



SYLLABUS

FALL 2017

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

MUS 0231-001 *University Mixed Chorus* http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles_choral.php

MWF 1:00PM-1:50PM Choral/Jazz Room: Doudna 1360

Dr. Richard Robert Rossi, Professor (Director) <http://eiu.edu/music/personnel.php?id=rrrossi>

Doudna Room #2425; e-mail for emergency **only**: rrrossi@eiu.edu

Office Hours: TBA Doudna #2425, or by appointment.

Graduate Assistant Office: Doudna 0433 Aaron A. Von Seggern: aavonseggern@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* &/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.

OBJECTIVES

The students of the UMC by the end of the semester will be able to perform intermediate to advanced 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 & 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 and black dress socks. 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. Periodically, 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 a cappella 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 UMC!***

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.

NOTE: Only THREE excused absences are permitted before they become an unexcused absence which will effect your grade. This goes the same for those who use “sickbay” in class.

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.
4. Talking during class or other disruptive behavior is not acceptable.
(see EIU Code of Conduct Policies: <http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>)
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 Committees.

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

FALL 2017 Concert Season Schedule MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

<http://www.eiu.edu/doudna/>

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/TOURS: DOUDNA CONCERT HALL

(confirmed)

COLLAGE CONCERT: featuring all major ensembles

Friday, Sept. 15 at 7:30PM; **Call time 6:00PM**

CATHEDRALS, CASTLES & COLONIES: Choral Ensembles

Sunday, Oct. 8 at 4:00 PM; **Call time 2:00**

HOLIDAY CONCERT: Choral Ensembles with ESO

Sunday, Dec. 3 at 4:00PM; **Call time 2:00**

DRESS REHEARSALS (confirmed)

Times listed are those that would appear OUTSIDE of regularly scheduled class time the week before a concert.

COLLAGE CONCERT DRESS REHEARSAL: featuring all major ensembles

Thursday, Sept. 14 at 7:30-10PM

CATHEDRALS, CASTLES & COLONIES: Choral Ensembles

(Dress rehearsals are class times the week prior: Oct. 2-6....hold Friday at 1:00PM)

HOLIDAY CONCERT DRESS REHEARSAL

MONDAY, Nov 27 (combined choir rehearsal with piano) from 7-10PM

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 29 from 7-10PM with ESO (*tent.*)

ALSO **SATURDAY**, Dec. 2 from 1-4PM with ESO

