

Syllabus for
MUS 063—University Chorale
1 Credit Hour
Spring 2024

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A vocal performance ensemble for mixed voices that performs both *a cappella* and accompanied music selected from the Renaissance through the twenty-first century.

Prerequisites: non-audition

Ensemble Fee: \$40.00

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to provide a large mixed choral ensemble for music majors and non-majors. Students learn music from all historical periods through performing standard choral literature in both sacred and secular genres.

III. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

This course meets degree completion requirements for the following program: General Music

- A. To provide opportunities for students to develop their music capabilities and interests through the use of music as a socializing force, as an aid to compassionate understanding of themselves and their environment and as an avenue of self-expression.
- B. To stimulate an appreciation and love for music through the study of its various disciplines.
- C. To develop techniques for mature evaluation of musical standards.
- D. To give an adequate background for further study in graduate school and cultivate tools for teaching in public and private schools, teaching in private studios, performing in professional music organizations and working in related music fields
- E. Prepare for various church ministries and worship.

IV. UNIVERSITY OUTCOMES

This course aligns with the following University Outcomes as indicated on the last page.

- A. Spiritual Integrity
- B. Personal Resilience
- C. Intellectual Pursuit
- D. Global Engagement
- E. Bold Vision

V. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student should be able to do the following:

- A. Perform music from various historical periods incorporating appropriate stylistic elements for each piece
- B. Demonstrate appropriate vocal technique singing a variety of music within an ensemble setting
- C. Demonstrate appropriate rhythmic and melodic reading skills with appropriate intonation.
- D. Apply proper breath technique and vowel formation to improve individual and group tone quality in the ensemble
- E. Exhibit improved musicianship, using dynamics, articulations, and phrasing in the ensemble music chosen for the concerts

VI. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials

1. Textbooks: Choir folder management: organize personal music scores
2. Other: Pencil, Performance/Concert Attire

MEN: Black Tuxedo jacket and pants, white shirt, black bowtie, black socks and black shoes. Tuxedos can be purchased for approximately \$150 on-line or at a local (Tulsa) retail shop. Tuxedos need to be purchased in time for the first concert.

WOMEN: Full-length Black Dress (pre-determined by the ensemble director) and purchased through the Music Office. Cost is approximately \$68. Ordered in the Music Office. *No earrings, necklaces or wrist watches are to be worn during performance.*

B. Optional Materials

1. Textbooks: Octavo Scores own by the Music Department
2. Other: Related handouts

VII. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. Departmental Policies and Procedures – See Music Student Handbook.

B. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

The semester grade is based on attendance, attitude, musical progress, participation in rehearsals and performances, and care of property and is determined as follows

a. **To earn the letter grade of A:**

1. Attend all performances and dress rehearsals.
2. Do not exceed two absences (Three tardies count as one absence).
3. Be in the assigned area at the given time of all rehearsals.
4. Maintain the proper attitude expected of a collegiate choir singer.
5. Take responsibility for knowing one's part in the music and assignments (i.e. measure numbers and translations on the music)

b. **To earn the letter grade of B:**

1. Be present at all performances and dress rehearsals.
2. Do not exceed three absences.
3. Do not exceed two tardies.
4. Maintain the proper attitude expected of a collegiate choir singer
5. Take responsibility for knowing one's part in the music and assignments (i.e. measure numbers and translations on the music)

c. **To earn a letter grade of C:**

1. Be present at all performances and dress rehearsals.
2. Do not exceed four absences.
3. Do not exceed two tardies
4. Maintain the proper attitude expected of a collegiate choir singer.
5. Take responsibility for knowing one's part in the music and assignments (i.e. measure numbers and translations on the music).

d. **To receive the letter grade of D:**

1. Be absent from a dress rehearsal.
2. Five absent from class (rehearsal)

e. **Any major performance missed will automatically qualify a choir member for a grade of F.**

- f. If you have a planned excused absence, let the director know as soon as possible. Bring documentation of the administrative excuse as soon as possible to the choir assistant/secretary.

