



## SYLLABUS

### SPRING 2012

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

MUS 0231-1 *University Mixed Chorus*

MWF 12:00-12:50 Choral Jazz Rehearsal Room Doudna 1360

Janet McCumber, Director

Doudna 2423; phone, 581.5615; email: [jmmccumber@eiu.edu](mailto:jmmccumber@eiu.edu)

Office Hours: 11:00-11:50 MWF; 1:00-2:00 F or by appointment

Graduate Assistant Office: Doudna 0433

Ashley McHugh: [aemchugh@eiu.edu](mailto:aemchugh@eiu.edu)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The *University Mixed Chorus* is an ensemble of mixed voices that studies and performs a variety of choral literature from early Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque classics to notable contemporary works and large Oratorio works accompanied by the *Eastern Symphony Orchestra* and/or the *Eastern Symphony Chamber Orchestra*. Emphasis is placed on correct vocal production as well as sight-reading and music theory skills basic to successful choral singing.

Open to all university students, faculty and staff interested in singing. Music majors and minors may count up to six semester hours toward graduation. Non-music may count four semester hours toward graduation.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. Music & three-ring binder: provided by the School of Music and is the property of the University. Students **must** replace any missing or misused music.
2. **Pencil: Music is to be marked in pencil ONLY!**  
*Bring a pencil to every rehearsal!!!*
3. Handouts (from class or via e-mail): have them with you at all times, especially for warm-ups.

## CONCERT ATTIRE

*Men:* Tuxedo, with white shirt, black bow-tie, cummerbund and black “dress” shoes. Details will be announced in class for those who need to purchase Tuxedo apparel.

*Women:* Concert Dress to be ordered. Details will be announced in class (incl. appropriate concert jewelry attire and black **closed-toe** dress shoes with low heel: *No* sandals).

## EVALUATION

The student is evaluated on the following:

- concert and dress rehearsal attendance
- class attendance, preparation, attitude, participation & personal improvement.
- attendance at possible sectional rehearsals which will meet for a minimum of one hour outside of regularly scheduled class time. Sectionals will be led by sectional leaders and/or graduate conductors
- TESTINGS:** As the semester progresses I will be more interested in seeing *individual* growth and development. Individual growth and development will be measured by active participation in rehearsals, sectionals, concerts and in-class tests. For the tests, portions of music will be assigned to be learned outside of class and then evaluated by means of small balanced groups (8 singers or more) during rehearsals. Failure to attend a testing day will result in singing your part for me alone, a cappella and without the support of other singers.

### I. CONCERT AND DRESS REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE

Participation in all concerts and dress rehearsals is **mandatory** in order to pass this course.

### II. CLASS ATTENDANCE: *Mandatory*

Unlike most other courses this course does not have "written" examinations; therefore, the student is expected to be at **all** rehearsals, sectionals, concerts and special events that are determined to be the responsibility of the *University Mixed Chorus*.

**The student can expect their grade to be lowered one full letter for each unexcused absence.** Excused absences are to be submitted in writing **only** (*NO e-mail!*) and will need to be approved by the director under the following conditions:

1. Illness requiring medical treatment (doctor's note required).
2. Weddings and funerals within *immediate* family.
3. Religious observances
4. Job interviews or auditions *within* your major.

If you know in advance that you will need to miss a rehearsal(s) due to one of the above conditions (#2-4) you should submit it to the director in writing prior to the absence. In case of illness, submit the doctor's note once you have returned to class.

**IMPORTANT:** You must follow the following procedure in order to insure that an absence is clearly marked excused. Failure to follow these steps could result in an unexcused absence.

1. You must present a written note to the director.
2. I will sign it "excused" or unexcused.
3. After I have signed the note you are to present it to the roll leader who will mark the roll sheet accordingly. If you call me on the phone and/or send me an e-mail you still **must** get a note to me and have me sign it so that the roll sheet will reflect that it was an excused absence; otherwise, it will be marked as "un-excused" and it will affect your grade.

Tardiness will be recorded. Coming to class late three times is equivalent to one unexcused absence. If you have a legitimate reason for being late, please see me to discuss.

**CELLPHONE use during class will not be tolerated!** It's 50 minutes out of your day—you can live without your phone for 50 minutes!!! That's not even an hour!!!!

### III. PREPARATION, ATTITUDE, PARTICIPATION & PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT

1. Students will be asked to prepare portions of music for the next class. If necessary, a non-major can ask for help from a music major/section leader.
2. Students should always bring their music to class along with a pencil to mark their music.
3. Talking during class or other disruptive behavior is not acceptable.
4. Always come to rehearsal with a good attitude.
5. As the semester progresses I will be more interested in seeing *individual* growth and development. Individual growth and development will be measured by active participation in rehearsals and small individual ensembles singing excerpts from the music *already* rehearsed in class during the semester.

***Your attendance is essential and vital to the morale of the group and the over-all musical experience. The University Mixed Chorus, like any ensemble, needs all of its members present to accomplish the goal of making music at the highest possible level!***

## **ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:**

**-Sectional leaders:** appointed to rehearse sectionals during class time as needed. Interested parties please see me ASAP--**a good suggestion for music education majors in particular.**

**-Advisory Council Officers:** (representatives taken from University Mixed, but functions for Concert Choir also) Vice-President, Treasurer, Fund Raising, Travel, Tech Crew, Publicity, Tickets, Social, CD/Cassette Committees.

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*Students who believe they may need assistance due to a disability should contact the Assistant Director of the Office of Disability Services for answers to questions concerning accommodations, auxiliary learning aids, and physical accessibility. Students will be required to submit diagnostic information regarding the disability so that the most appropriate accommodation can be arranged. The telephone number is (217) 581.6583.*

## SPRING 2012 Concert Season Schedule- MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

[http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles\\_eso\\_cal\\_tickets.php](http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles_eso_cal_tickets.php)

*You are expected to be present at **least** one hour before all performance times (call time), **unless** otherwise specified! This time is crucial since some concerts involve over 150 performers.*

*Please make sure you plan this time into your calendars!*

### **CONCERT PERFORMANCES: DOUDNA CONCERT HALL**

#### **SONGS OF LOVE: Choral Ensembles**

Sunday, February 12, 2012; 4:00 pm; *call time 2:00 pm*

#### **JOURNEY THROUGH TIME: Choral Ensembles with ESO**

Sunday, April 22, 2012; 4:00 pm; *call time 2:00 pm*

#### **MULTICULTURAL CONCERT: Choral Ensembles with EIU Percussion Ensemble**

Friday, April 27, 2012; 7:00 pm; *call time 5:00 pm*

### **DRESS REHEARSALS (confirmed)**

*Times listed are those that would appear OUTSIDE of regularly scheduled class time.*

#### **JOURNEY THROUGH TIME CONCERT**

**Wednesday, April 18, 2012, 7-10 PM AND Saturday, April 21, 2012 1-4 PM**