Art and Design Program

Art and Design Course Descriptions

Automotive Restoration Technology Program

Auto Restoration Technology Course Descriptions

Business Program

Business Course Descriptions

Communication Program

Communication Course Descriptions

Teacher Education Program

Teacher Education Course Descriptions

English Program

English Course Descriptions

Health, Physical Education and Recreation Program

Health, Physical Education & Recreation Course Descriptions

History & Politics Program

History & Politics Course Descriptions

Mathematics Program

Mathematics Course Descriptions

Music Program

Music Course Descriptions

G-MU 132 College Choir:

0-1 hour

The McPherson College Choir welcomes students and members of the campus community without audition. This mixed choir performs a multiplicity of choral works from the Renaissance to the present in various styles, genres, and languages. The choir regularly performs on campus, in the commw1ity, and on regional, national, and international tours. College Choir meets The Arts requirement of the Humanities general education distribution requirement when taken for credit. (Fall, spring)

G-MU 134 College Band:

0-1 hour, Entrance interview and informal audition ·with the band director.

This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to musically express themselves through the study and performance of band literature. It is open to all students with appropriate experience, regardless of major. The band and any ensembles developed from it will perform a variety of wind, band and jazz literature. College Band meets The Arts requirement of the Humanities general education distribution requirement when taken for credit. Prerequisite: Entrance interview and informal audition with the band director. (Fall, spring)

G-MU 161 Music Appreciation:

3 hours

This course is designed to introduce students to the elements, vocabulary, history, and development of music in Western civilization. Students will be introduced to major style traits, composers, significant compositions, and genres within music thereby gaining greater awareness of how being human is experienced and expressed through the creative process. Music Appreciation assumes a holistic approach and affords students the unique opportunity to study connections between the arts. This course meets The Arts requirement of the Humanities general education distribution requirement. (Interterm, even years)

G-MU 210 Introduction to World Music:

3 hours

This course addresses music as a social phenomenon, inseparable from its cultural context. Therefore, students will study not only a variety of styles and repertoires of music from around the world but also the behaviors, beliefs, and histories of those who make music. Students are encouraged to use the study of music as a tool to analyze broader patterns and dynamics of
human activity. This course meets the Global/Intercultural Experience requirement of the general education foundation requirement. (Spring, even years)

G-MU 355 Music History and Literature I:

3 hours

Historical survey of styles, forms, genres, and composers of Western music from antiquity to the end of the Baroque period. This course meets The Arts requirement of the Humanities general education distribution requirement. (Fall, even years)

G-MU 360 Music History and Literature II:

3 hours

Historical survey of styles, forms, genres, and composers of Western music from the Classical period to the present. This course meets The Arts requirement of the Humanities general education distribution requirement. (Spring, odd years)

MU 136 Music Theory I:

3 hours

This is a foundational course in harmonic concepts and their application in reading, studying and performing music. Students will learn the fundamentals of music including musical notation, major and minor scales, key and time signatures, intervals, triads, and seventh chords. This course is a core requirement for music majors and students seeking music licensure. Co requisite: MU 159, Sight Singing and Ear Training I. (Fall, even years)

MU 150 Music Major Lab:

0 hours

This course brings together music majors for lectures, recitals, concerts, guest speakers, masterclasses, and performance labs. Topical subjects, including those related to music professions, educational practices, literature, and musicianship, will be covered. This lab is a core requirement for music majors. (Fall, spring)

MU 159 Sight Singing and Ear Training I:

I hour

A study including sight singing, rhythmic performance, improvisation exercises, dictation (melodic, harmonic, rhythmic), and related skills, all designed to develop the student’s musical ear to the highest degree possible. Co-requisite: MU 136, Music Theory I. (Fall, even years)

MU 223 Music Tour:

3 hours, by consent of Instructor

Travel, lecture, and performance tour of a region of the U.S. or foreign country. Study involves the functions of music and its interaction with culture, emotion, language, dance, art, sculpture and architecture.