- g. The rehearsals during concert weeks are mandatory (NO exceptions). Although you may have time conflict with other classes, you have to be present in order to practice with the entire ensemble members before the concert. If you fail to attend, you will get ONE LOWER letter grade for each missed dress rehearsal.
 - h. If you miss class time more than 10 times (including excused absences), you will be dismissed this course
 - i. There will be a performance check to the discretion of the director (who doesn't know their parts).
2. Whole Person Requirements
There are no Whole Person requirements for this class
3. Other Course Policies and/or Procedures
- a. Rehearsal department
 - 1. No food, drink, chewing gum or hats
 - 2. No texting please. Rehearsals are about coming together. It is not possible to be fully engaged and contribute to the group when texting. Texting will lower the grade by one for each occurrence and may result in dismissal.
 - 3. No unexcused tardies.
 - 4. Respect of our shared work requires everyone to be on time and ready.
 - 5. Choir is a group form of artistic expression. Choir members expect their peers to share the similar commitment level. Attendance is not only required but essential for success.
 - 6. No unexcused absences are permitted. Excused absences need to be discussed in advance. Students must ask to be excused.
 - b. Music Folder and Music
 - 1. Student will pay monetary compensation for music lost at current replacement cost. Lost music folder (\$20) will be replaced by the student.

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR

This ensemble will meet three times weekly for rehearsal and will perform a concert on campus near the end of the semester, as well as at other possible events to be announced by the director.

- A. Regular rehearsals are scheduled **MWF 2:25-3:20 p.m.**
- B. Additional rehearsals and dress rehearsals **will be scheduled as needed** and will be announced as far in advance as possible.
- C. Performances
 - 1. One major concert and three performance opportunities per semester. Missing a major concert constitutes a failing grade for the course and missing additional performance opportunities may result in point deduction.
 - 2. Possible off-campus performances in schools, churches, hospitals, civic and state professional music organizations, or other professional groups.
 - 3. A schedule of confirmed performance dates will be provided at the beginning of each semester. Performances added later will be announced with ample notice.
 - 4. Administrative excuses will be provided as needed.
 - 5. **Commencement exercises are required and constitute the final exam** in spring semester. Students need to check the commencement schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.
 - **Friday, May 3, 2024 – Dress rehearsal (TBA)**
 - **Saturday, May 4, 2024 – Commencement Day (schedule –TBA)**

Program Outcome Alignment: PERFORMANCE VOCAL

This program contributes to the University outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

Program Outcome alignment with University Outcomes		Significant	Moderate	Minimal	None
Spiritual Integrity					
Outcome 1	Students will apply a Biblical and Christian Worldview when creating, performing, teaching, worshiping, and analyzing a variety of styles of music.	X			

Personal Resilience					
Outcome 2	Students will demonstrate active engagement and self-motivation in the preparation for recitals, classroom teaching, worship sets, research, audio projects, and presentations in music.		X		

Intellectual Pursuit					
Outcome 3 NASM 8.B.2.a-b	Students will develop the technical performance skills for artistic expression in at least one major performance area at a level appropriate for the major or concentration.		X		
Outcome 4 NASM 8.B.1.c	Students will develop ability to read at sight with fluency in their major performance area relevant to professional standards for the particular music concentration.		X		
Outcome 5 NASM 8.B.2.a	Students will develop aural skills to identify intervals, melodic structures, chord qualities, and harmonic progressions.		X		
Outcome 6 NASM 8.B.2.a	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the theory, harmonic progressions, and forms of a variety of styles of music when studying, listening, performing, and teaching music.		X		
Outcome 7 NASM 8.B.4	Students will acquire and develop the basic knowledge of music history and repertoire through the present time for a variety Western music cultures and styles.		X		

Global Engagement					
Outcome 8	Students will engage and analyze music from a wide variety of musical periods including Western and non-Western musical traditions and worship.		X		

Bold Vision					
Outcome 9 NASM 8.B.1.f	Students will demonstrate vision, leadership, and artistry in performance through expression in phrasing, dynamics, articulations, and accepted practice for musical works in a variety of settings including the stage, classroom, therapeutic settings, and worship services.	X			