

Tennessee Tech University

Department of Music

MUS 1060-003—Tech Chorale

Semester: Spring 2020

1 Credit

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Office Hours: As posted or by appointment

MWF 12:20-2:20pm-Wattenbarger Auditorium

Class Description and Objectives:

This class is designed for students to study and perform works representative of a wide range of choral literature. This ensemble is also an active presence that promotes TTU and the music department.

Prerequisite: Admission into the group is through audition only.

Teaching Methods:

Class will be taught through working together as a group and developing creative capacities and musical independence to perform a variety of challenging pieces of choral music.

Text, references, and other requirements:

- I. Have your music at every rehearsal
- II. Put your music in a black 3-ring binder
- III. Have a pencil with you at every rehearsal
- IV. You are required to attend additional rehearsals and performances (See page 2)

Special instructional platform/materials:

Participation in this ensemble also means that you are required to purchase concert attire including a TTU Chorale Shirt ~\$7 and **Men:** Tuxedo with black socks and shoes ~\$125. **Women:** Ordered dress with black hose and closed toed shoes (no flip-flops) ~\$71.

Topics to be covered:

- Music terminology
- Proper Singing Technique
- Stylistic changes in performance based on different musical time periods
- Becoming musically independent singers

Grading, evaluation, and attendance policy:

Attendance/Preparedness: 50%

Dress Rehearsals: 20%

Octet Assessments: 20%

Additional rehearsals and performances: 10%

50% of your grade is based on attendance. Since this class is a performing ensemble which depends on the participation and contribution of **ALL** its members, the expectation is that **YOU DO NOT MISS REHEARSAL**. You are given one absence per semester without penalty. This absence is to cover illness and/or other things that may come up over the course of the semester. Each absence beyond the given 1 absence will result in lowering your grade by 10% (a letter grade). **Any absence should be communicated to the director prior to the absence.** If absences or lateness become a problem, the director holds the right to remove you from the ensemble.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR OWN ATTENDANCE!!!

Absences that extend past the first because of serious illness, death of a family member, or religious holiday will be considered by the director on a case-by-case basis but will also be considered your one absence without penalty.

Missing a dress rehearsal will lower your grade one letter grade and may result in you not performing on the concert.

Octets: Octet tests will be occasionally taken throughout the semester. You will receive approximately 2 to 3 days' notice for an octet where I will announce the piece/section that will be tested. On the day of the octet, some or all of you will be asked to perform a portion of that piece. The octet will be pass/fail. If I feel like you are unprepared, I will ask you, within a week's time, to schedule an appointment with me where you will sing the selected portion again to show that you know your part. **If you are absent when you name is called for an octet, it is YOUR responsibility to schedule a time to come and sing your part for me. Failure to do so will result as a "0" for that octet grade.**

Tech Chorale Dates: Spring 2020

January 29 & 30 Chorale Retreat Fri: 5-11pm Saturday: 10:00am-3pm

February 20: Dress Rehearsal for Unity Concert. 2-4:30pm

February 21: Performance in Mastersingers Unity Concert. 3pm Concert

March 17: St. Thomas Aquinas Church St. Patrick's Day Concert 7pm

March 19: First United Pentecostal Church-Performance 6pm.

April 1st: TTU Centennial Dinner-Leslie Towne Center 7:30pm-8:30pm.

April 5: Spring Concert-7:30pm

April 18: American Spiritual Ensemble Concert 7:30pm

April 22, 25, & 27-Presentations for Ireland Trip

May 5: Final Rehearsal before Ireland 6:00-8:00pm

May 11-21: Tech Chorale Tour of Germany, Austria, and Hungary

May 25th: Letters Due (email is fine)

***Germany, Austria, & Hungary Presentations:** Students traveling in May will be required to research, an area, city, building, or person of historical significance (musical or otherwise), that is connected in some way to the places we will travel while on tour. Students will be asked to give a presentation to the class of approximately 10 minutes on their topic. Students may do an individual presentation or may pair themselves with one other person. Students can use any media or format for their presentation. This should be something you are genuinely interested or excited about and is meant to heighten everyone's experience while on tour, so approach this project with sincerity and do a respectable job. **Accompanying the presentation should be a one page summary of your findings (Single spaced).**

****Letter home:** Musicians/Composers from the time of Bach through the Romantic period, particularly those who did a lot traveling would often write home about their experiences along their travels. After our tour, I would like from each of you a letter to me describing your thoughts, feelings, experiences, and highlights from the trip. The letter is as long as you choose to make it. I would like for you to write until you run out of things to say about the trip. I don't mind if it isn't particularly well structured, I would prefer this to be more of a stream of consciousness about the trip. I want this to come from YOU; not just fulfilling a requirement.

University Plagiarism Policy (Tennessee Tech University Student Handbook – Plagiarism (Academic Regulations)): When you use (for example, quote or even summarize or paraphrase) someone else's media, words, data, ideas, or other works, you must cite your source. You should be especially careful to avoid plagiarizing Internet sources (for example, e-mail, chat rooms, Web sites, or discussion groups). It does not matter whether you borrow material from print sources, from the Internet, from on-line data bases, or from interviews. Failure to cite your source is plagiarism. Students who plagiarize may receive an "F" or a "0" for the assignment, or an "F" for the course.
<http://www.tntech.edu/ttustudenthandbook/academic-regulations/>

Disability Accommodation: Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119.

Department of Music Hearing Health Syllabus Statement

Loud music (amplified or acoustic) can lead to permanent hearing loss. Although many factors contribute to hearing loss, including time of exposure, volume/decibel levels, proximity to sources, and hereditary predisposition, we urge everyone to wear hearing protection when exposed to high sound levels for extended periods. Good hearing health requires regular examinations, proper diagnosis, and advice from a licensed audiologist. While the faculty member will provide specific information related to musician's health as appropriate to this course, it is fundamentally the responsibility of the individual student to avoid risk and prevent injury. More information on hearing health can be found at:

- http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/index.jsp?page=NASM-PAMA_Hearing_Health
- http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/site/docs/PAMA-NASM_Advisories/3a_NASM_PAMA-Student_Orientation_Script-Standard.pdf