

CORNELL CONCERT CHOIR
DR. LISA HEARNE, CONDUCTOR

MUS 712 (one-quarter credit) is open to all qualified students upon audition, may be repeated for credit, and may be counted toward the fulfillment of the Fine Arts Participation requirement. To enroll, student should register for MUS 712.

Music as a discipline appeals to both the intellect as a scientific study and to the aesthetic sense as a means of artistic expression. Singing involves yet another aspect: physical training. This course will seek to engage the singer on all three levels by means of work on vocal technique and the study of many styles of worthy choral music. Our goal as a choir will be to make our daily rehearsals and, ultimately, our performances, examples of fine craftsmanship and artistry.

Scheduled Events

---Dress rehearsals for Fall Concert: Wednesday Nov. 7 & Thursday Nov. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

---**FALL CONCERT** *Friday, November 9, 7:30 p.m. King Chapel*
---**CAROL SING** *Sunday, December 2, 3:00 p.m. King Chapel*

Performance attendance is required. Any potential conflicts such as employment, social functions, or weekends at home should be addressed immediately. Please speak with me about schedule conflicts. Unexcused absences at performances may result in a failing grade or expulsion from the choir.

Rehearsals:

- *Rehearsals will begin precisely at 3:15 each MWTh for Concert Choir and will last 50 minutes. Tuesday 3:15 sectionals are scheduled as needed.
- *We will not rehearse on the Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday of block break week.
- *If you must be habitually late or need to leave early due to a class or lab, speak with me or your section leader.
- *Please avoid scheduling conflicting work hours or music lessons on MWTh.
- *Please notify me ASAP regarding vacation blocks or study that will take you off-campus for an extended period.

Concert attire is tuxedos for men, long black dresses for women. Rental tuxes are available from Cornell or you may provide your own. The standard black concert dress and concert jewelry will be made available for purchase.

There is an official policy on Music Ensemble Attendance which clearly spells out the expectations of student participants. Excused Absence forms will accompany this policy statement. When you must miss rehearsal, please communicate by way of this written excuse.

GRADING AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance

1. Rehearsal attendance is required. This is a performance class, and in essence, a laboratory class where learning and achievement are interdependent.
2. Two unexcused absences per semester are allowed before attendance affects grading. Each unexcused absence thereafter lowers one full letter grade.
3. Two unexcused tardies will be equivalent to one unexcused absence.
4. All absences are considered unexcused except for the following:
 - ~Illness that has kept you from attending other classes
 - ~Contagious illness
 - ~Death in the family or similar family emergency
 - ~Off-campus class obligation (cleared in advance)
5. Excused absence forms must be turned in within a week of the absence, and in cases other than illness/emergency, turned in prior to the absence
6. Keep in your folder and refer to the official ensemble attendance policy distributed at the beginning of the semester.

Materials

1. Music and folders are provided by the music department. If these are lost, students must pay the cost of replacement.
2. A pencil is provided for each folder. It is the student's responsibility to be sure to have a pencil for use at every rehearsal.
3. Habitual failure to have rehearsal materials may result in grading penalties.

Musical Preparation

1. You are evaluated on your accomplishment, not your talent. Bring your best ability, work ethic, and positive attitude to each rehearsal.
2. Complete listening assignments as directed.
3. Complete diction assignments as directed.
4. Learn notes, rhythm, diction, dynamics, breath phrasing, musical detail, etc., by designated deadlines AND BE ABLE TO EXECUTE CORRECTLY.
5. Ask for help from director, section leader or other colleague when necessary.
6. Be responsible for your musical preparation.
7. Complete memorization assignments by designated deadlines.
8. Failure to adequately prepare assigned music may result in grading penalties, exclusion from performances, or expulsion from the choir.

Decorum & Deportment in Rehearsal

1. Arrive prior to rehearsal so you are in your place with your materials in time for warmups.
2. Focus your attention on the conductor.
3. Use excellent singing posture, including appropriate use of folders; Use appropriate facial expression (facial "mask").
4. All cell phones and similar devices should be turned off.