MU 232 Vocal Ensemble:

0-1 hour (can be repeated)

Vocal ensemble is a select performance group formed by audition from members of the McPherson College Choir. It is designed to give students opportunity to sing and perform some of the great vocal chamber literature in a variety of settings. Prerequisite: simultaneous enrollment in college choir and consent of instructor. (Fall, spring)

MU 234 Instrumental Ensemble:
0-1 hour (can be repeated)
This course consists of select trios, quartets, quintets, jazz band or combos, and other like-instrument ensembles organized by audition according to interest and available students. Prerequisite: Simultaneous enrollment in college band and/or consent of instructor. (Fall, spring)

MU 236 Music Theory II:
3 hours
This course offers a foundation in analyzing and writing music that will benefit any musical endeavor and is essential for a music educator. Students will be introduced to structural elements of writing music including four-part voice writing using triads in root position, harmonic progressions and harmonic rhythm, and part writing using triads in first and second inversion. This course is designed for music majors and for students seeking music licensure. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MU 136, Music Theory I. Co-requisite: MU 259, Sight Singing and
Ear Training II. (Spring, odd years)

MU 259 Sight Singing and Ear Training II:
I hour
A continuation of MU 159, Sight Singing and Ear Training I. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MU 159 Sight Singing and Ear Training I. Co-requisite: MU 236, Music Theory II. (Spring, odd years)

MU 274 Instrumental Techniques Lab:
I hour, by consent of Instructor
This course provides students with an introductory, hands-on experience in playing and teaching band instruments at the public school level. This course is designed for choral emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Spring, odd years)

MU 309 Woodwind Techniques:
I hour, by consent of Instructor
Class instruction in flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, and bassoon, with emphasis on the development of individual performance skills and diagnostic pedagogical techniques and materials. This course is designed for instrumental emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Spring, even years)

MU 310 Brass Techniques:
I hour, by consent of Instructor
Class instruction in trumpet, horn, trombone, baritone horn, and tuba, with emphasis on the development of individual performance skills and diagnostic pedagogical techniques and materials. This course is designed for instrumental emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Fall, odd years)

MU 311 Strings Techniques:
I hour, by consent of Instructor
Class instruction in violin, viola, cello and bass, with emphasis on the development of individual performance skills and diagnostic pedagogical techniques and materials. This course is designed for instrumental emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Spring, odd years)

MU 312 Percussion Techniques:
1 hour, by consent of Instructor
Class instruction in percussion instruments, with emphasis on the development of individual performance skills and diagnostic pedagogical techniques and materials. This course is designed for instrumental emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Fall, even years)

———-Private Lessons———-

1 hour (can be repeated)

These lessons offer an intensive learning experience through a one-to-one setting. Students will develop their musicianship and technical ability through the preparation, interpretation and performance of representative works of the past and the present.

MU 330B Brass-MU 330P Percussion-MU 330S Strings-MU 330W Woodwind
Students will 1) address personal levels of skill and technique as appropriate for their instruments; 2) become aware of professional recordings and performances on their instruments; 3) study appropriate literature for their instruments.

MU 330G Guitar
Students will 1) address personal levels of skill and technique as appropriate for guitar; 2) become aware of professional recordings and performances on the instrument; 3) study appropriate literature for the instrument. Open to all students.

MU 330K Piano-Organ
Students will have the opportunity for musical growth both in performance of keyboard literature and in knowledge of the interrelationships between performance, history, and theory. Open to all students.

MU 330V Voice

Students will develop their ability to access musical and literary resources for vocal music; their understanding of appropriate vocal pedagogy; their ability to identify, through visual and aural analysis, composers and music representing diverse styles, periods, cultures, genres, and techniques of musical organization; and their ability to evaluate musical performances. Open to all students.

