



## **University Mixed Chorus Syllabus- SPRING 2021**

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL  
MUS 0231R-001 *University Mixed Chorus*  
MUS 0231X-001 *University Mixed Chorus*  
[http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles\\_choral.php](http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles_choral.php)

Mrs. Juliane Sharp, Professor

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30-8:00pm in the Doudna Lecture Hall, or by appointment.

Graduate Assistant Office: Doudna 0433 Stephen Larson: [sllarson2@eiu.edu](mailto:sllarson2@eiu.edu)

**Class Rehearsal Times:** Tuesdays and Thursdays: 6:00PM – 7:15PM

Please note that there may also be added mandatory rehearsals prior to performances which are to be determined.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The University Mixed Chorus is an ensemble that studies and performs a variety of choral literature from early Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque classics to notable contemporary works. Open to all university students interested in singing. Music minors may count up to six semester hours toward graduation. Non-music majors may count four semester hours toward graduation.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

By the end of the semester, the students of the University Mixed Chorus will be able to perform choral music in a concert setting exhibiting the following musical qualities: accurate pitch, correct rhythms, expressive communication of textual and musical meaning and uniformity of vowel and tone quality. Throughout the semester, the students will grow in their ability to perform these musical tasks, as well as in their sight-singing skills.

### **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

1. Music & Folder: 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. You must have a pencil at every rehearsal.
3. Handouts (from class or via e-mail): Have them with you at all times, especially for warm-ups.

### **DIGITAL APPLICATIONS UTILIZED**

1. **Microsoft Teams:** We will be utilizing Microsoft Teams as our way to video conference this semester. Microsoft Teams can be accessed through the same manner as your email. Students that are taking the course in a remote setting or need to miss class due to an excused illness will be able to join the class remotely through Microsoft Teams. Files for the class will also be accessible through Teams. If you are joining us through Teams, you must have your camera on and be actively participating on-screen for full credit. If you choose this option, you must have adequate WiFi to support the program.

2. **FlipGrid:** Flipgrid is a free video discussion platform from Microsoft. Weekly assignments will be given through this program for practice and students will be asked to submit videos to demonstrate progress.
3. **AttendMe:** We will be using this free app to take weekly attendance for the class to avoid paper copies of attendance sheets. Please be sure to activate this app and be prepared to scan in the provided QR code for each rehearsal.
4. **Sight-Reading Factory:** This program, provided to students through the School of Music, is an online platform for aural skills/sight-singing study. Weekly assignments will be given through this program for practice and students will be asked to submit videos to demonstrate progress.

#### **CONCERT ATTIRE:**

Due to the nature of our performances during the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be asking students to purchase uniform concert attire in the Fall Semester. This will be subject to change in the Spring Semester. For our performances this semester, we will be asking all students to have conservative and formal concert black attire. Students already owning tuxes and EIU Choral dresses from previous semesters are welcome to wear those for performances, if they desire. Please see the instructor with questions or concerns.

#### **EVALUATION:**

**Grades will be determined by the following areas of assessment:**

- Rehearsal Attendance and Participation
- Concert and Dress Rehearsal Attendance
- Class Assignments/Aural Skills/Theory Testing

#### **Rehearsal Attendance and Participation**

Due to the nature of this course, the student is expected to be at all rehearsals, sectionals, concerts and special events.

#### **Absences**

Students can expect their grade to be lowered one full letter for each unexcused absence. Excused absences are to be submitted in writing and will need to be approved by the director under the following conditions:

1. Illness requiring medical treatment (doctor's note required) or mandated self-isolation due to COVID-19.
2. Weddings and funerals within immediate family.
3. Religious observances
4. Job interviews or auditions within your major.

NOTE: Only THREE excused absences are permitted before they become an unexcused absence which will affect your grade.

If you know in advance that you will need to miss a rehearsal(s) due to one of the above conditions, 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.

Tardiness will also 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.

## Rehearsal Grades

At the end of each rehearsal, each student will be given a grade for their rehearsal participation.

The following criteria will be used to determine participation grades:

- The grade of B will be given to students who demonstrate
  - Punctuality
  - Mature, positive and professional attitude
  - Ability to perform assigned parts
  - Having all necessary materials at all rehearsals

Grades lower than B will be reserved for students who need improvement in the areas listed above.

- The Grade of A will be reserved for those students who demonstrate the requirements listed for the B grade, plus:
  - a willingness to assist as needed or requested either by the director or other students (e.g. showing leadership in the section, running sectionals, showing interest in extra-curricular musical activities, auditioning for solo opportunities, etc.)
  - Actual, individual demonstration of superior technical and musical ability through the performance of passages from compositions rehearsed during the grading period as requested by the director.

## Other Rehearsal Expectations

- Cell Phones must be put away and out of sight during all rehearsals and performances. Failure to follow this policy will result in a lowered participation grade.
- Talking during class or other disruptive behavior is not acceptable. See EIU Code of Conduct Policies: <http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>

## Concert and Dress Rehearsal Attendance

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

## Class Assignments/Sight-Reading/Theory Testing

Periodically, students will participate in music theory and music reading activities in order to improve their music literacy skills. These skills will be tested throughout the semester with students participating in spot checks and exams which will cover basic theory and sight-reading skills. Students assume the responsibility for making up all missed work. In the event of the excused absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the director and discuss missed work or obtain additional help.

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**Academic integrity:** Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct. Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>

**Students with disabilities:** If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

**The Student Success Center:** Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center for assistance with time management, text taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

[www.eiu.edu/~success](http://www.eiu.edu/~success)

**COVID-19 Practices & Expectations on EIU's Campus:** The University is asking all of us to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including wearing face coverings when we are in class together, walking around campus, in the library, or participating in office hours. EIU's policy is intended to protect all of us on campus, as well as the community, your roommates, and loved ones at home. Additionally, students are expected to not attend class if they are ill and to consult the student health clinic if they have any COVID-19 like symptoms. Needless to say, EIU's COVID-19 campus practices including face coverings, avoiding campus if sick, sanitizing surfaces, social distancing, and hand washing are based on the best available public health guidance. As a faculty member, I am responsible for ensuring students engage in practices that reduce risk. If you have a health condition that prevents you from wearing a mask, please contact Student Disability Services. If you are unable to follow EIU's COVID-19 guidelines, you may be asked to leave class or office hours as compliance with public health guidance is essential. Accommodations for instruction and make-up work will be made for students with documented medical absences according to IGP #43.

