**TERM**: Spring 2015

**COURSE INFORMATION**:

**Course Title:** MUSI 3241 Chorale

**Credit & Format:** 1 Humanities Credit – 3 Lab Hours

**Time & Location:** M&W 4:35-5:55 p.m. in CoC 016 - <http://map.gtalumni.org/index.php?id=50>

**INSTRUCTOR**:

**Name**: Dr. Timothy Hsu

**Telephone**: 404.894.9110

**E-mail**: timothy.hsu@music.gatech.edu

**Office**: Couch 205A

**Office Hours**: by appointment

**PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES**: A non-auditioned mixed ensemble focused upon the rehearsal, study and performance of choral music as it relates to the synthesis of language, linguistics, music theory/history, and vocal technique. Repertoire varies, and may include accompanied & unaccompanied works from all style eras and genres, modern music, vocal jazz, world music, and performances that incorporate multiple mediums. The purpose of the class is to develop:

1. An understanding of vocal technique in theory and practice
2. The application of harmonic, structural and aural skills in relation to choral performance practice
3. An experience with and knowledge of various choral repertoire, including accompanied & unaccompanied works from major style eras and genres (e.g. modern music, vocal jazz, world music, and performances incorporating multiple mediums)
4. The ability to present polished and professional performance throughout the semester
5. Familiarity with language (i.e., German, Chinese, Spanish, Latin, etc.) and significant texts from world cultures
6. The analytical tools necessary to dissect poetry, translations, and language in the interpretation of music

Upon completion of the course, each student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate and utilize proper choral vocal technique
2. Read and understand traditional and contemporary musical symbols and notation
3. Discern, discuss and contextualize major genres of choral music
4. Apply harmonic and structural analysis in relation to choral performance
5. Possess the analytical skills to form educated judgments about choral music from various cultures
6. Recognize and compare the cultural context in which choral music was written and performed, and compare music of various styles and eras to the music studied this semester.

**PROCEDURES**: Class will meet Mon & Wed from 4:35-5:55 p.m. for lecture and rehearsal. Attendance is *required*. The instructor is under no obligation to make up material presented in class unless the student provides a reasonable and, if appropriate, documented excuse. Some assignments may require additional lab and sectional time.

**PREREQUISITE**: There are no prerequisites for this course. While previous choral singing experience and vocal audition are not necessary, music reading skills and prior experience are certainly beneficial to the learning process.

**ATTENDANCE**:

1. *Attendance:* Regular attendance is expected and required of all singers. Attendance will be taken at each rehearsal. Each singer is allowed two excused absences. *Absences in excess of two will result in letter grade reduction. Three (3) tardies of 10 minutes or more will count as one absence.* Additional sectional rehearsals will be scheduled within the first two weeks of the semester. Regular attendance is expected and required. The absence from a concert will result in an automatic ‘F’ for the course.

2*. Attitude:* Each rehearsal is a laboratory setting. Singers will be regularly assessed on an individual basis for attitude, effort, cooperation and preparation. Periodic announced and unannounced audits in octets, quartets, sextets and trios will also serve as an assessment of progress.

**PERFORMANCES**: Concert performances will be announced well in advance and will serve as exams. *Unexcused absences from performances will result in a failing grade.*

**MUSIC**: With the exception of large works, music will be provided by GA Tech, distributed during the first few weeks of rehearsal, and supplemented throughout the semester. Students are responsible for returning ALL original music by the end of the term. *Each student must provide a black, three-ring binder and bring a pencil to each rehearsal.*

**UNIFORM:**

1. Females will be provided with a GT choral uniform/dress. Each female must provide black, flat shoes
2. Males are required to wear a tux jacket, shirt/bowtie and pants (*not* tails) in addition to black shoes/socks
3. Semester dues will be assessed for care and cleaning of uniforms. First semester males are exempt from dues

**CELL PHONE POLICY**:Please refrain from using a cell phone, tablet, or electronic device during rehearsal, except when specified for instruction

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:**

1. Ensemble Instruction
2. Lecture/discussion
3. Analysis of historical and modern recordings
4. Assigned readings and recordings
5. Individual instruction within sectional framework

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

1. Rehearsal/Sectional attendance 40%
2. Performances 30%
3. Musical preparation and audits 5%
4. Application of aural analysis 5%
5. Integration of historical and social context 5%
6. Recording and reading homework 5%
7. Class discussion 5%
8. Pronunciation and language proficiency \_5%

100%

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Students must do their own work on assignments, projects, and tests unless collaboration is previously specified and approved by the instructor. Students caught cheating will receive zero credit for that assignment and may be subject to further sanctions through the Office of Student Integrity. Students are expected to abide by the Georgia Tech Honor Code and avoid any instances of academic misconduct, including but not limited to:

1. Possessing, using, or exchanging improperly acquired written or oral information in the preparation of a paper or for an exam.
2. Substitution of material that is wholly or substantially identical to that created or published by another individual or individuals.
3. False claims of performance or work that has been submitted by the student.

Please refer to the published Georgia Institute of Technology Academic Honor Code for further information: <http://www.osi.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=31>

**STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The ADAPTS Office will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. The web site for a student requesting accommodation is:

<http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=2>

**STATEMENT REGARDING CHANGES IN COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, it may be necessary to modify the syllabus requirements or their timing as circumstances dictate. For example, the number and frequency of rehearsals and performances may be changed, or the number and sequence of assignments may be altered. In either of these cases, adequate notification will be given in writing and will be discussed in class.

**COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR:**

* January 19 Mon – MLK Day (No class)
* February 24 Tue – Rehearsal with orchestra. Couch 115. 6.:5-7:30 p.m.
* February 26 Thu – Rehearsal with orchestra. Couch 115. 6:15-7:30 p.m.
* February 28 Sat – Rehearsal with orchestra. Couch 115. 9.30am-12.00 pm
* **March 01** Sun **– GT Choirs and Orchestra Concert, 3.00 p.m. Concert,** [1:00 p.m. call] **Ferst Center**
* March 17-22 – Spring Break (No class)
* **A Sunday in March TBA – Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church TBA 11.00 a.m. performance,** [9.30 a.m. call]**.**
* April 18 Sat – Concert Dress Rehearsal 8.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. Location TBA
* **April 19 Sun – Spring Concert, 3.00 p.m. concert,** [1.00 p.m. call] **Ferst Center**

**ADDITIONAL DATES OF INTEREST:** (not required)

* February 19-20 Thurs Fri – GT School of Music Margaret Guthman Musical Instrument Competition – Klaus Atrium
* March 31 Sun – GT Chamber Choir *St. John Passion* J.S. Bach – Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, 7.30pm.
* April 16 Tues – GT Glee Club and Agnes Scott at Eddie’s Attic – 8pm, Decatur, GA
* April 20 Mon – GT Glee Club Spring Concert – Ferst Center

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

* German Pronunciation Recording for Mendelssohn
  + TBA