CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL SEMESTER; 2006

Course Number & Title: MUSC 1410; Contemporary Singers (Vocal Ensemble)
Lecture/Lab Hours: 2LB  Credits: 1
Class Day & Time: W&Th, 5:00-6:30 p.m.  Room: FA; Durham Hall
Instructor: Dr. Patrick Patton  Office: FA 211
Phone: 307-268-2603  Office Hours: Posted
Email: ppatton@caspercollege.edu

Course Description:
A small mixed madrigal/jazz choir which performs numerous times each year. Open to all full-time students on campus regardless of their field of study. Membership is held to approximately 20 members. An audition with the instructor determines the final list of singers.

Prerequisites:
Audition. No prepared music necessary. Audition consists of vocalises, ear training testing, rhythm exercises, sight-reading, and scat singing. Membership in one of the traditional musical organizations is required to audition.

General Objectives:
Course work as it relates to life, will include general vocal studies, appropriate choral literature for mixed voices, performance practices, artistic interpretation, and performance opportunities in artistic settings.

Specific Objectives:
Relevant skills include correct posture, breath management, voice study skills, and performance practices related to jazz/madrigal choral singing.

Methodology:
• Two ninety-minute class sessions per week will include choral studies, choral literature, performance practices, demonstration via faculty modeling and through professional recordings, and performance opportunities outside of class.
• Because of the nature of the laboratory class, successful student outcome relies heavily upon attendance and class preparation. A maximum of two unexcused absences is allowed per semester. More than two unexcused absences per semester will reduce the final grade and will automatically result in the filing of a Retention Alert notice in the Dean of Students office. Eight or more total absences will result in a failing grade or a Faculty Initiated Withdrawal.
• To progress effectively and efficiently, students will be given listening assignments and required significant practice outside of class. Performance testing may be used throughout the semester. Documentation practice and listening logs may be required in partial fulfillment of the grade. Poor examination grades can be elevated via private testing with the instructor. Extra credit options may be made available through performances and extra practice.
• Performances missed due to unexcused absences cannot be made up. Missed performances may result in a failing grade. Consequences of performances missed due to illness or other extenuating circumstances must be negotiated with the instructor.

Evaluation Criteria:
The final grade is determined by the following:
• Class attendance, preparation and testing of musical selections
• Participation in all musical selections, calendar and class activities.
• Evaluation is based on the student’s knowledge of material, class attendance, and attendance of performance-related functions.

Required Texts, Readings, Materials:
Music and related texts will be provided. Occasionally musical works may require student purchase. A performance costume may be required (cost and design TBA).

Last date to change to Audit status or withdraw with a “W” grade:
See current catalog

Student Rights and Responsibilities:
It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to students with a documented disability. If the student needs accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see the instructor at the earliest convenience. Refer to the Casper College Student Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College student.