The Nukporfe African Dance-Drumming Ensemble is comprised of 30–40 singers, dancers, and drummers who have taken introductory courses in African Drumming and Dance in the Department of Music (MUS 143B), African Studies (188B, 389J), and Theatre Dance (289J, 389J), or who have significant previous experience in African music or dance. Auditions are held every semester on Friday of the first week of classes from 1 to 3 PM in FA 27. We give between 4–5 major performances each year at BU as well as throughout the Tri-Cities community. We are often invited to participate in intercollegiate music festivals and other cultural activities within the area. Last year in addition to two major concerts at Anderson Center, we also performed at the Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference, for World AIDS Day, and at the Broome County Arts Council. Past performances have been at Cornell University, Tufts University, Africa House Art Gallery, and the New York State Capitol.

The Hakrup Jazz Ensemble studies and performs big-band repertoire and appears frequently on and off campus. At each semester concert, the band features a guest artist from the professional jazz world. Guests who have appeared in concert with this popular ensemble include, among others, Clark Terry, “Siam” Stewart, Manny Albam, Uribe Green, Frank Wess, Phil Woods, Marian McPartland, Steve Brown, Mel Lewis, Slide Hampton, Peter Appleayard, John Faddis, Rufus Reid, Chris Washburne, Houston Person, Eddie Allen, Oscar Peterson, Rob McConnell, Dave Stryker, John McNeil, Ron Vincent, Cynthia Scott, Bruce Johnstone, Harry Allen, Walter White, or at Eastley, Steve Davis, The Fuller, Sherrie Miller, Jennifer Leitham and Mike Davis.

The University Chorus provides students, faculty and community members the opportunity to join forces in performing the great masterworks of choral music. It is a large chorus of 125 to 150 singers who perform annually with a full orchestra. Over its 30 plus year history, the chorus has performed more than 50 major works from every historical period. During the upcoming season the Chorus will present the Verdi Requiem with the Binghamton Philharmonic in November, Perciachetti Celebrations with the University Wind Symphony in March, 2013, and a May, 2013 concert with the University Symphony.

The following musical courses are available to students accepted into, and retaining good standing in, their major ensemble.

STUDIO LESSONS

Private studio instruction is available to students in voice and for the following instruments: piano, organ, harpsichord, violin, viola, violoncello, string bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, baritone, tuba and percussion (1–2 credits). A fee of $75 (instrumentalists) or $125 (vocalists) is assessed for the semester.

SMALL ENSEMBLES

In addition to work in major ensembles, instrumental students may form a variety of small ensembles including percussion, clarinet, low brass, trumpet and other groups that rehearse weekly and receive faculty coaching. Times are arranged according to student and faculty availability.

CHAMBER MUSIC

Interested students may be placed in a variety of chamber music ensembles (trios, quartets, quintets, etc.) and receive faculty coaching and University credit. Rehearsals are arranged by any student who is receiving studio lessons and/or has been identified by a music faculty member as eligible for a key. Instrumental storage lockers are available in a special secure room on the ground floor of the Fine Arts Building. These rooms are available to students who have been admitted to the music program through audition, or to music course qualifying them for a practice room key or a pass-code to the storage room. A $20 non-refundable yearly fee for the use of practice rooms is due at the time a key is assigned by the Department of Music (FA 165). To receive a locker, students must register their lock and receive a locker assignment with campus ID. There is no fee for instrument locks.

CONCERTS AND CONCERT HALLS

The Music Department presents over 100 concerts yearly, including solo, chamber and ensemble performances by students, faculty and guest artists. Most of these events take place in the Anderson Center Concert Theater (1,200 seats), the Chamber Hall (475 seats), Casadesus Recital Hall (225 seats), and Fine Arts Room 21 (80 seats); a majority of the concerts are free for students.

