**Course Description:**
- The study and performance of choral literature from traditional, contemporary, and diverse cultural sources. Includes on-campus and sometimes off-campus performances. Open to music-major and non-music-major students.
- **Prerequisite:** demonstrated vocal proficiency.

**Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes**
- Through guided study, rehearsal, and performance of choral literature, students will demonstrate:
  1. The ability to rehearse and perform a variety of choral music;
  2. An understanding of a variety of musical styles, including the various style periods in Western art music, music of other cultures, and occasional American popular styles;
  3. Knowledge about the composer, history, and style of the music performed;
  4. The ability to respond to instruction and contribute positively to the performance level of the group;
  5. The ability to apply performance techniques appropriate to the style, composer, ensemble, and the setting;
  6. The ability to perform music in public.

**Learning Activities:**
1. Guided vocalization to develop individual vocal technique, including breath control, resonance, diction, and flexibility, and choral technique, sensitivity to balance, vowel uniformity (blend), & rhythmic precision.
2. Experiences in score study and sight reading to develop musicianship.

**Course Materials**
- **Required Concert Attire:** students must provide performance attire at their own expense.
  - **Men**
    - Black tuxedo with black cummerbund, white shirt, black bow tie, black dress shoes and black socks; men may order any or all parts of a tuxedo through UWG at a group rate; entire tux package is $97
  - **Women**
    - Choir dress, single strand pearl earrings, black closed-toe shoes;
    - Gown: $67.00
    - Pearl Necklace: $8
    - Pearl Earrings: $5
    - *Payments are due January 31*

- **Choir Folder and Sheet Music:** check periodically that you have your assigned number. Folders and pieces of music are the property of the University and must be returned at the end of the semester. Replacement costs for lost or damaged music will be assessed at the instructor’s discretion.
• **Pencil:** every rehearsal. Sheet music is the school's property and may not be wrote in with pen.

**Attendance Policy**

- Consistent and prompt attendance by every member is essential for the success of the ensemble. As a condition of enrollment, students must commit themselves to attendance of rehearsals and performances. Conflicts should be reported at the beginning of the term to determine whether the conflict will preclude connoted enrollment in the Concert Choir.

  *Students who miss three (3) consecutive classes without contacting the Instructor may be dropped from the course at the instructor’s discretion*

- **Absences:**
  - Examples of excused absences are class field trips (when reported in advance), significant illness, or death in the immediate family. Examples of unexcused absences are study sessions, making up tests, advisement, registration, meetings, weddings, attending to ill friends, family events, etc.
  - Students are allowed two (2) unexcused absences without penalty for these purposes. A third unexcused absence will result in the grade being lowered one letter-grade.
  - **Cell phone use during class or refusal to participate will be considered an absence or tardy based on the severity, at the instructors discretion**

- **Absences Forms:** all absences require the completion of an absence form, located in the pencil box on top of the folder cabinets every rehearsal. Completed forms should be given directly to the instructor or student assistant. Absences reported after-the-fact may require additional documentation to be considered excused.

- **Tardies:** Students not in their seats with music and a pencil when warm-ups begin are considered tardy.
  - Three (3) tardies count as an unexcused absence.
  - Extended tardies/late arrival for dress rehearsals or concerts may count as two (2) tardies.
  - Leaving class early will receive the same consideration as tardies. No exceptions.

**Communication**

- All communication must be made through UWG email domains only. PLEASE NOTE: if your email does not include a greeting and salutation, your email will not merit a response.

**Course Policies**

- **Common Language for Course Syllabi:** consult the following link for University policies on academic support, online courses, honor code, e-mail policy, credit hour policy, and campus carry: [https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php)

- **Assigned Seating:** assigned seating within sections of voice parts is musically and logistically necessary for the operations of the UWG Concert Choir. If you would like to be moved for any reason, please contact the instructor.