———————————————-

MU 336 Music Theory III:

3 hours

This course is a continuation of Music Theory II. Students will be introduced to cadences, phrases, periods and sentences, non-chord tones, and diatonic seventh chords as they explore the structural elements of writing music at a more advanced level. This course is designed for music majors and for those students seeking music licensure. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MU 236 Music Theory II. Co-requisite: MU 359, Sight Singing and Ear Training III. (Fall, odd years)

MU 345 Conducting:

1 hour

A study of the fundamental conducting gestures, techniques, and score preparation. Additional focus is given to oral communication and writing related to the art of conducting and self-evaluation. Pre-requisites: MU 336 or Instructor approval. (Fall, even years)

MU 359 Sight Singing and Ear Training III:

1 hour

A continuation of MU 259, Sight Singing and Ear Training II. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MU 259, Sight Singing and Ear Training II. Co-requisite: MU 336, Music Theory III. (Fall, odd years)

MU 370/CI 370 Methods for Teaching Instrumental Music:

3 hours, by consent of Instructor

This course provides an overview of and practical applications in the basic technical aspects of organizing, administrating, teaching, and conducting instrumental ensembles at the public school level. This course is designed for music majors seeking music licensure. (Spring, even years)

MU 371/CI 371 Methods for Teaching Choral Music:

3 hours, by consent of Instructor

Students learn choral literature, pedagogy, rehearsal techniques, rehearsal planning, music literacy strategies, assessment and grading, rehearsal management, and administration of a middle and high school choral program. This course is designed for students seeking music licensure. (Spring, odd years)

MU 372/CI 372 Methods for Teaching General Music:

3 hours, by consent of Instructor

This course is designed for students seeking music licensure and covers the methods and materials for teaching general music. (Fall, odd years)

MU 375 Junior Recital:

1 hour, by consent of Instructor

Students at the junior level will prepare a 25 minute recital to be given in the spring semester of their junior year.

MU 385 Vocal Pedagogy:

1 hour, by consent of Instructor

Vocal Pedagogy covers the anatomy, physiology, and function of the singing voice and provides a comprehensive overview of the concepts and methodologies of modern and historical vocal instruction. This course is designed for choral emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Fall, even years)

MU 390 Choral Techniques I:

1 hour, by consent of Instructor

This course prepares pre-professional choral music educators. Course content includes a survey of choral literature from antiquity to the present and rehearsal techniques associated with these style periods and genres. This course is designed for choral emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Fall, odd years)

MU 395 Choral Techniques II:

1 hour, by consent of Instructor

This course prepares pre-professional choral music educators. Emphasis is placed on how to develop musicianship, audiation, and vocal technique in the choral rehearsal. This course is designed for choral emphasis music majors seeking music licensure. (Spring, even years)

MU 436 Music Theory IV:

3 hours

This course is a continuation of Music Theory III. In this upper-level course, students will be introduced to advanced chromaticism secondary functions, modulations, and larger musical forms from major historic periods in music. Students will also explore materials and techniques used in Twentieth-Century Music. This course is designed for music majors and for students seeking music licensure. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MU 336, Music Theory III. Co requisite: MU 459, Sight Singing and Ear Training IV. (Spring, even years)

MU 459 Sight Singing and Ear Training IV:
1 hour
A continuation of MU 359, Sight Singing and Ear Training III. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MU 359, Sight Singing and Ear Training III. Co-requisite: MU 436 Music Theory IV. (Spring, even years) ·

MU 465 Advanced Conducting and Rehearsal Techniques:
1 hour, by consent of Instructor
This course provides students an in-depth study of band or choral teaching methods and advanced study and practice in band or choral conducting. Topics will include conducting and rehearsal techniques, score study and repertoire. This course is designed for music majors seeking music licensure. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MU 345. (Spring, odd years)

MU 475 Senior Recital
2 hours, by consent of Instructor
Music majors are required to complete this capstone experience. The student will complete an intensive preparation of skills and research in conjunction with a 50 minute performance recital. Prerequisite: Private lessons.

Natural Science Program

Natural Science Course Descriptions

Spanish Program

Spanish Course Descriptions

Philosophy and Religion Program

Philosophy & Religion Course Descriptions

Psychology Program

Psychology Course Descriptions

Sociology Program

Sociology Course Descriptions

Theatre Program

Theatre Course Descriptions