

Sam Houston State University School of Music
MUEN 1111/3111 – SHSU Chorale
2017-2018

Dr. Joshua Bronfman
Performing Arts Center, 220B
Office Hours: by appointment

(701) 215-3815
joshua.bronfman@shsu.edu
MWF 1:00-12:50; TR 12:30-1:50

SHSU Chorale is the premiere choir at SHSU. It is a professional caliber ensemble, with members displaying excellence in vocal and choral technique, musicianship, and expression. The choir is a performance-based, presenting multiple concerts each semester. The choir frequently tours within the region, the country, and internationally.

COURSE GOALS

- Provide the members of the chorus with an opportunity to perform quality choral music at a high level.
- Develop musicianship, including music literacy, interpretation, vocal technique, choral technique, and expression.
- Become familiar and proficient with a wide variety of musical styles, genres, and periods.
- Recognize and value the contribution of the individual member, as well as the common goals of the group.

GRADING AND ATTENDANCE

- Due to the lab nature of this course, attendance is crucial. *Each student is allowed 2 absences per semester*, after which time his or her final grade is lowered by one full letter grade (A lowered to B; B lowered to C, etc.).
- Failure to attend any Calendar Events (see below), without director approval, will result in an automatic "F" for the course.
- Chronic tardiness or leaving class early will result in the lowering of your final grade.
- Exceptions, though rarely made, will only be granted in extreme circumstances, as determined by the director, *and with documentation* (e.g. death in immediate family, major illness, etc.).
- I will try to help resolve scheduling conflicts by advocating for you on behalf of the choir, whenever possible. If you fail to notify me before the second week of school, I will not be available to help you resolve the conflict. *Please remember: all absences (even those you notify me about) are subject to the attendance policy outlined herein.*
- This course requires a full year commitment, unless you are graduating, student teaching, or interning.
- Once your grade falls to a B, we will need to have a meeting about continuing to be a member of the choir. If your grade drops to an F, it is likely that you will not be allowed to sing with the choir any more.
- If you drop the class or are not allowed to continue singing with the choir for any reason, you are not entitled to a refund of any fees that you may have paid for tours, retreats, or choir events or apparel. This includes both mandatory and non-mandatory payments.

EXPECTATIONS

Basically, be a professional musician:

- Be on time to rehearsals and performances.
- Come prepared with all necessary materials, including your music and a pencil.
- Learn your music on your own.
- Work constructively within the group, displaying an adaptive approach to singing and music making.

COMMUNICATION

- We will communicate outside of class primarily through email. You should check your email each evening before rehearsal. Do not rely exclusively on our facebook page, but please join our facebook group as well.

MUSIC

- Everyone will receive a packet of music for which you are responsible.
- Failure to return the music in good condition will result in a charge for the cost to replace the music.

ATTIRE

- Everyone:
 - We will be buying polo shirts for tour. Price is TBA, but expect \$20-\$40.
 - We will not be placing mass orders for attire, so you will need to handle this yourself.
 - Please note that our first performance is less than a month away, so order them as soon as you can to allow for alterations and order errors.
- Women
 - Black dress, blouse and skirt, or blouse and pants of your choosing. Sleeves covering shoulders. High neckline. Bottom hemline must touch the tops of your shoes.
 - *Your attire must look "formal"* meaning it won't look out of place next to a tuxedo. Pants are much harder to pull this off with.
 - There should be little to no embellishments on the dress, such as sequins or rhinestones.
 - Attire should not be excessively tight, or large and gown-like.
 - Think elegant, classic, simple, and modest. Classy, not prom dress.
 - Comfortable, black, modest dress shoes with a low heel. Nothing resembling flip-flops or sandals, excessively tall and pointy, or completely flat. Again, elegant, simple, classic, modest.
 - Silver chain necklace and silver earrings. Necklace should be without a pendant or may have very small one. Earrings should be studs or small hoops.
 - All attire must be approved in advance. Photos are fine. If you can try it on at the store and text it to me, even better.
 - We are taking a bit of a risk by letting you pick your own attire, but I know that when women are able to pick what looks best for them, generally it works so much better than everyone wearing the same thing. Nevertheless, I reserve the right to go back to the old dresses if we can't follow the guidelines above.
- Men
 - Tux jacket (2 button, notch collar. *Not tails.*), tux pants, solid black vest, long black tie, white, regular collar.
 - Black dress shoes (no black boots, sneakers, etc.) and black socks. You must shine your shoes at least once a semester, so get a shine kit. The Kiwi Deluxe Shine kit is like \$12 on Amazon.
 - Cost is approximately \$250.00. You can order them from Al's Formal Wear in Conroe, 936-756-8151. A representative from Al's will be on campus Friday to measure you if you wish to utilize them.
 - You may get your tux from anywhere, provided it meets the criteria in the first two bullets, but ultimately, you are responsible for getting your own tuxedo.
 - If you are a returning member of chorale, you can use your tails from last year, but I would encourage you to invest in the new outfit if you can afford to do so. New chorale members must use the tux as described above.

