

# Westminster Choir College of Rider University Music Education Department



## ***ME 111: Music Education Laboratory Fall, 2009***

***Frank Abrahams, Ed. D.  
Professor of Music Education  
Office: Williamson Hall Lower Level  
Office Phone: 609-921-7100 ext. 8229  
Home Phone: 215-782-8481  
Email: [Abrahams@rider.edu](mailto:Abrahams@rider.edu)  
SKYPE: [f\\_abrahams](#)  
TWITTER: [f\\_abrahams](#)  
IM: [frankabrahams@me.com](mailto:frankabrahams@me.com)***

## ***Attendance Policy***

Students are expected to attend every session of music education laboratory. Students may miss one lab exclusive of run-outs. All absences after 1, must be made up before the end of the semester. To make up an entire semester of Music Education Laboratory, students must attend 3 full-day Saturday Seminars or attend a weeklong summer workshop. Students must have 7 semesters of lab to graduate. Students do not attend lab during the semester when they student teach. Students in the 5-year BM/MAT combination degree program should complete their lab requirements by the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> semester.

Attendance will be recorded in the GRADEBOOK section of Blackboard for this course. It is each student's responsibility to monitor his/her attendance and to report errors promptly. Adjustments in attendance will not be made after the semester concludes.

### **MENC membership is recommended for this course.**

All music education majors should belong to the Westminster chapter of MENC: The National Association for Music Education. MENC advocates for music education in schools and is responsible for ensuring that there are music-teaching positions for graduates of music education degree programs. The publications and conferences provide valuable insights into the most current thinking in the profession and an opportunity to network and explore potential job opportunities. You can follow MENC activities on the weekly e-blasts and on Twitter. You can join MENC online. For more information contact the president – Meghan Murray at [murraymeg@rider.edu](mailto:murraymeg@rider.edu)

### ***Information about Professional Development Activity***

All music education majors are required to complete 15 hours of activity that contributes to their professional development each semester. Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors are expected to do professional development activity that relates to leadership or teaching. Professional Development Activity for freshman is more flexible.

Students who elect to participate in the CMENC singers and who attend all of the rehearsals and sing in the concert on Wednesday, December 16 may earn double PDA credit. Details will be available at the first lab.

Students who coordinate and conduct chamber choirs for the Madrigal Dinner may apply those hours to Professional Development Activity requirements.

Students must complete 15 hours of professional development as a requirement for credit. Professional Development Activities must be approved in advance and completed before the last day of classes. Specifically:

**Monday, September 21** - PDA proposals must be submitted to the Digital Drop Box on Blackboard prior to noon.

**Friday, December 11** - Evidence of a completed PDA (except for CMENC Singers) must be submitted to the Digital Drop Box on Blackboard prior to noon.

### ***Music Ed Lab Focus for Fall, 2009***

This semester, we will focus on the preparation and presentation of a holiday Madrigal Dinner. In many high schools and some middle schools, the Madrigal Dinner is a school tradition. Choral departments often use the Madrigal Dinner as a fundraiser. Whatever the goal, the Madrigal Dinner provides opportunity for small ensembles to sing, play, act and dance. We will do a traditional dinner, with script. The department will be divided into several chamber choirs—all with student conductors and coordinators. Students will select and prepare the repertoire. The script will be student directed. Details will be provided at the first class meeting. The tentative dates are Saturday December 5 from 1 PM – 4 PM for dress rehearsal and Sunday, December 6 at 6 PM for the dinner. This is a tentative date as of September 1 and may change. *Participation in the madrigal dinner dress rehearsal and performance is NOT a condition of credit for lab. All students are required to participate in the Friday classes. Participation at the dinner performance and event is recommended but not required. Students will be asked to indicate their intent to participate early in the semester. That commitment shall be binding.*