

The George Washington University Singers
Tues/Thurs 12:45-2pm
Phillips B120
1 Credit

Gisele Becker, Director of Choral Activities
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202-994-2228

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2-4 or by appointment

GW Chamber Choir
Tues/Thurs 5-6:15
Phillips B120/104
1 Credit

Course Description: University Singers and Chamber Choir are auditioned mixed choruses consisting solely of GW students. Through rehearsals, concerts and rehearsal observations the ensembles will make musical contributions to the University, community and themselves by growing as performers and striving to perfect the choral art.

Course Prerequisites: Individual audition with the Director of Choral Activities

Texts and Materials: Students will be required to purchase some of their music from the GW Bookstore. Other music will be provided. Men are required to have a tuxedo (cummerbund, black tie, black socks and black shoes) for performances. Women are required to purchase the concert dress used by the University Singers. A black folder is also required.

Expected Learning Outcomes: As a result of completing this course, students should be able to demonstrate, through performance, a mastery of the music being rehearsed. Sight reading and score reading skills will be emphasized. If students have not mastered the music within the choral rehearsals, they are expected to put in individual time outside of class.

Learning Tools: Rehearsal warm-ups will focus on healthy vocalizing, executing and identifying intervals with the intent of improving sight reading and familiarizing the student with basic music theory and musical score terms. Rehearsals will result in proper and artistic execution of the music being studied which culminates in a public concert.

Grading: Both ensembles are graded PASS/FAIL. **Attendance** is extremely important and students are expected to attend ALL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES. Each student will be permitted a TOTAL THREE absences per concert preparation. DRESS REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS ARE MANDATORY. Failure to attend a dress rehearsal and/or concert will result in a FAILING GRADE FOR THE SEMESTER. Please contact me at least 24 hours in advance of a known absence. Work conflicts, study sessions, and internship responsibilities do NOT COUNT AS EXCUSED ABSENCES. If severe health issues arise, we will discuss options for you to make up the work. Religious observations do not count toward your absences as long as WRITTEN notice is given prior to the holiday.

Mastery of Music is the goal for all members of the ensembles. Assessments of an individual's preparedness/mastery of the music will be executed by the Director of Choral Activities and/or University Singers Accompanist by way of small-group quizzes periodically throughout the semester. Dates for these assessments will be provided with at least one week's notice.

Written Observations: Students who wish to receive a PASS must attend two GW Music Department CONCERTS and write a short (1 page) review for each. Attach the concert program to your review.

PLAN AHEAD FOR THIS – don't wait until the end of the semester when many groups have finished rehearsing/performing. You can find information on performances on the Music Department website.

Due Date for Papers: December 7, 2012

Academic Integrity: I personally support the GW Code of Academic Integrity. It states: "Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information." For the remainder of the code see:

<http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html>

Support for Students Outside of Classroom

Disability Support Services (DSS) – Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact the Disability Support Services offices at 202-994-8250 in the Marvin Center to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. For additional information please refer to: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/>

University Counseling Center (UCC) 202-994-5300: The University Counseling Center offers 24/7 assistance and referral to address students' personal, social, career and study skills problems. Services for students include: crisis and emergency mental health consultations, confidential assessment, counseling services and referrals. Please refer to:

<http://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/CounselingServices/AcademicSupportServices>.

Security

IN the case of an emergency, if at all possible, the class should shelter in place. If the building that the class is in is affected, follow the evacuation procedures for the building. After evacuation, seek shelter at a predetermined rendezvous location.