

East Texas A&M University
Choral Conducting II
MUS 413-001
Spring 2025 Syllabus
MWF 10:00-10:50
Choir Room 105

Instructor

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Course Purpose

Intended for the undergraduate choral conductor, this course is directed towards developing a working knowledge of conducting gestures, non-verbal communication and rehearsal techniques determined to be necessary for successful conducting and teaching choral music on the secondary level.

Campus Concealed Carry

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

University Behavior Policy

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Gea Library, Room 132

(903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 phone
(903) 468-8148 fax
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Music Department Mission Statement

The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

Student Learning Outcome

- 1) Demonstrate a mastery of beginning and intermediate conducting techniques with an enabling posture and clear indications of preparatory gestures, downbeats, patterns for symmetrical and asymmetrical meters, dynamics, cues, beat subdivisions, syncopation, and alterations of tempo (i.e. tempo rubato)
- 2) Demonstrate expressive intentions through both physical conducting and oral communication
- 3) Demonstrate effective score analysis and score preparation
- 4) Demonstrate an understanding of performance practice according to the various stylistic periods of composition
- 5) Demonstrate visual/aural discrimination skills for error detection
- 6) Demonstrate the necessary skills to analyze, diagnose and prescribe solutions to musical problems in a rehearsal setting
- 7) Demonstrate solfeg competency both in prepared and sight-reading applications
- 8) Critically evaluate technical and musical criteria of an ensemble rehearsal/performance.

Materials

Syllabus
UIL PML Collection Mixed Choir Grade III JW Pepper Number ????. To purchase this packet call J.W. Pepper (800) 354-6296.

Required Memberships

It is encouraged that all students enrolled in MUS 410 be an active member of TMEA and ACDA. It is important to become aware of the services and benefits of our professional organizations. Membership forms may be accessed online.

Class Policies

1. Attendance is imperative to your success in the class. You will also serve as the lab choir for your peers in the class. If you are not present to sing for your peers, you are jeopardizing their experience. **If you miss class when you are scheduled to conduct it will be a missed experience and a 0 grade will be earned. The rehearsal cannot be made up. Also, attendance will be taken and your final grade will be lowered one letter for each unexcused absence.** An excused

- absence is one that is approved prior to the absence or an extenuation circumstance.
2. The student is expected to purchase the music required for this class. This is music that will be an excellent addition to the student's personal music library and will serve as the text for the class. The student should present the music in class no later than the 12th class day of school to prove the music has been purchased. The semester grade will be lowered by one letter grade each week after this deadline.
 3. Assignments are listed on the Grade Sheet along with the total possible points available for each assignment. Detailed instructions for each assignment will be included in class lectures. A critique of the assignment and grades will be returned to the student soon after the assignment has been completed. The student is encouraged to keep track of grades earned on each assignment through the course of the semester on D2L. **Each student must prove mastery of each Mastery Skill in addition to earning a grade of a 70 or above overall in the class in order to pass the course.**

Assignments

1. You will be expected to practice your conducting each day for at least 30 minutes. This is imperative to your development as a conductor. The music education degree offers you a limited amount of classroom experience to develop your conducting skills. Practice and an extended amount of repetition are essential to becoming a successful conductor.
2. We will attend Region 3 MS and Var. 6A HS UIL C/SR. You should take notes on choir performances, ratings you would have given compared with ratings given, literature performed and techniques used and effectiveness in the sight reading room.
3. You will conduct Grade 3 UIL PML pieces this semester. For each piece you conduct you will prepare the following materials:
 - a. Conductor's marked score. Xerox your marked score and turn a copy in before your first rehearsal.
 - b. Conductor's analysis flowchart
 - c. Teaching sequence for the entire piece.
 - d. Formal lesson plan
 - e. Prep Sheet
 - f. An evaluation of your conducting video using the assigned questions.
4. One person has been assigned to lead warm-ups each day. Please plan a 5 min. warm up procedure for the choir that includes 2-3 of the piano mastery skills listed on the grade sheet. No lesson plan needs to be turned in for warm ups.
5. **All materials must be turned in before your first rehearsal. If you do not have materials to turn in, you will forfeit your rehearsal and receive a 0 for that rehearsal grade.**
6. The final will be a mock UIL C/SR event. You will conduct your choir on one UIL PML piece. Guest judges will be here to adjudicate your performance and sight reading.