Course Title: Chamber Choir Honors

Course #: 1805-1806

Course Description:
This course provides an opportunity for students to develop advanced and refined vocal and choral techniques. Advanced knowledge and experience in theory, composition and sight singing is expected and further study of music history will be emphasized. The student and performance of advanced pre-collegiate literature through collaboration, including music from other cultures will be the focus of this course. Rigor in research and context is expected. Public performance and participating in regional, state, division, or national honors choir, solo and ensemble festivals are strongly encouraged. Supporting liturgical music on-campus is also a regular opportunity.

UC/CSU Approval: “f” approved

Grade Level: 12

Estimated Homework Per Week: Students in Chamber Choir Honors should be averaging 1 hour of practice per day, outside of rehearsal time. Students should also work collaboratively, outside of class time on class work or additional repertoire.

Prerequisite: Advanced Choir Honors or audition (seniors only).

Recommended Prerequisite Skills: Students enrolled in Chamber Choir Honors should have three years experience in a high school choral ensemble or should demonstrate advanced proficiency on their instrument (voice), as well as with musical literacy via audition. This includes being able to perform a variety of styles, as well as to demonstrate appropriate range, flexibility and dynamic range for experience level. Students should be able to comfortably sightread Grade 3 literature and perform Grade 4-5 literature when preparation time is provided. Experience with chamber music and/or solo cantoring repertoire is not required with this course, but is highly encouraged.

Course Grade Scale:
- Practice and Rehearsals: 25%
- Assessments/Quizzes: 15%
- Written Assignments: 20%
- Performances: 25%
- Final Exam: 15%
Major Assessments/Units/Topics:

This is a performance-based course.

- Warm-ups, exercises, techniques and sections of music can and will be assessed, via video or live performance.
- Students also demonstrate their knowledge and connection to the subject through music literacy (note reading/writing), as well as written expression (essay/journals).
- Additional grades are determined by rehearsal participation, effort and etiquette as well as ensemble performances at school events/concerts.
- Students in advanced ensembles may also earn credit for extra event participation and for helping to mentor more novice students on their instrument.
- Students will also show progress on their instrument through solo performance at the end of each semester.