

Mus 135 Berea Black Music Ensemble, Fall 2004
Dr. Kathy Bullock, Director

Course Description:

This singing ensemble is dedicated to the preservation and performance of African-American sacred music. The repertoire will consist primarily of gospel and spiritual music as understood in its historical and social context. A Christian-based organization, this ensemble reflects Berea's great commitments of Christian expression and service by also providing an outlet through which students may express their faith and promote a divine spirit of community. In addition to presenting Fall and Spring concerts on Berea's campus, the ensemble sings in local and neighboring communities. The group also tours other parts of the country during the semester.

Requirements:

Course Fee: As a member of this choir, each student will be charged a course fee of \$5.00 per semester. The amount will be applied toward expenses regularly incurred each semester (i.e. programming, equipment upkeep and repair).

Uniform: Each student will be assigned a robe for which he/she will have responsibility during the semester. At the end of each semester, or whenever student is no longer a BME member, student will return robe, in good condition to the department. Please note: If robe is not returned, student will be charged \$130 replacement fee.

Attendance: In order for the ensemble to function effectively, it is essential that each member attend **every** rehearsal, sectional and performance. Therefore attendance to all events is mandatory. Members must also be on time. Please contact the director, in advance, if an emergency arises and you cannot make a rehearsal. Three tardinesses, equal one absence. Three absences will result in student being placed on probationary status. Also absence from a performance will result in probation and may be followed by dismissal from the group.

Evaluation:

Letter grades will be assigned based upon student's attendance, degree of participation in the group and mastery of the music. For example:

An "A" Student will do ALL of the following:

- Attend all performances and rehearsals, on time.
- Exhibit positive attitude and willingness to work with others
- Learn and know their part
- Actively participate in all other choir activities (i.e. fund raising)

A "C" Student will:

- Miss 3 rehearsal sessions and/or be tardy during the semester
- Not participate in other choir activities

To build a strong foundation we should strive for the following:

- * Musical Excellence
- * Fellowship
- * Knowledge of and Relationship with God
- * Cultural Advancement
- * Scholarship