

Syllabus for
MUS 061–Chamber Singers
1 Credit Hour
Spring 2024

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A vocal performance ensemble, which performs both *a cappella* and accompanied music in a variety of styles selected from the Renaissance period through the 21st century.
Prerequisite--Audition for the director with sufficient vocal ability and musicality.
Ensemble fee: \$40.00

II. COURSE GOALS

This course enables the student to do the following:

- A. Gain ensemble experience for vocal majors and minors as an aid to teaching musical style and performance techniques.
- B. Provide cultural enrichment for the ORU community and the local area. Ensemble members may also be involved in touring for the University.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successful participation in this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Achieve a high level of excellence in both singing and musicality, with an emphasis on good vocal technique.
- B. Acquaint audiences with a variety of stylistic approaches to choral singing and choral literature.
- C. Perform at the highest possible artistic level for the glory of God.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

- A. Required Materials
 - 1. Textbooks: Choir Folder: Assignments Repertoire
 - 2. Other: Pencil, concert attire
- B. Optional Material
 - 1. Textbooks: Personal copies of music may be purchased from time to time
 - 2. Other: Related Material

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURE

- A. Department Policies – see the Music Department Student Handbook.
- B. Course Policies and Procedures
 - 1. Evaluation Procedures

Your grade and future participation in the choir will depend not only on musical progress, attendance, and care of property, but also upon attitude and participation in rehearsals and public performances. No free cuts are permitted. Administratively excused absences and sicknesses that are authenticated by the University Health Service or nurse are honored according to grade requirements.

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

- 1. Be present at all performances and dress rehearsals.
- 2. Do not exceed two absences
- 3. Be in the assigned area at the given time of all rehearsals.
- 4. Maintain the proper attitude expected of a collegiate choir member.

5. Take responsibility for knowing one's part in the music and assignments (i.e. measure numbers and translations on the music)
- b. **To receive 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 member.
 5. Take responsibility for knowing one's part in the music and assignments (i.e. measure numbers and translations on the music)
- c. **To receive 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 member.
 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. Three tardies will constitute one absence.
- g. It is easy to make an "A." Students just need to be here on time at each rehearsal or performance. As soon as possible following any absence or tardy, document it with the choir assistant /secretary. If you know about an absence in advance, see the director.
- h. h. 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.
- i. If you miss class time more than 10 times (including excused absences), you will be dismissed this course
- j. There will be a performance check to the discretion of the director (who doesn't know their parts).
2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements
There are no WPA requirements for this course.
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. No unexcused absences are permitted. Excused absences need to be excused in advance. Students must ask to be excused.

- b. Performance Attire
 - (1) Women: a full-length black dress, to be purchased ready-made at a cost of approximately \$68. Additional needs are black hose and comfortable, but dressy, black shoes. ***No earrings, necklaces or wrist watches are to be worn during performance.***
 - (2) Men: a black tuxedo coat, adjustable waist pants, white wing-collar shirt, black bowtie and cummerbund which may be purchased for about \$150. Additional needs include black dress shoes and black socks.
- c. 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.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

This ensemble will meet two 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 **Tuesday/ Thursday 4:10-5:05pm**
- 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 per semester with possible performances in Chapel or Music Seminar. Missing a major concert constitutes a failing grade for the course.
 - 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.
 - May 3 (Friday) 2024 – Dress rehearsal (TBA)
 - May 4, 2023 (Saturday) 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.				