

Moravian Choir

Syllabus - Spring 2015

COURSE NUMBERS

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

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Dr. Paula Zerkle

Office: Rm. 308, Music Building

Voice: 610-861-1681

Hours: M/W 2:20p-3:00p

Email: zerkle@moravian.edu

CHORAL OFFICERS

President: Heidi New (sthwn01@moravian.edu)

Managers/VPs: Faith Brown (stfeb01@moravian.edu)

Ben Wallace (stbjw04@moravian.edu)

Secretary: Joe Mozingo (stjlm22@moravian.edu)

Treasurer: Brian Strohmetz (stbcs02@moravian.edu)

Accompanist: Andrea Bernsten

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, you are expected to attend and just observe the rehearsal with your music. You must participate in designated dress rehearsals to sing in the concert(s).

2. Come prepared (music & 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.

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

Performance Unit. 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 the Moravian choir 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 will be shared with you on Google Docs.

Grading in the choir is based on attendance, positive participation, behavior, preparation, and performance. If you going to be absent from rehearsal, you need to notify the director and the choir secretary BEFORE the rehearsal. The director, in consultation with the choir secretary will determine if your absence is to be excused or not.

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.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability must contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support, at the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

SPRING 2015 CHOIR SCHEDULE:

Rehearsals (beg. 1-19-15)	Mondays and Wednesdays	4:00pm-6:00pm	Peter Hall
ADDITIONS AND EXCEPTIONS:	(bold = mandatory)		
Sectionals	Wednesday 21 January	TB 4-5pm; SA 5-6pm	Peter Hall
Sectionals	Monday 26 January	SA 4-5pm; TB 5-6pm	Peter Hall
Sectionals	Monday 2 February	TB 4-5pm; SA 5-6pm	Peter Hall
Sectionals	Monday 9 February	SA 4-5pm; TB 5-6pm	Peter Hall
Intensive sectionals	Saturday 14 February	B 9a, T 10a, A 11a, S 12p	Peter Hall
Tour to Ohio	7-11 March	see separate schedule	Dover, OH
Rehearsals (now in Foy)	Monday 16 March	4:00pm-6:00pm	Foy Hall
Concert at Holy Trinity	Friday 20 March	6:00pm (5pm warm up)	Whitehall, PA
Rehearsal	Wednesday 22 April	6:30pm-9:30pm	Foy Hall
Dress Rehearsal	Saturday 25 April	9:00am-1:00pm	Foy Hall
Spring Concert	Saturday 25 April	7:30pm (6:15pm call)	Foy Hall
Commencement	Saturday 16 May	10:00am (8:30am call)	Quad