

Moravian Choir

Syllabus - Fall 2012

COURSE NUMBERS: MUS 110-11, 210-11, 310-14 (majors)
MUS 001 (elective), or MUS 011 (M6 credit)

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Dr. Paula Ring Zerkle

Office: Rm. 308, Music Building **Hours:** M/W 2:20p-3:00p

Voice: 610-861-1681 **Email:** zerkle@moravian.edu

CHORAL OFFICERS:

President: Jazzy Thomas (stjft01@moravian.edu)

Managers/VPs: Melissa Walters (stmvw01@moravian.edu)
Ariel Hudak (staeh08@moravian.edu)

Secretary: Heidi New (sthwn01@moravian.edu)

Treasurer: Addison Rymar (stamr12@moravian.edu)

Accompanist: Russell Jackson

EXPECTATIONS OF ALL MEMBERS:

- 1. Come to all rehearsals and be on time (which means be at least 5 minutes early!)**
Be at rehearsals before they begin and be ready to sing. If you don't feel well, come and just watch the rehearsal. You must participate in all dress rehearsals to sing in the concert(s).
- 2. Come prepared (with music and pencil) and participate positively during rehearsal time**
Be respectful of others and stay attentive, positive and focused during rehearsals. Don't chat or text.
- 3. Commit to musical excellence and keep aware of your own progress**
Everyone has different skills. Try not to be frustrated if you can't do something, but commit to always doing your best. You will be asked to learn or review specific sections or pieces outside of rehearsal.

MUSICAL SKILLS

Here are some skills you will work on:

- Vocal agility and strength
- Listening and ensemble singing skills
- Internal understanding of musical expression
- Knowledge of musical concepts and aesthetic connections
- Knowledge of stylistic and cultural context of works
- Effective rehearsal and performance protocol
- Cooperation and teamwork

GRADING AND CREDIT

- **MU310.** All music majors enrolled in the performance unit (MUS 110-11, 210-11, 310-14) with concentrations in voice, piano, organ, guitar, or electric bass are required to participate in a large choral ensemble each semester. Vocal ensembles also serve as secondary or elective ensembles to wind, brass, string, and percussion majors. A minimum of two semesters is required of all music education majors with an instrumental concentration.
- **MUS 001 and MUS 011.** All students who are not music majors (including music minors) must register for one of the choir's two other course numbers: MUS 001 (elective), or MUS 011 (M6 credit). These students are expected to participate in all rehearsals and performances and follow the same rules as music majors. Students will receive one unit of elective credit once they have successfully completed six semesters of choir. Students who wish to fulfill their M6 (Aesthetic Expression) requirement additionally must write a short essay for each of the six semesters on a topic selected by the director. There is no charge for this credit.
- Everyone is responsible for knowing the information found in the **Moravian Choir Constitution**, which contains details on ensemble goals and procedures and available to read on blackboard.
- **Grading** in the choir is based on attendance, positive participation, behavior, preparation, and performance. Everyone in the choir – regardless of course registration number – will be evaluated. Each singer starts with 100 points, and points are subtracted for each infraction:

Disruptive behavior	-5
Poor preparation	-3
Limited participation	-2
Unexcused late	-1 (for every 5 minutes)
Unexcused absence	-10
Unexcused performance	-25

The final grade for music majors will equal their final point calculation. Anyone who has a point total below 65 will receive a warning; below 50 and you will be asked to leave the ensemble.

FALL 2012 CHOIR SCHEDULE:

Rehearsals (beg. 8-29-12)	Mondays and Wednesdays	4:00pm-6:00pm	Peter Hall
<i>Labor Day</i>	<i>Monday 3 September</i>	<i>no rehearsal</i>	
Sectionals	Wednesday 5 September	SA 4-5p; TB 5-6p	Peter Hall
Sectionals	Monday 10 September	TB 4-5p; SA 5-6p	Peter Hall
Rehearsal	Wednesday 12 September	tutti	Peter Hall
Intensive rehearsal*	Saturday 15 September	A 9a, T 10a, B 11a, S 12p	Peter Hall
Sectionals and Singing Quiz*	Monday 17 September	SA 4-5p; TB 5-6p	Peter Hall
<i>Fall Break</i>	<i>Monday 8 October</i>	<i>no rehearsal</i>	
Singing Quiz*	Wednesday 31 October	tutti	Peter Hall
Dress Rehearsal	Wednesday 14 November	4:00pm-6:00pm	Foy Hall
Vespers Preview Concert	Friday 16 November	7:30p (call 6:00p)	Foy Hall
Rehearsal	Monday 19 November	4:00pm-6:00pm	Central Church
<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	<i>Wednesday 21 November</i>	<i>no rehearsal</i>	
Rehearsal*	Sunday 25 November	6:30p-9:30p	Central Church
Rehearsal*	Monday 26 November	4:00pm-6:00pm	Central Church
Dress Rehearsal	Wednesday 28 November	4:00pm-6:00pm	Central Church
Vespers Services	30 Nov, 1, 7, 8 December	8:00pm (6:45pm call)	Central Church
Vespers Services	Sunday 2 and 9 December	5:00pm (4pm call)	Central Church
Rehearsal	Monday 3 December	4:00pm-6:00pm	Central Church
Recording Session	Wednesday 5 December	4:00pm-6:00pm	Central Church

Bold indicates mandatory attendance

* Indicates "you better have a really good excuse if you can't make it"