Grand Rapids Community Concert Choir (MUS 195)

Syllabus

MWF 12:45 – 1:45, Room 304, Music Building

Dr. Barton, sbarton@grcc.edu, 616-234-2294

Grading policy

Grades for the GRCC Choir will be based on daily attendance to all rehearsals and attendance at all scheduled concerts.

Attendance:

Students must attend all rehearsals. While it is understood that an occasional absence from rehearsal is necessary, students will understand that missing a rehearsal for any reason constitutes lost instruction time and creates a situation where a student has a diminished ability to contribute to the musical well being of the ensemble. With this in mind, the choir will not recognize excused or unexcused absences. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class and students will be noted as absent or present. The following criterion will be used to determine a student’s grade based on this policy.

1-2 absences  A
3 absences     B
4 absences     C
5 absences     D
6 or more absences  Student will fail the course

If a student receives a grade of C or worse in any given semester, they will be asked to take a leave of absence from Concert Choir. Students will be asked to enroll in MUS 189 College Choir for their ensemble credit. After a semester in which a student has attained a B or better in College Choir, they will be eligible to reaudition for Concert Choir.
Tardies

Students are expected to be on time to each class. 3 tardies will constitute one absence. The final total of absences and tardies will determine the student’s final grade.

Bringing all choir music to class

It is assumed that students will arrive to class with all of the music assigned. Failure to bring your music to class will constitute a tardy for each time the music is not with you. It is vitally important to your ability to perform at a high level in class that you have all of your music for each class and not have to share with another singer. Having to share music impedes your ability and that of the person with whom you are sharing to rehearse and perform at the highest level.

Conduct in class

Students will be expected to give their best effort at all times and to have a good attitude during rehearsals. If the director feels that attitude and effort are not consistently good from a singer and are in some way a musical detriment to the ensemble, the director will speak privately with the student specifically communicating the problem(s). If problems persist, the director reserves the right to ask a student to take a leave of absence for the ensemble.

Class tests

On assigned Fridays, each student will be required to sing their part as assigned in a quartet or other appropriately sized chamber ensemble for a grade. This grade will be based on whether each student has learned their musical part and language thoroughly. These weekly grades will be calculated into a final test grade for the semester.

Final grades

50% Attendance

50% Class Tests
Performances

A list of performances and the choir repertory for the entire year is included among the materials you will be receiving for this class. Please note that **ALL PERFORMANCES ARE ABSOLUTELY AND WITHOUT EXCEPTION REQUIRED.** Students are required to be present for the entire concert in which they are performing. If a performance is missed, the student’s grade will be dropped to a C and you will be asked to take a leave of absence form the ensemble in the following semester. If a student leaves a performance before it is completed, their grade will be dropped to a B. These B’s and C’s could see further grade reduction due to absences and tardies. In such a case, it would be fairly easy to fail the class. Please don’t put yourself in such a position.

Any concerns about this policy or personal issues surrounding concert attendance will need to be addressed with Dr. Barton privately.

**Performance/Dress Rehearsal Calendar**

**GRCC Concert Choir Winter Semester 2015**

Monday, January 19  Sing for GRCC Martin Luther King Celebration, 10am-1:30pm, Ford Fieldhouse

Sunday, February 22  Winter Choral Concert at St. Cecilia Music Center, 3pm, arrive, 2pm

Saturday, March 14  Sing for fundraiser for Francescan Life Center, Downtown Market, 1-3pm

435 Ionia Avenue Southwest, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Wednesday, March 18  Dress rehearsal with the Kent Philharmonic Orchestra, St. Cecilia, 7:30pm, arrive, 6:30

Friday, March 20  Concert with the Kent Philharmonic Orchestra, St. Cecilia, 7:30pm, arrive 6pm

Thursday, April 16  Dress rehearsal for Musical Moods, 7-10pm, Fountain Street Church

Friday, April 17  Musical Moods, 7:30pm, Fountain Street Church, arrive, 6:30pm

Friday, May 1  Sing for GRCC Commencement, 7pm, Van Andel Arena
Repertory

Egressus Jesus Secessit  |  Pero de Gamboa
Bright Morning Stars    |  Shawn Kirchner
Ave verum from Stabat Mater  |  Karl Jenkins
I am not yours         |  Z. Randall Stroope
Symphony # 9            |  Ludwig van Beethoven
Lift Every Voice and Sing |  James Weldon Johnson

COLLEGE POLICIES:
The academic policies and procedures of GRCC are outlined in the College Catalog. College-wide policies and procedures, to include (but not limited to) grading, Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Student Right to Know, Privacy, Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity, Americans with Disability Act (ADA), concealed weapons, smoking, campus crime, copyright, academic grievances and discipline grievances, are at http://www.grcc.edu/catalog.

Additional policies, to include (but not limited to) academic integrity, disability support services, posting/distributing literature, selling merchandise, fundraising, classroom disruption, conduct and substance abuse, can be found in the GRCC Student Handbook at http://www.grcc.edu/handbook. If you come to campus for this or other classes, research, or meetings, remember that GRCC is a tobacco-free campus. Go to http://www.grcc.edu/tobaccofree for complete details on this GRCC policy or for resources about quitting.