



Professional Development: Building a Successful Choral Classroom
Syllabus

Three (3) hours of Professional Development from West Virginia University offered to attendees at the WVACDA 2025 Conference
February 6 – 8, 2025
Morgantown Marriott Waterfront Hotel
WVU Canady Creative Arts Center

Take advantage of this opportunity to receive 3 hours of non-degree professional development credit by attending the 2025 WVACDA Conference. This credit can be used for renewal of your WV teaching certification or advanced salary classification.

Participants must be admitted and active as a GR- Professional Development major (4299). This registration must be completed before you can register for the course.

Instructions for admission can be found here: <https://online.wvu.edu/admissions/professional-development>

Registration is open now. Please register no later than March 1, 2025.

Course Information

CRN: 16126

Course: MUSC 930

Section: 703

Credit Hours: 3

Title: PRDV: Success Choral Clssrm 25

Cost: \$231 (payable to WVU)

Questions can be directed to kym.scott@mail.wvu.edu

Requirements include:

- Completion of 45 contact hours
- Submission of a brief written reflective summary (minimum 2 pages) of your experiences to: Kym.Scott@mail.wvu.edu by Monday, March 17, 2025.

Goals:

The conference participants will:

- obtain information on conference offerings and develop their personalized conference schedule based on that knowledge.
- obtain new pedagogical approaches and strengthen existing ones
- obtain information on products, services, and programs
- reflect on their current educational skill set. During this reflective process attendees will ask themselves how their skill set might change.

Requirements:

1. Total of 45 contact hours: 12 contact hours during the in-service conference
2. Reflective journals writing – 8 contact hours
3. Networking and idea sharing – 5-7 contact hours
4. Teacher Development – 18 - 20 contact hours

Required Conference Sessions

Participants are required to attend a minimum of 5 of the sessions listed below. They should also attend at least one repertoire session.

- “Forming Formants: A Systematic Approach to Singing Vowels” - Thomas Erik Angerhofer
- “Revelations and Realizations from a Middle-Aged Choir Director” - Adam Loudin
- “The Choral Art of Text, Melody, and Harmony” - Mr. Greg Gilpin, 2025 High School Chamber Choir Conductor
- “Find Your Choir's Mojo: Using Dalcroze Method to Unlock Your Choir's Artistry” - Jason Strunk
- “Past is prologue: Preparing young musicians to thrive as choral artists” - Daniel Gordon, 2025 Collegiate Honor Choir Conductor
- “Scaffolded Score Study for Scaffolded Rehearsals” - Ryan Keeling
- “Warmups and Rote Songs” - Mary Biddlecombe, 2025 Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir Conductor

The full conference schedule can be found below.

Assessment:

During the conference, take notes on each session. These notes will culminate in a reflective journal.

From your reflective journal create a document that includes a brief summation of each event you attended. Describe what information you gained or observed from each session, concert, and/or meeting you attended.

You may want to include:

- The effectiveness of the clinics/clinicians and why
- New repertoire you discovered
- New ideas and/or teaching strategies you have gained
- New material that will assist your teaching situation
- How the conference (sessions, concerts) helped you grow as a teacher and/or musician

This course will be pass/fail and cannot be used for graduate degree completion.

2025 WVACDA Professional Development Sessions

Thursday, February 6

- 1:00pm – 1:50pm Interest Session: “Past is prologue: Preparing young musicians to thrive as choral artists”
Dr. Daniel Gordon, 2025 Collegiate Honor Choir Conductor
- 2:00pm – 2:50pm Interest Session: “Warmups and Rote Songs”
Ms. Mary Biddlecombe, 2025 Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir Conductor
- 3:00pm – 3:50pm Repertoire Session: World Musics
Ms. Natalie Shaffer, Maestri Vocale Treble
- 4:00pm – 4:50pm Interest Session: “Scaffolded Score Study for Scaffolded Rehearsals”
Dr. Ryan Keeling, Westminster College

Friday, February 7

- 9:00am – 9:50am Interest Session: “Forming Formants: A Systematic Approach to Singing Vowels”
Dr. Thomas Erik Angerhofer, West Virginia University
- 10:00am – 10:50am Repertoire Session: Advanced – High School, Community, TTB and Collegiate Choirs
Ms. Martina Kiser, Lewis County High School
- 1:00pm – 1:50pm Interest Session: “Revelations and Realizations from a Middle-Aged Choir Director”
Mr. Adam Loudin, Robert L. Bland Middle School
- 2:00pm – 2:50pm Repertoire Session: Intermediate - Middle School, Mixed, Children's & Treble Choirs
Ms. SarahEllen Beamer, R&S Chair – Grade 7 – 9
- 3:00pm – 3:50pm Interest Session: “The Choral Art of Text, Melody, and Harmony”
Mr. Greg Gilpin, 2025 High School Chamber Choir Conductor
- 4:00pm – 4:50pm Interest Session: “Find Your Choir's Mojo: Using Dalcroze Method to Unlock Your Choir's Artistry”
Dr. Jason Strunk, Shepherd University
- 5:00pm – 5:50pm WVACDA General Membership Meeting
Ms. Jennifer Ratliff, Presiding