Texas A&M Commerce

University Singers Syllabus – MUS 100S-008

Fall/Spring 2015-2016

MWF 3:00 – 3:50; Music Building 105

Instructor

Mrs. Georgia Kornegay

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Office hours: by appointment

The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviation may be necessary.

Philosophy

The choral music program at Texas A&M University Commerce is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in performance of the finest in a variety of style and periods of choral music literature. University Singers will work with great purpose and discipline toward this goal and toward providing choral experiences that will be rewarding and enriching for choir members and their audiences. In addition, this course is designed to provide the background, training, and experience (when coupled with complementary coursework in other areas) necessary for success in the professional fields of choral/vocal performance and music education. The expectations of every singer in this ensemble include:

- Commitment and loyalty
- Strong work ethic
- 100% effort
- Scores marked throughout rehearsal in pencil
- Arrive early – never late
- Be self-disciplined

Musical expectations include:

- The Rehearsal
  1. Be a musical leader and sensitive listener
  2. Don’t be a “prima dona”
  3. Only water may be brought into the CH
  4. NO CELL PHONES
• The Concert – sing the way we rehearsed!

Communication

This syllabus will be distributed through your MyLeo email account only; no hard copies will be distributed. It is your responsibility to open the document, read its contents, print if desired, and place all required dates on your personal calendar. You will be held responsible for the contents of the syllabus. Further, students are expected to establish and maintain a Facebook account along with membership in the TAMUC University Singers Facebook group. It is the students’ responsibility to check the TAMUC University Singers Facebook page on a regular basis in order to stay current with University related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time critical. When necessary, emails will be sent the ensemble membership through the TAMUC US Facebook group AND your MyLeo email address.

CHARMS

The music compendium tool, CHARMS, will also be used to communicate through the following aspects: keep track of your attendance, posting of the syllabus, and the vocal division calendar. The school login is TAMUCMUSIC and your password is your student ID.

Ensemble Participation and Registration Conflicts

University Singers requires a year long commitment. It is expected that all singers will register for both the fall and spring terms. It is the singer’s responsibility to plan a program of study that will not conflict with the rehearsal of the ensemble. All vocal majors should plan accordingly and avoid class conflicts. Students who are in their semester of student teaching will be the only exception to this rule.

Cell Phones

Cell phones are strictly forbidden in rehearsal. The use of a cell phone is grounds for dismissal from the class.

Music Department Mission Statement

The Music Department of Texas A&M Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

University Accommodation Policy

Texas A&M University Commerce is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations will be made in accordance with the law. To request ADA accommodations, please contact Dr. Chris White,
University Behavior Policy

All students enrolled in the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (see Student Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of Ensemble Performance (Choral) MUS 100C and 100S the student will be able to:

1. Exhibit accurate individual, sectional, and ensemble intonation and rhythm along with fundamental and advanced vocal techniques while performing a varied repertoire of music within the ensemble;
2. Perform expressively a varied repertoire of music representing styles and diverse cultures within the ensemble;
3. Utilize standard musical terminology to describe intervals, music notation, chord structure, rhythm/meter, harmonic texture, form, and music symbols and terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation;
4. Utilize problem-solving skills to identify and correct problems with pitch, rhythm/meter, articulation, phrasing, and dynamics within a rehearsal setting.

Rehearsals

1. **ALL singers are expected to be regular and punctual in their attendance of all choral rehearsals. All singers should attend rehearsals with MUSIC and a PENCIL.**
2. Rehearsal procedures to be followed include:
   - Each chorus member is responsible for obtaining a BLACK three-ring binder.
   - It is your responsibility to return all music in good condition. The student will be held responsible to replace damaged or lost music. All music should have measures numbered starting with the first full measure. You must bring your binder to EVERY rehearsal. **Failure to bring your music is reason for dismissal from that rehearsal, which will count as an absence.**
   - Singers are expected to be prepared for all rehearsals. Chronic absences and lateness will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the ensemble. **No excused absences will be given, even for illness.** If you must be absent from a rehearsal, contact Mrs. Kornegay through email prior to the rehearsal. Be in your assigned place at the beginning of rehearsal. **If you are on time, you’re late!**
   - Do not schedule voice lessons, meetings with faculty members or other organizations, make-up classes or exams, doctor/dental appointments, job interviews, or ANY personal obligation during rehearsal times.
   - No one is allowed to “hide” in this ensemble. Everyone will contribute equally and is expected to know all of the notes, rhythms, text, interpretive markings,
etc. If a singer is not able to demonstrate proficiency in these areas, it is cause for removal from the ensemble. A variety of singing tests will be used to allow singers to demonstrate proficiency.

