

University of Florida Chorale
MUN 6325
Spring 2024
MW | 3:00p - 4:55p | Music Building, room 120

Instructor:

James Cain

jdcaain@ufl.edu

Office: MUB 344

Office Hours: In-person or Zoom, by appointment. Email to arrange.

Critical Dates

Wednesday, April 10 – 6:30p-9:00p, Spring Concert

Friday, May 3 – 6:00p-9:00p, University Commencement Ceremony (*tentative*)

**Note: Call time of performances is subject to change.
Additional performance opportunities may be added.*

Course Description

Vocal training and public performance of treble chorus repertoire. Course literature is drawn from a variety of historical periods, cultures, and musical styles, presenting students with varied perspectives and experiences. Students explore the key elements of the literature including the origin, historical context, and form of song texts, compositional techniques, and performance practices. *1 credit*

Course Prerequisites

Graduate Student

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. demonstrate proper vocal technique – to include good intonation and characteristic tone quality;
2. demonstrate their knowledge of musical structures and conventions by performing with appropriate phrasing and an enlightened sense of shape and direction;
3. synthesize a broad range of musical skills by performing varied repertoire with expression, technical accuracy, and kinesthetic energy;
4. articulate how the cultural and historical contexts of the repertoire impact their understanding of the world, themselves, and their own experiences; and
5. demonstrate professional behaviors including those unique to performing arts contexts.

Required Text

Students will be provided with music (selections change each semester).

Required Materials

black folder, pencil, concert attire – *details will be provided*

Attendance Policy and Make-Up Policy

Ensure that you are familiar with the university attendance policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies>

Good attendance and class participation are crucial to your success in this course. Attendance is mandatory for every scheduled rehearsal and performance. When you are absent from a class, you miss out on important information and experiences. More importantly, your absence will impact the other singers and the choir as a whole.

- **If you anticipate being absent from class, you should notify Dr. Cain via Canvas with as much notice as possible.**
- To facilitate attendance recording, students are asked to place their cell phone in their designated slot on the phone rack in the front of the room, where it will remain for the duration of the rehearsal.
- Tardies and absences will be excused per the university attendance policy regulations. If you are tardy or absent and you believe that the tardy or absence should be excused, you must notify Dr. Cain via Canvas. When appropriate, students must provide proper documentation of their tardy or absence in order for it to be considered excused.
- Students will not schedule work or other academic commitments during any scheduled choir activity. Such conflicts will not be excused.
- If you are not able to vocally contribute during a particular rehearsal due to illness, but you are still able to attend class (i.e. you are not contagious, feverish, nauseous, or faint), you are strongly encouraged to attend.

Acceptance of late assignments is at the discretion of the instructor.

Class Structure & Expectations

Participation in a musical ensemble is highly cooperative and experiential. Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared to actively participate. Students incorporate new knowledge and develop their skills during class time through the rehearsal process. Public performance is also a central component of the ensemble experience and is considered a culminating demonstration of learning.

Students are expected to be respectful of each other's and the director's time and efforts. To that effect, distractions (e.g. talking, extraneous noises, etc.) must be kept to a minimum. Excessive distractions may result in a grade reduction being assessed and/or dismissal from the rehearsal.

Course Assessment

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Rehearsal Participation	30%
Professional Preparation & Assignments	25%
Performances	45%

Number of Rehearsal Absences	Maximum Final Grade
0	100%
1	97%
2	94%
3	91%
4	88%
5	85%
6	75%
7	65%
8 or more	failing grade

Final Course Grade

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93 - 100	A	4.00
90 - 92	A-	3.67
87 - 89	B+	3.33
83 - 86	B	3.00
80 - 82	B-	2.67
77 - 79	C+	2.33
73 - 76	C	2.00
70 - 72	C-	1.67
67 - 69	D+	1.33
63 - 66	D	1.00
60 - 62	D-	0.67
0 - 59.99	E	0.00

More information on UF Grading Policy may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies>

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The [Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/ferpa-confidentiality-student-records>

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: <https://umatter.ufl.edu> | umatter@ufl.edu | 352-392-1575

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact Campus Assistance & Resources for Empowerment (CARE) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu> | 352-392-1575

For information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: <https://shcc.ufl.edu> | 352-392-1161

For 24/7 information to help you find the care you need.

University Police Department: <http://www.police.ufl.edu> | 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies)

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: <https://ufhealth.org/uf-health-shands-emergency-room-trauma-center> | 352-733-0111 | 1515 SW Archer Road,

Gainesville, FL 32608

For immediate medical care.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu> | helpdesk@ufl.edu | 352-392-HELP (4357)

Career Connections Center: <https://career.ufl.edu> | 352-392-1601 | Reitz Union
Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support: <https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/ask>

Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Academic Resources: <https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu> | teaching-center@ufl.edu | 352-392-2010 or 352-392-6420 (to make a tutoring appointment).

General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio> | 352-846-1138

Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints: <https://ombuds.ufl.edu/student>