

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025

Fall 9-1-2022

MUSI 112A.02: Choir - Chamber Chorale

Coreen S. Duffy

University of Montana, Missoula, coreen.duffy@umontana.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Duffy, Coreen S., "MUSI 112A.02: Choir - Chamber Chorale" (2022). *University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025*. 326.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025/326>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.



CHORAL PROGRAM

Chamber Chorale, Fall 2022

MUSI 112A/312-02, 1 Credit

University of Montana School of Music

Instructor	Dr. Coreen Duffy, Director of Choral Activities
Office	MUS 12
Office Phone	406-243-2760
E-mail	coreen.duffy@umontana.edu
Office Hours	By appointment
Class Schedule	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 1:00-2:20
Course Description	<p>The University of Montana Chamber Chorale seeks to embed commitment to underrepresented composers in every program, performing the historic canon while promoting ethically sourced and previously overlooked repertoire. The ensemble prioritizes outreach to rural areas in our state, while seeking broad touring opportunities: UM Chamber Chorale performed at the 75th Festival of Music at the University of Saarbrücken, Germany (2022), the Marktoberdorf International Chamber Choir Competition (2022), the Marktoberdorf International Conducting Competition (2022), Cadogan Hall and Southwark Cathedral in London (Vox Anima London, 2022), and the Montana International Choral Festival (2019, invited 2023). The Chamber Chorale includes undergraduate and graduate students from a wide variety of majors, including Wildlife Biology, Forestry, Business, Musical Theater, English, Neuroscience, Music Performance, Music Education, and Music Composition. By attaining our highest level of performance both technically and artistically, we attempt to create a shared musical experience through which we seek a better understanding of the human condition.</p>
Learning Outcomes	<p>Students in Chamber Chorale will learn to perform choral music in a stylistically appropriate manner, with an emphasis on the technique of singing and musicianship. Healthy singing and quality musicianship will be sought through daily rehearsals and individual preparation outside of class. Chamber Chorale plans local, regional, national, and international tours to promote recruiting and raise the profile of the University of Montana College of the Arts and Media. Students will learn to rehearse, perform, and create musical and human harmony, which are skills that will transfer to other classes and to the workplace.</p>
General Education	<p>This course satisfies one credit of Group IV Expressive Arts (A) for General Education. The Gen Ed Learning Outcomes for this ensemble include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Self-expression in the making of a creative performance2. Understanding of the genres and forms that have shaped the medium (choral music)3. Through direct experience (rehearsal and live performance), students will engage in critical assessment of their own work and the work of others
Registration	<p>All students may register for MUSI 112A, Section 02. Juniors and seniors who are music majors and have passed their UDRP may register for MUSI 312, Section 02.</p>

Prerequisites	Members of Chamber Chorale must pass a placement audition and callbacks to be invited to join the ensemble.
Course Philosophy	We work as a team, under the direction of a conductor. Choral ensemble singing affords performers the opportunity to flourish not only as individual vocal artists, but as part of a larger, living instrument. In choir, singers explore possibilities of tone color, text shaping, and musical expression in ways that are unique to group vocal production. The ensemble singers commit to preserving and propagating the choral art form through thoughtful preparation and performance of compositions from the past and present.
Course Objectives	<p>The primary objective of the UM Choirs is to develop ensemble artistry. In the choral setting, ensemble artistry consists of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appreciation of one's own voice as one of many critical instruments 2. Musical understanding (realizing the potential of a multi-faceted vocal instrument) 3. Vocal skills (breath management; tone production; resonance; articulation; vocal health) 4. Technical skills (sight-singing; accuracy of pitch and rhythm; appreciation of meter and tempo) 5. Listening skills (phrasing; nuance; text shading) 6. Ensemble skills (punctuality, energy, leadership)
Instructional Methodology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group vocal production 2. Individual responsibility for self-evaluation 3. Daily rehearsals culminating in live performance, recordings and outreach events
Required Materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Music scores of assigned repertoire, distributed in class in black folder, to be returned at the end of the semester 2. A sharpened pencil 3. Concert attire: members choose among three options (a tuxedo, a jumpsuit, and a dress). Each comes with its own accessories 4. Resonance singer's mask (optional; available for purchase)
Grading Policy	<p>Because the choral ensemble is a living instrument, each voice is vital to the complete sound. An individual's absence is akin to a missing string or key; we simply do not function—and certainly cannot grow—if you are not there. In this ensemble, perfect attendance and professional conduct is the expectation.</p>

1) Participation

Participation factors into your course grade. Specific components of the participation portion of the grade: attendance, rehearsal preparation, having all materials at each rehearsal, professionalism in dress and attitude, completion of outside assignments.

The participation portion of your grade will be determined according to the chart as follows:

- A: Two absences with written notice of good reason to director by 5 pm of the missed class day.
- B: Three absences with written notice to director by 5 pm of missed class day.
- C: Four absences with written notice to director by 5 pm of missed class day.
- D: Five absences.
- F: Six absences.

In cases of illness, emergency, or unresolvable university conflict, please communicate clearly the reason for the absence and provide documentation if requested.

2) Ensemble Conduct

Professional conduct also factors into your course grade. This includes professional and courteous deportment towards fellow ensemble members, the ensemble director, and any additional collaborators. Students must be able to receive both praise and constructive criticism. The director has the final say

regarding all artistic, logistical, and performance decisions. Poor conduct will result in a failing grade and dismissal from the ensemble regardless of attendance record. Poor attendance will result in a failing grade and dismissal from the ensemble regardless of conduct. Excellent participation and conduct ratings are required in Chamber Chorale.

