



## SYLLABUS

### FALL 2011

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

MUS 0233-001 Camerata Singers: [http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles\\_choral.php](http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles_choral.php)

Tuesdays, 5:30- 7:30 p.m. in Recital Hall & T/R 1:20-1:50 following Concert Choir in Choral/Jazz Rehearsal room. NOTE: no rehearsals on Friday at noon and a good time for a sectional, but hold Fridays at noon before a concert in case we need another rehearsal prior to performance.

Dr. Richard Robert Rossi, Professor (Director) [http://www.eiu.edu/~music/people\\_faculty\\_rossi\\_richard.php](http://www.eiu.edu/~music/people_faculty_rossi_richard.php)

Doudna Room #2425; phone: 581-3111; e-mail for emergency *only*: [rrossi@eiu.edu](mailto:rrossi@eiu.edu)  
Office Hours: TBA Doudna #2425, or by appointment.

Graduate Assistant Office: Doudna 0433

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Camerata Singers is a select choral ensemble, drawn from Concert Choir, that performs madrigals and other choral literature appropriate for a chamber choir with special emphasis on music before 1750. The repertoire encompasses a unique variety of primarily a cappella music and/or music accompanied by light instrumentation. As part of the *Collegium Musicum*, the *Camerata Singers* model themselves after the Florentine Camerata.

The Florentine Camerata was a group of humanists, musicians, poets and intellectuals in late Renaissance Florence who gathered under the patronage of Count Giovanni de' Bardi to discuss and guide trends in the arts, especially music and drama. They met mainly from about 1573 until the late 1580s, at the house of Bardi, and their gatherings had the reputation of having all the most famous men of Florence as frequent guests. Known members of the group besides Bardi included Giulio Caccini, Pietro Strozzi, and Vincenzo Galilei (the father of the astronomer Galileo Galilei).

Open to all university students 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 a-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 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 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.
- off-campus performances/tour
- 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 weekly tests. Each week portions of music will be assigned to be learned outside of class and then evaluated by means of quartets, octets and sextets 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. ***Your individual preparation is essential and vital to the morale of the group and the musical experience for all in the CC!***

### 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 *Concert Choir*.

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 effect 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! ALSO, do not text me please unless it is an emergency!

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

1. Students will be asked to prepare portions of music for the next class. If not, a non- major can ask 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, small individual ensembles (quartets/octets) 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. Students in Concert Choir need each other 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.

## **FALL 2011 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**

*(confirmed)*

**CATHEDRALS, CASTLES & COLONIES:** Choral Ensembles

Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011, 4:00 PM; **Call time 2:00**

**Fine Arts Concert Series at United Methodist Church in Belleville, IL**

Sunday, Nov. 6, 2011, 7:00 PM; depart in the afternoon from EIU: TBA

**LESSONS AND CAROLS at Wesley United Methodist: CC/Camerata with Sinfonia**

Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:30 PM; **Call time 5:30**

**LESSONS AND CAROLS at St. Anthony's Church, Effingham, IL**

Friday, December 9, 2011 at 7:30 PM; **depart from EIU: TBA**

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

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

**+Also, hold EVERY FRIDAY prior to a concert weekend at noon!!!!**

**LESSONS AND CAROLS (Sinfonia and ESCO)**

Wedn. Dec. 7, 2011 at 7PM – late at EIU

(regular class times that week most likely at Wesley)

*Wesley United Methodist Church*

### **\*\*\*OTHER DATES/ENGAGEMENTS/RECRUITMENT NOT LISTED ABOVE**

Outreach/Recruitment Tours to local schools: TBA, but most likely during

Rehearsal/Choir time when feasible