

Concert Choir

MUSC-2750

Spring 2020 Section 01 1 Credits 01/04/2020 to 05/05/2020 Modified 01/06/2020

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: Technical Proficiency or successful audition

Requisites

Prerequisites:

Corequisites:

Contact Information

Professor: Dr. Karen Graffius

Email: kgraffiu@westga.edu

Office Hours

As Posted
Humanities 332

Student Assistant: Justin Tarver

Meeting Times

MW 2:00-2:50 - Men and Women

Tues 2:00-3:15 - Men Only

Th 2:00 -3:15 - Women Only

Materials

Choir Folder and Sheet Music - Folders and music are provided by the music department and should be brought to every class. Singers should check periodically that they have their assigned number. Folders and 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 director's discretion.

Pencils - Singers should bring a #2 pencil to class every day. Choral music scores should only be marked in pencil.

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 of all parts of the tuxedo through

UWG at a group rate; entire tux package is \$97

Women - Choir dress, single strand pearl necklace and pearl earrings,
black closed-toe shoes;

Gown: \$67.00 Pearl Necklace: \$8 Pearl Earrings: \$5

Payments are due January 23

Outcomes

Through preparation and performance of diverse choral literature, students will:

1. Sing, in both rehearsal and performance, a variety of choral music selections.
2. Read music through the use of solfege, rhythm counting and other techniques.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the cultural and historical backgrounds of literature studied including composers and text sources.
4. Perform with techniques appropriate to the style, composer, ensemble, language and setting of the music.
5. Interact positively with the class in order to contribute to meaningful and high-quality performances.
6. Perform music in public both with music and by memory.

Learning Activities:

1. Daily vocalization to improve vocal range, breath support, resonance, diction, intonation and sensitivity to choral balance and blend.
2. Choral score study including form and style analysis and phrase, breath and dynamics identification.
3. Group and individual interpretation of text including translation of foreign languages.
4. Reading/rehearsing music in small and large groups using solfege, rhythm counting numbers and other techniques.

Evaluation

Criteria

Grading/Evaluation:

Grading Scale:

A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, C: 70-79%, D: 60-69%, F: 0-59%

Observation - 20%

Through observation the director will determine 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 (4750) are expected to model rehearsal and performance decorum for Lower Division students to emulate. This may include serving as a sectional leader.

Graduate students (5750) are expected to assist undergraduate students in acquiring the Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes. This may include leading sectional rehearsals or warm-ups.

Demonstration of Music Reading Techniques - 10%

The director will determine through observation, the student's ability to read music using solfege, rhythm counting numbers or other techniques commensurate with the student's training and experience.

Oral Questioning - 10%

Elements evaluated through question-and-answer dialogue include such things as musical/historical facts and perspective, elements of technique and style and text meanings and interpretation. The depth of understanding exhibited by student responses is expected to be commensurate with the level of enrollment.

Memory Check - 10%

Students are expected to memorize at least one selection for the fall concert. The director will determine through observation if the selection has been memorized. This will be an announced observation.

Concert Attendance - 50%

Participation in the fall concert is mandatory. Missing the fall concert will result in failure of the class. Students not dressed properly for the concert will not receive full credit and may not be allowed to perform.

Grades may be further adjusted to reflect class attendance as described below.

Assignments

Out-of-class assignments are rare. In the event one is given, it will be reflected in one of the grading categories listed above.

Schedule

Please make note of the following important dates and add these to your personal calendars.

Sunday, February 23 – Concert at the Townsend Arts Center

4:00p.m. Call time 2:00p.m.

Tuesday, April 14 – Spring Concert at the Carroll County Schools Performing Arts Center

8:15p.m. Call time for concert 7:00p.m.

Auditions

Ave Maris Stella and And Sure Stars - women only. Thursday, Jan. 16

This is the Day - men and women. Wednesday, January 29

Important Rehearsals

Wednesday, February 19 - Regular rehearsal at The Townsend Center - ALL

Thursday, February 20 - Regular rehearsal at The Townsend Center - WOMEN

Monday, April 13 - Regular rehearsal at the CCSPAC - ALL

Tuesday, April 14 - Regular rehearsal at the CCSPAC - ALL (no rehearsals Wed/Thurs)

Concert Choir will not meet on the following dates:

Monday, Jan. 20 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no school)

Wednesday, Jan. 22 and Thursday, Jan. 23 – GMEA In-Service Conference

Wednesday, March 11 and Thursday, March 12 – Southern Region ACDA Conference

Tuesday, March 7 – Scholar's Day

Thursday, March 26 - Opera Workshop Performance

Wednesday, April 15 - Day after concert

Thursday, April 16 – Chamber Singers on Tour

* Course Policies and Resources

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 consecutive classes without contacting the instructor may be dropped from the course at the instructor's discretion.

Absences:

Excused - class field trips (when reported in advance), significant illness or death in the immediate family.

Unexcused - study sessions, making up tests, advisement, registration, meetings, weddings, attending to ill friends, family events, etc.

Final grades are lowered by 5 points for each unexcused absence.

Cell phone use during class or refusal to participate will be considered an absence or tardy based on the severity, at the instructor's discretion.

Absence Forms:

All absences require the completion of an absence form, located in the pencil box on top of the folder cabinets. Completed forms should be given directly to the instructor or student assistant. Absences reported after the absence 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 and the final grade will be lowered by five (5) points.
- Any extended tardy of 10 minutes or more or any late arrival for dress rehearsals or concerts will 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 you email does not include a greeting and salutation, your email will not merit a response.

Health and Wellness

The university and the Department of Music are concerned about your health and wellness. Below is a link with vital information to help students maintain their physical and mental health.

<https://www.westga.edu/music/wellness/>

Assigned Seating

Assigned seating within sections of voice parts is musically and logistically necessary for the operation of the UWG Concert Choir. If you would like to be moved for any reason, please contact Dr. Graffius.

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 enclosed containers. Students attending to other matters such as electronic devices, print materials, etc., will be given an unexcused absence 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.

Institutional Policies

Online Courses

UWG takes students' privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the [UWG Online \(https://uwgonline.westga.edu/\)](https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the [Online/Off-Campus Student Guide \(http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php\)](http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the [UWG Cares \(http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/\)](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. [Online counseling \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

Academic Support

Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact [Accessibility Services \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

Center for Academic Success: The [Center for Academic Success \(http://www.westga.edu/cas/\)](http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu.

University Writing Center: The [University Writing Center \(https://www.westga.edu/writing/\)](https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu.

Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students

pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the [Student Handbook \(https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php).

UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance: [http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information#\(http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information\)](http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information#(http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information))

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: [https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php\(https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php(https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php))

Mental Health Support

If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the [Counseling Center](#). Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in [Health Services](#). To report a concern anonymously, please go to [UWGcares](#).

Additional Items