Details regarding the attendance policy: Missing class *without* notice will result in the loss of an additional plus or minus for each incident. Missing class without a good reason may result in deeper grade deduction than reflected in the chart above.

- ***Please note: illness does NOT automatically excuse you from class. Illness, however, will count as an absence with “good reason,” according to the chart above, with notice. Only serious medical emergencies are fully excused (see below).***
- All absences must be accompanied by WRITTEN reasoning.
- Absences from dress rehearsals may result in a loss of one full letter grade.
- Absences from performances, recording sessions, or other scheduled events result in a loss of two full letter grades, and may result in failure of the course.
- Habitual absences, lateness, or extended disappearance from class will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from your assigned choir, and a failing grade. ***Three tardies equal at least one absence.***
- Conflicts with the attached schedule must be presented in writing within the first two weeks of classes.
- Please do not schedule any appointments (including lessons, meetings with faculty members or other organizations, make-up classes or exams, UM registration, work, doctor/dental appointments, job interviews, or any personal obligations) during rehearsal times. These are not excusable activities. You must email immediately after an unplanned absence. Failure to communicate is not acceptable, and may result in a lowered grade.
- If you are unable to phonate, please take steps to resolve the issue (vocal rest, etc.). As long as you are not actively ill/contagious, you should come to rehearsal, mark your score, and submit written comments.

Unavoidable emergencies and absence due to extenuating circumstances will be handled on an individual basis. If an emergency occurs, please contact me as soon as possible. In rare cases, adjustments will be made. Those may include:

- Institutional excuses given five or more days in advance.
- Extended illness with doctor's verification.
- Death in the immediate family

Pre-Existing Conflicts

- Pre-existing conflicts with the attached schedule can often be resolved if I know about them in advance. Any conflicts with events listed should be presented in writing during the first week of classes.
- Religious holidays are excused for students who observe them. Please notify me of any planned absences for religious holidays within the first week of classes.

Rehearsal Expectations

- Your comportment during rehearsal and in concerts is vital to the success of our ensemble. Active and energetic participation is critical. Rehearsal attire should be as professional as possible.

Devices

Cell phones and other electronic devices should be shut off and put away during rehearsals.

Student Conduct Code

Students will be bound by the University of Montana Student Conduct Code. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review at: http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Syllabus Statement:

The University of Montana values the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff as an essential strength that contributes to our shared educational mission. Students of all backgrounds and perspectives are recognized and respected in this class. Course content and activities are intended to honor diversity of gender, sexuality, ethnicity, race, culture, religion, age, disability, socioeconomic status, and all

dimensions of diverse human experiences and their intersection. Please notify your instructor if components of this course present barriers to your inclusion. Students can also reach out to Dr. Salena Beaumont Hill in the Office of Inclusive Excellence for Student Success, which provides student support for BIPOC and LGBTQ+ students and student groups. To explore making a formal report about discrimination or harassment, please visit the Equal Opportunity / Title IX office. For counseling or advocacy related to discrimination, please visit SARC. For more information and resources, please visit the Missoula College Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) webpage [embedded link TBD].

Office of Disability Equity <https://www.umt.edu/disability/>

Please reach out to the Office of Disability Equity if you need to request accommodations. If you have a verification letter that affects this class, please share it with me so that we can work out a good plan.

Drug and Alcohol Policy The purchase, consumption, or possession of alcoholic beverages is illegal by anyone under 21 years of age. It is also illegal to furnish or serve alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21.

For all students, regardless of age, consumption of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs is prohibited in connection with any official choir function.

Violations of these policies will result in immediate dismissal from the ensemble and a failing grade in the course.

Copyright

© 2021 University of Montana. All rights reserved.



CHORAL PROGRAM

Chamber Chorale Dress Rehearsals, Retreats, Concerts and Tours 2022-2023

Note that additional dates may arise. The expectation is that all members will make a good-faith effort to participate.

Fall Semester 2022

18.September Sunday	6:00-8:30	Chamber Retreat	Location: my home(?)
23.September Friday	7:00 pm	"Singing on the Steps"	Homecoming Pep Rally
30.October Sunday Call time	3:00 pm 12:00 pm	Choral Spooktacular	Dennison Theater
5.December Monday	7:00 pm	Dress rehearsal with orch	Dennison Theater
7.December Wednesday Call time	7:30 pm 6:00 pm	Concert with orch	Dennison Theater

Chamber Chorale: Spring Semester 2023

19 and 20.January	Evenings	Fusion Dress/concert	DT
20-22.January		All-Star Honor Choir	DT, MRH, 218
		Chamber Chorale members will sign up to help out periodically throughout	
22.January	12:00 pm	All-Star Concert	DT
Sunday		Chamber Chorale is a featured performing choir at the All-Star Concert	
6.March	7:00 pm	Dress rehearsal	DT
Monday			
7.March	7:30 pm	Concert	DT
Tuesday			
Call time	6:00		
30.April	3:00 pm	Spring choir concert	DT
Sunday			
Call time	12:00		
17.July-22 July		Montana International Choral Festival	
		Chamber Chorale is an invited performing choir	