- Weekly sectionals will be held as scheduled by the various section leaders. This one 30 minute extra rehearsal is required of all members of this ensemble. Two sectional absences will count as one rehearsal absence.
- Grades will be based on the singer’s participation, effort, contribution, cooperation, attitude, adherence to the criteria stated above, singing tests, and on the basis of attendance according to the following formula:

  Tardies: Two tardies will = one absence.

  Absences: 1-2 = no grade change; 3 = grade lowered by one letter; 4 = grade lowered by two letters; 5 = grade lowered by three letters; 6 or more = failure of course.

  **Failure to attend the scheduled dress rehearsal will result in final grade being lowered by two letter grades. Failure to attend a scheduled concert of the ensemble will result in an automatic “F” for the course.**

  Grading definitions beyond attendance:

  An “A” will be earned by the student who exhibits excellent attentiveness to musical detail, preparation, ensemble participation, and is a leader and role model to others.

  A “B” will be earned by the student who exhibits superior attentiveness to musical detail, preparation, ensemble participation, and is a valued asset to the ensemble.

  A “C” will be earned by the student who exhibits no more than average attentiveness to musical detail, preparation, and ensemble participation.

  A “D” will be earned by the student who exhibits unacceptable attentiveness to musical detail, preparation and ensemble participation.

  An “F” will be earned by the student who exhibits no attentiveness to musical detail, preparation and ensemble participation.

  **Concert Responsibilities**

  - Performance dates will be announced as early as possible, normally at the beginning of the semester. Singers are expected to be present at all performances. Prior to each performance the conductor will issue a concert call time.
  - The student is responsible for purchasing their own concert attire.
  - Concert dress is as follows:

    Men: Black tuxedo, white wingtip tuxedo shirt, black satin vest, black dress shoes and black socks
Women: Black concert dress (order through the department) and black dress heels

Casual Concert Dress: Blue TAMUC polo (ordered through the department), khaki pants, brown or black shoes

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**Choir Calendar**

**September**

5th: Region Clinic – whole building 9:00 – 3:30 (workers 8-5)

**October**

15th: Fall Choir Concert (Chorale Women, University Singers and Chamber Singers)

    7:30 pm (concert call 6:30 pm)

17th: Vocal Division Fall Gala – 7:30 pm Lobby

25th: Men’s Chorus Rehearsal 4-9 with Dr. Fulton in CH

29th: Chorale and Men’s Chorus Fall Concert – 7:30 pm (concert call 6:30 pm)

**November**

11th-14th: Fall NATS @ Oklahoma City University

21st: Fall Vocal Division Banquet (off campus) 6:00 – 11:00 pm

22nd: Decorate the Music Building for Christmas 2:00 – 6:00 pm

29th: Candlelight Dress Rehearsal – Concert Hall – 5:00 – 11:00 pm

**December**

1st: Candlelight Concert – Concert Hall – 7:30 pm

5th: Vocal Mock Juries 10-10 (see applied teacher for specific times)

6th: Vocal Mock Juries 4-8 (see applied teacher for specific times)

10th: Holiday Gala Dress Rehearsal – Concert Hall – 5-10 pm
11th-12th: Holiday Gala – Concert Hall – 7:30 pm

January
8th: Area Audition building setup
9th: Area C TMEA All State Auditions
19th: First Day of Class

February
10th-13th: TMEA in San Antonio

March
3rd: Spring Choir Concert – Concert Hall – 7:30 pm (concert call @ 6:30 pm)
14th-18th: SPRING BREAK

April
9th: Choir Dress Rehearsal for Major Work 2-5 pm; Lobby setup 6-9 pm
15th: Choir Concert – Concert Hall – 7:30 pm (concert call @ 6:30 pm)
28th – May 1st: Department Musical in Ferguson Auditorium 7:30 pm; Sunday @ 3:00 pm

May
5th: Dress Rehearsal for Austrian Trip in CH 5-10 pm
6th: Pre-Austrian Trip Concert 7:30 pm
7th: Mock Juries 10-10 (see applied teacher for specific times)
8th: Mock Juries 2-6 (see applied teacher for specific times)
13th: Splash Day Choral Festival
14th – 16th: Austrian Trip rehearsals TBA
17th – 26th: Austrian Trip