2015

MUSC 261 Women's Chorus

Robyn Lana
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MUSC 261 (90870)
Xavier University Women’s Chorus
TR 4:00 – 5:18 PM
Edgecliff 101

SYLLABUS
Spring 2015

Conductor: Robyn Lana  Email: lanar@xavier.edu
Accompanist: Jan Corrothers  earljanc@juno.com

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. To rehearse and perform a variety of fine repertoire for women’s voices
2. To develop an understanding of many choral styles, spanning the Renaissance to Modern periods
3. To develop and demonstrate fine ensemble skills based on the maximum contribution of each singer to the whole group
4. To develop musicianship skills: music reading, vocal and aural
5. To develop and share a love of choral singing with one another and our audiences
6. To build a tradition of collegiate female choral singing at Xavier that encompasses both excellence in music making as well as a sense of camaraderie and community among the membership

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1. Attend all retreats, rehearsals, and performances
2. Bring all assigned music to each rehearsal
3. Give appropriate care to loaned materials (music, etc.)
4. Bring a pencil to all rehearsals
5. Provide yourself with the appropriate concert attire (If there are individual financial hardship issues, please feel free to contact the conductor privately.)
6. Arrange your music in rehearsal order shortly before each rehearsal as posted on the board prior to the rehearsal
7. Memorize any assigned pieces

REQUIRED MATERIALS/FEES
1. Music Packet – Provided by the Choral Department (Students are responsible for returning all music in good condition. Replacement fines will be assessed for lost or damaged music.)
2. Black Folder – A plain black three ring binder
3. Pencil(s)!
4. $5 Social Dues
5. Concert Attire
   i. Long black uniform dress (cost: approximately $60)
   ii. Black, closed-toed shoes (no clunky or patent leather)
   iii. Black hose
   iv. Black dress shoes and socks
6. XU Women’s Casual Shirt (approx. $20)

GRADING

Grades are based on attendance, participation, knowledge of music and contribution to the group.

Attendance policy: Because all Xavier choral ensembles strive to maintain a tradition of excellence in performance, attendance is critical. Each student is allowed 2 unexcused absences without penalty. This includes absences for illness for which students cannot produce a doctor’s note. **After two absences, each unexcused absence will lower the student’s grade by one full letter grade** (From A down to B, B down to C, etc.). Three tardy arrivals qualify as one absence. **Acceptable excuses for absence include:** Medical emergency or illness (with accompanying doctor’s note); family emergency (funeral, etc.); pre-approved XU course requirement (tour, class event, etc., with appropriate documentation prior to absence). **Absences due to other extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis at the instructor’s discretion.**

Communication: When possible, please communicate information about absences ahead of time. In the case of an emergency, please get word to the instructor as soon as possible after the event, certainly within 48 hours. **Please remember that all absences for medical reasons must be accompanied by a doctor’s note within one week of the absence.** All retreats, dress rehearsals and performances listed on the calendar are mandatory. No absences will be excused unless by prior approval of the director. **Any irreconcilable conflicts with any rehearsals or performances must be noted in writing to the director by Thursday, January 22.** Please check your schedule carefully. Missing any dress rehearsal or concert results in an automatic failure of the course.
**Spring 2015 SCHEDULE**
(as of January 1, 2015)

**DISCLAIMER:** The following are tentative schedules for the semester. They are subject to minor revision as the semester progresses. You will be notified well in advance of any changes.

**SPRING 2015 SEMESTER**

Combined Choirs Mozart Requiem Retreat: January 25, 6:00-9:00 pm, LH

Women’s Chorus Retreat: Sunday, February 15, 7:00-9:00 pm, LH

XU Winter Choral Concert: Tuesday, February 24, 8:00 pm, GT

Combined Choirs Mozart Requiem Rehearsal: April 13, 3:00-4:15 pm, LH

Combined Choirs Mozart Requiem Rehearsal: April 20, 6:00-9:00 pm, LH

*Mozart Requiem* Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, April 22, 6:30-9:30 pm, Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, KY

*Mozart Requiem* Performance: XU Choral Department w/ orchestra, April 26, 3:00 pm, Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, KY

XU Spring Choral Concert: Wednesday, April 29, 7:30 pm, GT

GT = Gallagher Theater  
BC = Bellarmine Chapel  
LH = Long Recital Hall
XAVIER UNIVERSITY CHORAL ENSEMBLE ATTENDANCE POLICY

Because our choral ensembles strive to maintain a tradition of excellence in performance, it is imperative that each singer contributes 100%. This means that regular, punctual attendance is essential and therefore expected.

Grades are based on daily class preparation and contribution, knowledge of the music, written work, and attendance. Individual choir syllabi contain further detail about evaluation procedures.

1. **There are to be NO absences**, since daily attendance guarantees good musical preparation.
2. Three tardy arrivals equal one absence. (Notify your attendance leader and conductor if you have a previous class across campus and cannot be on time on a regular basis.)
3. Your grade will drop for each unexcused absence (except for documented emergencies.)
4. After three unexcused absences in a semester, you may be dismissed from the group at the conductor’s discretion.
5. Legitimate absences (for severe illness, a death in the family, etc.) must be called in or e-mailed to the conductor prior to the missed rehearsal. Conductors will provide their contact phone numbers and email addresses on their syllabi.
6. Two absences per semester for illness will be excused without medical documentation but must be communicated to the conductor, as per the ensemble’s requirements (see syllabus).
   **All concurrent absences because of illness require medical documentation.**
7. **All dress rehearsals and performances are mandatory**; no absences will be excused unless by prior approval of the conductor. **Any irreconcilable conflicts with any rehearsals or performance must be noted in writing to the conductor by the second Friday of each semester.** Please read your syllabus and calendar carefully to check your schedule for potential conflicts.
8. Do not schedule routine doctor’s appointments, makeup voice or instrumental lessons, conferences with professors, or job interviews, etc. during rehearsal time. None of these constitutes an emergency.
9. Please schedule outside gigs you do as a musician outside of class time.
10. If you are feeling ill but attending your other classes, you are expected to attend rehearsal. If you are incapable of singing, please do your best to participate in every other way possible. Students who sit out excessively will be asked either for a doctor’s note or a letter from a studio voice teacher explaining why they cannot sing in rehearsal.