MUSI 312.02: Chamber Chorale

David M. Edmonds

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Chamber Chorale MUSI 112A-02/312-02: 1 Credit
Syllabus FALL 2013

Schedule: MW 2:10-3:00pm (Music 218)
Instructor: Dr. David Edmonds
Office: Mus 209
Office hours: MW 10:10-11:00am; other times by appointment
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Prerequisites
Admittance by audition only.

Required Texts
Jonathan Dove “Ring Out Wild Bells” (in the bookstore)
Other music to be performed (handed out in class)

Required Materials
Pencil, music folder, music, tuning fork A-440
Concert attire:
  Dresses (ordered through school, alterations Cathy Bruch 728-5505), pearls (Claire’s)
  Tuxes (Tuxedo Gallery 728-4530)
  Chamber Chorale polo shirts
  Some kind of “Grizwear” (maroon, grey, white)

Course Description
The Chamber Chorale is a select mixed ensemble specializing in advanced literature from a wide variety of styles, periods, and cultures. Students will learn to perform choral music in a stylistically appropriate manner, with an emphasis on the technique of singing and musicianship. The highest levels of artistic singing will be sought through daily rehearsals and individual preparation outside of class. The Chamber Chorale also undertakes recruiting tours and other on and off-campus events.

As a part of the Chamber Chorale you may be the only representative of the UM choral program that many community members ever meet. Therefore, it is imperative that each singer maintains the highest standards of academic, personal and musical excellence.

Learning Outcomes
The student will...
  ...increase his/her fluency of reading at sight through weekly rehearsals.
  ...display growth in technical skills of singing and musicianship while gaining greater collaborative competence and knowledge of the choral repertory through regular ensemble experiences.
  ...gain a greater understanding of the common elements and organizational patterns of music through ensemble rehearsals and self-directed practice.
  ...be able to form and defend musical decisions made during the individual preparation of music.
  ...acquire an acquaintance with choral repertoire from several historical and stylistic periods through preparation and performance.
REGISTRATION
All ensembles in the School of Music satisfy one credit from Group IV: Expressive Arts, of the General Education Requirements. Freshmen and sophomores need to register for MUSI 112A, Section 02. Juniors and seniors should register for MUSI 312, Section 02.

ATTENDANCE AND GRADING
You are a member of one of the most elite choral ensembles in the state. As such, a high expectation of attendance and individual accountability must be maintained. Each student is allowed two absences. These absences should be used for emergencies only. Any absence over two for the semester may result in removal from the group. Excused absences will only be granted for university-sanctioned required events (tours, etc.). In all cases, I expect you to contact your section leader and/or me in advance of any anticipated absence. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence, regardless of the reason for the absence. Attendance for all items in bold under the “Class Schedule” section are mandatory. Missing these events may be grounds for failure and/or removal from the group.

Each member of the ensemble is responsible for his or her own part. Singers who do not know their music, who come unprepared, late, or not at all will be graded accordingly.

CLASS SCHEDULE
Week 1  Aug 28, 30  Syllabus/Course Outline and Expectations
Rehearsal

Week 2  Sept 2  Labor Day – NO CLASS
Sept 4, 6  Rehearsal PLM
Sept 7 (Sat)  Retreat at Snowbowl Missoula 9:00am-6:00pm

Week 3  Sept 9, 11, 13  Rehearsals
Week 4  Sept 16, 18, 20  Rehearsals
Week 5  Sept 23, 25, 27  Rehearsals
Week 6  Sept 30, Oct 2, 4  Rehearsals

Week 7  Oct 6 (Sun)  “Choral Gala Performance” Dress Rehearsal (5-7:30pm) @ DT
Oct 7 (Mon)  Rehearsal (2:10-3p) @ DT
“Choral Gala Performance” @ DT (call 5:30p; perf 7:30p)
Arrive in concert dress for photos (tentative)
Oct 9, 11  Rehearsals

Week 8  Oct 14  Rehearsal
Oct 16 (Wed)  Rehearsal (Tentative – MMEA @ Bozeman)
Oct 18 (Fri)  No rehearsal – MMEA @ Bozeman

Week 9  Oct 21, 23, 25  Rehearsals
Week 10 Oct 28, 30, Nov 1 Rehearsals
Week 11 Nov 4, 6, 8 Rehearsals
Week 12 Nov 10 (Sun)-12 (Tu) High School Tour (Great Falls, other locations TBD)
  Nov 13, 15 Rehearsals
Week 13 Nov 18, 20, 22 Rehearsals
Week 14 Nov 24 (Sun) “The Passing of the Year” @ DT (call 1p; perf 3p)
Week 15 Nov 25, 27, 29 No rehearsals (Thanksgiving week)
Week 16 Dec 2, 4, 6 Rehearsals
  Dec 3, 4 Recording session @ DT 9-11:30p
FINAL Dec 10 (Tue) 1:10-3:10p

Important Spring Semester Dates (subject to change)

 Jan 27 (Mon) FDOC
 Feb 6 (Thu) Fusion Tech/Dress (5-11pm)
 Feb 7 (Fri) Fusion (perf 1 12:15p; perf 2 7:30p)
 Feb 7-9 UM High School Honor Choir (Dr. Z Randall Stroope)
  Performance 2pm Sunday Feb 9
 Mar 13, 14, 15 Odyssey – Tech, Dress, Performance
 Mar 30-Apr 1 Chicago (during UM Spring break)
 Apr 21 (mon) Chamber Chorale hosts Big Sky High School @ MRH 7:30p

Academic Misconduct and the 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

Information Concerning Reasonable Modifications
Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). “Reasonable” means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult http://www.umt.edu/disability