5. Avoid any behavior during rehearsals that may be disturbing to other singers or rude to the conductor.
6. Habitual problems with any of these items will result in grading penalties.

Decorum & Deportment in Performance

1. Be on time for your call, in good health, with required performance attire in good condition.
2. Be well-groomed (hair neatly combed, not in your eyes; facial hair neat; no visible piercings other than earrings, including the tongue (hinders diction); hair color in the spectrum of nature's hair colors, not distracting to audience)
3. Use appropriate facial expression & communication.
4. Be well-disciplined and thoroughly professional in your concert etiquette, both on-stage and off.

MUS 712 Concert Choir supports the Educational Priorities and Outcomes of Cornell College through the application of the following objectives:

- 1) Knowledge and Reasoning: acquire knowledge of concepts and apply problem-solving techniques to achieve assignment and course goals
- 2) Communication and Intercultural Literacy: acquire the tools employed by performers and educators that form the basis for the development of singing language skills common to musicians all around the world.
- 3) Citizenship and Vocation: acquire skills that prepare students for collaboration with fellow professionals and colleagues in the field of music.

Academic Honesty and Students with Disabilities

(a) Cornell College expects all members of the Cornell community to act with academic integrity. An important aspect of academic integrity is respecting the work of others. A student is expected to explicitly acknowledge ideas, claims, observations, or data of others, unless generally known. When a piece of work is submitted for credit, a student is asserting that the submission is her or his work unless there is a citation of a specific source. If there is no appropriate acknowledgement of sources, whether intended or not, this may constitute a violation of the College's requirement for honesty in academic work and may be treated as a case of academic dishonesty. The procedures regarding how the College deals with cases of academic dishonesty appear in The Compass, our student handbook, under the heading "Academic Policies – Honesty in Academic Work."

(b) Students who need accommodations for learning disabilities must provide documentation from a professional qualified to diagnose learning disabilities. For more information see cornellcollege.edu/disabilities/documentation/index.shtml

Students requesting services may schedule a meeting with the disabilities services coordinator as early as possible to discuss their needs and develop an individualized accommodation plan. Ideally, this meeting would take place well before the start of classes. At the beginning of each course, the student must notify the instructor within the first three days of the term of any accommodations needed for the duration of the course.

Cornell Ensemble Attendance Policy

1. Two (2) absences will be allowed during a semester (four terms). After two absences, each additional unexcused absence will reduce the grade by one letter; e.g., four unexcused absences will result in a "C" for the semester.
All absences from rehearsal are unexcused except for an illness that has kept the student from classes and all other activities during that day; or an emergency in the family which has taken the student away from campus.
Absences which occur due to college requirements may be considered excused at the discretion of the ensemble director. No other absences will be considered as excused.
2. Students who are more than 5 minutes late will be counted as LATE. Two (2) times being LATE will count the same as one unexcused absence.
3. The director or someone appointed by the director will be responsible for taking roll.
4. Drop policy: Students may withdraw from the ensemble any time up to the end of Term 1 or Term 5. This can be done only by a student directly informing the faculty conductor of the ensemble by the specified deadline. No entry of the dropped course will appear on the student's official transcript.

CORNELL COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

REQUEST FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE OR TARDY

Attendance has a direct effect on you and those involved in this ensemble. Please do not allow either to suffer by failure to attend and contribute to your rehearsal. In the event you must miss a rehearsal please submit this form at least **one week in advance**. In unpredictable situations such as illness, you should contact the ensemble conductor or Cathy Schonhorst (music office secretary) with as much notice as possible. This form should be completed within three days of your return. Choir grades are determined by participation. Do not jeopardize your grade by unexcused absence.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS OR DORM: _____

PHONE: _____ DATE MISSED: _____

CIRCLE ONE:	TYPE OF FUNCTION:	REASON: _____
TARDY	FULL ENSEMBLE	_____
ABSENCE	SECTIONAL	_____
	DRESS REHEARSAL	_____
	PERFORMANCE	_____

SIGNED: _____

DATE SUBMITTED: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Action: Excused_____ Not Excused_____

Director Signature:_____