- Your tuxedo *must fit* and not look sloppy (baggy oversized pants, too small or too large jacket, wrinkly, etc). Getting a tuxedo altered doesn't cost a lot of money. Many of us can probably find someone to do it for free.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

For all guidelines pertaining to academic dishonesty, student absences on religious holidays, students with disabilities policy, and visitors in the classroom students are encouraged to visit the following link (<http://www.shsu.edu/SYLLABUS/>) on the SHSU website.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

CALENDAR EVENTS

please note that call times may up to 2 or more hours earlier

January

17 First Day of Class

February

15-17 TMEA – No Class

22 Chorale Passion Dress 12:30p CH

23 Chorale Passion Home Concert 7:30p CH

25 Chorale Passion Houston Perf TBA TBA

26-28 Tour (Dallas, Austin, San Antonio)

March

23 Cinco Ranch HS Visits 12:30p 202

Cinco Ranch Clinic 3:30p CH

26 Men's/Women's Dress 6:00p CH

27 Men's /Women's Spring Concert 7:30p CH

April

5 River Oaks HS Visits 12:30p 202

13 *Creation* Choir Combined Rehearsal 6:00p CH

18 Contemporary Large Ens Rehearsal 5:00p CH

19 Contemporary Large Ens Concert 7:30p CH

22 Chorale Recording Session 6:00p CH?

27 *Creation* Full Rehearsal 6:00p Concert Hall

May

4 *Creation* Dress Rehearsal 6:00p Concert Hall

5 Haydn *Creation* Performance 7:30p Concert Hall

ROSTER AND DIVISI

	a3 by women	a3 by section
Soprano 1		
Giselle Burris	S1	S1
Sophia Gwartney	S1	S2
Jade Witt	S1	S2
Emily Schuck	S1	S1
Soprano 2		
Jessica Ehling	S1	S2
Gisela Gonzalez	S2/A1	S3
Rachel Bradfute	S1	S2
Kaitlyn Schach	S2/A1	S3
Alto 1		
Emily Anderson	A	A2
Andrea Torres	S2/A1	A1
Rachel Menchaca	S2/A1	A1
Hannah Joy Mach	S2/A1	A1
Ana Medoza	A	A2
Alto 2		
Emily Kneisler	A	A3
Kara Roe	A	A3
Tori Trahan	A	A2
Jacklyn Fisher	A	A3

	a3 by men	a3 by section
Tenor 1	a3	
Lorenzo Johnson Jr.	T1	T1
Michael McDougal	T1	T1
John Kenney	T1	T1
Giovanni Soto	T1	T2
Tenor 2		
Brandon Ramos	T1	T2
Trevor Nale	T2/B1	T3
Ben Morgan	T2/B1	T3
Eric Morgan/Christian Cruz	T2/B1	T3
Bass 1		
Jacob Sherfy	T2/B1	B2
Eric Morgan/Christian Cruz	T2/B1	B1
Jared Hardy	B2	B2
Dakota Jenkins	T2/B1	B1
Bass 2		
Tyler Hermes	B2	B3
Joseph Guy	B2	B3
Grant Thorn	B2	B3
Alex Begnaud	B2	B2