLO 1. 3.
 - ii. A, B, C, D, E

III. REQUIREMENTS

- A. Assignments: Complete the assignments from assigned readings, observations,

- research in a timely manner as specified by the instructor.
- B. Class Participation: Attendance is mandatory.
- C. Projects: Complete the assigned projects using information from class lectures, assigned readings, and other sources as approved by the instructor.
- D. Tests: There will be two major examinations, a mid-term and a final, containing short essay questions. Occasional quizzes will be given.

IV. METHODS

- A. In-class methods will include discussion, explanation, and illustration.
- B. Out-of-class methods will include reading, observations, practice, research, and completion of assignments and projects.

V. MATERIALS

- A. The Holy Bible
- B. Phillips, Kenneth. *Directing the Choral Music Program, 2nd. Ed.* \$124.95
Oxford University Press, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-0199371952 (The 1st edition is acceptable. ISBN-10: 0195132823)

VI. GRADING

Mid-term	25%
Final Exam	25%
Projects, Assignments	<u>50%</u>
	Total:100%

VII. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.
- Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary

require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.

- The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.
- All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.

1.

- Grading Scale: See grading scale in the university catalog.

Assignments	“Traditional” Classes		External/Online	
	Hours	Assigned	Hours	Assigned
“Seat Time” in class	21		21	
Reading (pages) and Listening	30	400	30	400
Exams	4		4	
Projects, Preparation, Observations, and Assignments	35		35	
Total	90		90	