PRACTICE ROOMS

Practice rooms equipped with Steinway pianos are located on the basement and first floor levels of the Fine Arts Building. Most of these rooms are kept locked and are for use by any student who is receiving studio lessons and/or has been identified by a music faculty member as eligible for a key. Instrumental storage lockers are available in a special secure room on the ground floor of the Fine Arts Building. These rooms are available to students who have been admitted to the music program through audition, or to music course qualifying them for a practice room key or a pass-code to the storage room. A $20 non-refundable yearly fee for the use of practice rooms is due at the time a key is assigned by the Department of Music (FA 165). To receive a locker, students must register their lock and receive a locker assignment with campus ID. There is no fee for instrument locks.

INSTRUMENT LOCKERS

Instrument lockers are available to music students only. Students must stop by FA 165, present campus I.D., and register their combination lock to receive a locker for the semester. There is no fee for instrument lockers.

INSTRUMENT RENTALS

A limited number of University instruments are available to rent for members of ensemble or studio programs. Students take responsibility for maintaining the instrument and pay a $110 annual fee for its use. Please contact the faculty member in your area or instrument prior to arrival on campus.

The Women’s Chorus is an ensemble of 18–24 women devoted to the exploration and performance of a wide range of repertory and styles for treble voices. This year the Women’s Chorus will perform on the Parents’ Weekend Concert in October, in the Holiday Concert in December, and will present concerts with the Harper Chorale in March and May.

The Harper Chorale is a select chamber choir whose members are chosen on the basis of voice quality and sight-reading ability. The Chorale performs frequently throughout the year, singing outstanding choral works of every historical period and style in several languages. The group has toured throughout the United States and Canada. The Chorale will perform on the Parents’ Weekend Concert in October, a Holiday themed concert in December, and concerts with the Women’s Chorus in March and May.

INSTRUMENT INFORMATION

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Contact Information

For further information, www2.binghamton.edu/music/faq.html
Students who wish to become Bachelor of Arts majors or music minors must consult with the Undergraduate Director. Students should come to the Music Office (FA165) for further information. Students interested in the B. Mus. degree should consult with their studio instructors early in the freshman year. An audition, required for entry into the B. Mus. major, should be completed by the end of the freshman year.

Auditions: MUS courses are open to all students without audition. All MUS (performance) courses require an audition prior to being admitted for registration. MUS Audition take place during the first week of Fall and Spring terms. They are open to students of any major and school, and are intended to admit as many qualified students as possible in keeping with the organization of the ensemble or course.

Students are urged to sign up for an audition time as soon as possible. Information on auditions is posted in the Fine Arts Building opposite Room 165. At the conclusion of the audition week (but prior to registration) students are informed by email about their placement into major ensembles, studio lessons and/or chamber music. Registration for all MUS courses takes place during the second week of classes. Pre-registration is not possible for MUS courses. Students in ensembles will register in rehearsal; students in lessons and chamber music must register with the Assistant to the Chair.

**AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

**Instrumental (Band Orchestras):** a) scales and rudiments b) 2—3 minutes of a prepared published solo or etude chosen by the student to demonstrate their technique, tone and musicianship (no accompanist), and c) a brief sight-reading excerpt. Jazz players, see below.

**Choral:** Prepared solo or “My Country ‘Tis of Thee,” scales to check for vocal range; tonal memory drill, simple sight-reading. A piano accompanist is provided. Bring sheet music for the prepared solo you sing. Art songs, popular songs, church solos or Broadway solos are all acceptable.

**Voice:** Prepared solo from classical or Broadway repertoire: standard art song literature, musicals, theater music or Broadway solos are all appropriate.

**Choral:** Prepared solo or “My Country ‘Tis of Thee,” scales to check for vocal range; tonal memory drill, simple sight-reading. A piano accompanist is provided. Bring sheet music for the prepared solo you sing. Art songs, popular songs, church solos or Broadway solos are all acceptable.

**Piano:** Prepare two pieces of contrasting styles demonstrating technique and musicianship. Students should have a minimum of 5 years of piano study.

**Organ/Harpischord:** Minimum of two years previous keyboard experience. One prepared piece. A work for organ or harpsichord is desirable but not required.

**Jazz:** Students audition while sitting with the Jazz Ensemble. Auditions are held in FA 24 the first Tuesday evening of the semester. Students should bring instruments except keyboard, bass and drums.