- **Sacred Music:** The University of West Georgia Concert Choir follows the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and National Association for Music Education (NAfME) philosophies on sacred music. In representing the history and development of music, vocal music cannot be taught without the inclusion of historic and cultural sacred choral literature. In representing historic composers and the variety of styles and forms in music, the use of sacred repertoire is essential to the curriculum and is introduced without teaching and/or
promoting doctrines. Since roughly 80% of existing choral literature is sacred and 20% is secular, that ratio could be heard at any given UWG Concert Choir performance.

- **Special Needs and Accommodations**: If you have any special needs related to your participation in the course, including identified visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical impairment, communication disorder, and/or specific learning disability that may influence your performance in this course, you should meet with the instructor to arrange for reasonable provisions to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course.

- **Common Courtesy**: please plan bathroom breaks with class length in mind. Eating and drinking in class is prohibited, except for water in closed containers. Students attending to other matters such as electronic devices, print materials, etc., will be counted absent for the day, and may be asked to leave. Turn cell phones off and put them away before class begins. Exceptions to the above are certainly possible, and students with extenuating circumstances should discuss them with the instructor.

**Evaluation**

- Through observation and verbal dialogue, the instructor will evaluate each student’s demonstration of the Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes described above.
- Observed elements include the student’s ability to sing the music after a reasonable amount of rehearsal time, to perform the music as rehearsed (including phrasing, diction, style, and expression), and to exhibit leadership characteristics commensurate with the student’s vocal ability, training, and experience.
- Upper Division students are expected to model rehearsal and performance decorum for Lower Division students to emulate.
- Graduate students are expected to assist undergraduate students in acquiring the Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes.
- Elements evaluated through question-and-answer dialogue include such things as musical/historical facts and perspective, and elements of technique and style. The depth of understanding exhibited by student responses is expected to be commensurate with the level of enrollment.
- Grades determined as above may be adjusted to reflect an individual’s effort and attitude as demonstrated by prompt attendance at all rehearsals and performances, preparedness for rehearsals (including materials), proper rehearsal and performance decorum (including posture and refraining from distracting activities), and assistance with tasks as needed, (equipment, displaying publicity, tickets, etc.)
- Grades may be further adjusted to reflect attendance as described above.

**Disclaimer**

- All information in this syllabus is subject to change. Any additional information or adjustments provided through UWG email, CourseDen, or in class serve as a binding part of the syllabus. It is the responsibility of the student to stay up to date with all information.
Important Dates

• M 01/21: No Class: MLK day
• TH 01/24: No Class: GMEA Conference
• M 02/18: Destination: Music: ALL students to be at rehearsal
• TH 02/28: No Class: ACDA Conference
• M 03/18, T 03/19, W 03/20, TH 3/21: No class: Spring Break
• T 4/2: No Class: Research Day

Concert and Dress Rehearsal Dates

• Mid-Winter Concert (With Chamber Singers): Friday, February 22, CCSPAC 7:30 pm concert
  • Rehearsals: Wednesday February 20 @ CCSPAC, 2:00-3:15 pm. Thursday Feb. 21 in HUM 301, 2:00-3:15 pm
  • Performance: 6:00 pm call time, 7:30 pm concert

• Spring Concert (With Chamber Singers): Tuesday, April 9, CCSPAC 8:15 pm concert
  • Rehearsals: Monday, April 8: 2:00- 2:50 pm CCSPAC, Tuesday April 9: 2:00- 3:15pm CCSPAC
  • Performance: 7:00 pm call time, 8:15 pm concert

• American Voices (With Wind Ensemble): Wednesday, April 17, CCSPAC 7:30 pm concert
  • Rehearsals: Wednesday April 10: 3:00-4:00 CCSPAC, Wednesday April 17: 3:00-4:00 pm
  • Performance: 6:30 pm call time, 7:30 pm concert

• Optional Major work experience: Mozart Requiem (with orchestra)
  • Performance: Saturday, May 4- venue TBD

*Required Dress for all performances: formal concert attire listed on page 1*