

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for MUS 46A

BEGINNING JAZZ CHOIR

Effective: Fall 2010

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MUS 46A — BEGINNING JAZZ CHOIR — 1.00 units

The various aspects of performing in a vocal jazz ensemble. Emphasis on developing the rudiments of vocal jazz technique

1.00 Units Lab

Strongly Recommended

MUS 6 - Basic Music Skills

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	<u>MIN</u>
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 4

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

A. MUS6

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. demonstrate a variety of vocal jazz styles;
2. demonstrate the rudiments of vocal jazz technique;
3. demonstrate improvement in performance ability;
4. improvise using appropriate scat syllables;
5. hear and sing simple jazz chords;
6. perform simple jazz rhythms;
7. compare, contrast and perform styles such as standard, blues, ballads, bebop, swing, Latin and contemporary jazz literature;
8. demonstrate appropriate stage appearance;
9. manipulate jazz forms;
10. perform as a soloist;
11. assist with sound system set-up, take-down and operation;
12. sing with a microphone.

V. CONTENT:

A. Jazz Styles

1. Standard
2. Blues
3. Ballads
4. Bebop
5. Swing
6. Latin
7. Contemporary

B. Jazz Elements

1. Improvisation
2. Form
3. Vocal Technique
4. Vocal percussion
5. Rhythm
6. Harmony
7. Melody

C. Performance Practices

1. Stage presence
 2. Attire
 3. Interaction between participants
 4. Movement
 5. Microphone technique
 6. Sound System
 7. Solo performance
 8. Ensemble performance
- D. Jazz Literature performance
1. Standard
 2. Blues
 3. Ballads
 4. Bebop
 5. Swing
 6. Latin
 7. Contemporary

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Rehearsals of the ensemble 1. Group 2. Individual 3. Section
- B. Public performances 1. Festivals 2. Concerts 3. Competitions
- C. Videotapes, audiotapes and CDs will be utilized as means to develop an understanding of jazz styles and techniques

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Develop and improvise a twelve bar blues. Use the chord changes given, and improvise your own melodic content. B. Memorize the bass part to "I Hear Music" by Phil Mattson. C. Choose a ballad to perform at the final concert.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Final Class Performance

B. **Frequency**

1. Frequency
 - a. Auditions at beginning of semester, challenges throughout semester
 - b. Weekly review of assigned musical selections
 - c. Weekly progress testing of assigned technical studies
 - d. Participation in on-campus and off-campus performances and festivals as opportunities arise
 - e. End of semester concert performance

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Brown, Oren. *Discover Your Voice: How to Develop Healthy Voice Habits.*, Delmar Cengage Learning, 1996.
2. Linklater, Kristin. *Freeing the Natural Voice.* . Rev. ed ed., Drama Publishers, 2006.
3. Weir, Michele. *Jazz Singer's Handbook.*, Alfred Publishing Co., , 2005.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Students may provide their own solo literature.