

Syllabus MUEN 1141 and 2141

Concert Choir

Instructor: Dr. Debbie Gelber

FA117 (Office Hours Posted on Door)

**PURPOSE:** This ensemble prepares and performs challenging literature from the various major stylistic periods, as well as contemporary popular and folk idioms. The purpose of this ensemble includes: promoting a better understanding and appreciation for all styles of choral music; providing positive rehearsal and performance experiences for its members; and representing and enhancing the public image of South Plains College.

### **PERFORMANCES:**

There will be FIVE major performances this semester. The dates will be posted during the first week of classes.

Additional performances may be added during the semester. However, adequate notice will be given so that schedule adjustments can be made. Other activities may be scheduled in support of the ongoing functions of the choir in which all choir members are expected to fully participate.

### **GRADE DETERMINATION**

Because Concert Choir is a **performance** ensemble, attendance at every rehearsal is necessary.

**BE SURE YOU CHECK IN WITH YOUR SECTION LEADER AT EVERY REHEARSAL or SECTIONAL!!**

- 1) Students will receive a grade for each rehearsal and performance.
- 2) Grades will be based on prompt attendance, participating in the rehearsal, co-operative behavior (working in sectionals, refraining from talking during a rehearsal), ability to perform the music correctly.
- 3) An unexcused absence will be recorded as a 0 for the rehearsal.
- 4) An absence is excused if:
  - a) Student is ill with written confirmation from a doctor or the student's health clinic.
  - b) There is a death in the family and student misses class to attend the funeral. Again, documentation would be required.
  - c) Student is absent due to a school activity for which arrangements and approvals have already been made.
  - d) Other circumstances as determined on a case-by-case basis by instructor.

*\*\*It is noted that one unexcused absence could significantly affect your grade. 3 or 4 could cause course failure. 4 or more absences could result in being dropped from the class and repayment of your scholarship. \*\**

**A performance is comparable to a final exam. If a student misses a performance, the final grade will be affected severely, and scholarship money must be re-paid. If there is an extreme circumstance as outlined above, written documentation would be required, and each situation judged on a case-by-case basis. Please check your calendars carefully at the beginning of the semester for any unalterable conflicts and discuss it with the professor immediately.**

**MUSIC SCORES:** Music will be provided for each student. Students are responsible for the return of any original music at the end of the semester. Copies may be retained.

Students will need a 3-ring binder for their music and a pencil at every rehearsal! Other learning resources (translations, pronunciation guides, historical background information, etc.) will be distributed to each student.

Any loss of original materials will be reported to the accounting office and could put a hold on grades, revocation of scholarship or incur fines that would be paid before enrolling the next semester or transferring to another school.

### **UNIFORMS :**

**Males:** Formal concert attire consists of a black long sleeved button down shirt, black slacks, black socks, and black **dress** shoes.

**Females:** Formal concert attire consists of a formal length (either full length or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length) black dress, black skirt or long black pants.

Tops must be black long sleeved or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length.

Shoes: black, flat or modest heel close-toed **dress** shoes and black stockings.

This may change and adequate notice will be made.

### **REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE**

An ensemble can only succeed with positive involvement from every member of the group. Fine Arts Voice Majors are the leaders of this group. They must act accordingly. All vocal majors will be expected to direct the warmups and assume leadership responsibilities at some point in the semester.

You are expected to participate in all rehearsal activities and **please do not leave the rehearsal** unless you have an emergency or permission from the instructor.

Cell phones should be put away for the duration of the rehearsal unless specified by the instructor.

Be courteous and respectful to the other members of the group.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Choir Scholarships are awarded based on involvement. They are awarded in the following priority:

- A) Vocal Majors who are studying private voice
- B) Music Majors who are taking private voice
- C) Music Majors not taking private voice
- D) Non-Music majors who are taking private voice
- E) Non-music majors who are not taking private voice

Any scholarship amounts are varied by a student's ability, experience, and commitment to the music program at SPC.

