



East Texas A&M University
Music Department

MUS 100C-008—Chorale (1 Credit Hour)
MUS 300S-008—Chamber Singers (1 Credit Hour)
Course Syllabus: Spring 2026
Dr. James Bowyer

Dr. James Bowyer
Interim Director of Choirs | Director of Vocal Activities

Office: School of Music Choral Suite #196
Office Hours: As posted

Email: james.bowyer@etamu.edu
Cell Phone: (206) 551-6147

MUS 100C-008 Chorale
0-2 credit hours
Course ID: 80761
Meets M-W-F from 3 PM to 3:50 PM in Room 105 (the Choir Room)

Course Information

Catalog Description

MUS 100-008 - Ensemble

Hours: 1
Ensembles. Zero to two semester hour. (3-6 lab) (1, 2)
Meets M-W-F from 3 PM to 3:50 PM in Room 105 (the Choir Room)

MUS 300S-008 - Chamber Singers

Hours: 1
Chamber Singers is the most select vocal ensemble of the University. Membership in the ensemble is awarded after a rigorous and competitive audition. Students performing in Chamber Singers must read music quickly, know IPA and Solfege, be well-prepared through individual practice for each rehearsal, and perform with solid technique and expressive nuance. As with all music ensembles, the course may be repeated for credit.
Meets M-W-F from 12 PM to 1:50 PM in Room 105 (the Choir Room)

Prerequisites

None.

Outline of Major Content Areas

1. Applied conducting
2. Rehearsal techniques
3. Musicianship skills demonstrated through the use of solfège, rhythm syllables, hand signs, play-and-sing, and conducting gestures, to name a few.
4. Score study
5. Achieving the desired choral sound through expressive conducting gestures

Institutional Effectiveness Student Learning Outcome (SLO) for Courses in Musical Performance

Graduating students will demonstrate music literacy in solo and ensemble performance, including application of appropriate performance practice technique and expressive nuance.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) and Means of Assessment

Upon successful completion of Chamber Singers or Chorale, students will:

- SLO 1** Exhibit accurate individual, sectional and ensemble intonation and rhythm along with fundamental and advanced vocal techniques while performing a varied repertoire of music within the ensemble.
Means of Assessment: In-class hearings, performance assessments
- SLO 2** Perform expressively a varied repertoire of music representing styles and diverse cultures within the ensemble.
Means of Assessment: In-class hearings, performance assessments
- SLO 3** Utilize standard musical terminology to describe intervals, music notation, chord structure, rhythm/meter, harmonic texture, form, and music symbols and terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation
Means of Assessment: In-class hearings, performance assessments
- SLO 4** Utilize problem-solving skills to identify and correct problems with pitch, rhythm/meter, articulation, phrasing, and dynamics within a rehearsal setting.
Means of Assessment: In-class hearings, performance assessments

Materials

Choral packet
Pencil with eraser

Concert Attire

Purchase of concert attire is the responsibility of every choral student. These purchases are made on the “Online Shopping at East Texas A&M University” page. https://secure.touchnet.com/C20206_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=8

Once on that page, select the “Choir Fees” option. You should purchase either the tuxedo or the dress.

1. **ALL** students should also purchase the Choir Polo shirt for \$30.
2. If you do not already have the choir dress or full tuxedo, make these individual purchases at these approximate prices:

<u>Tuxedo Option</u>		<u>Dress Option</u>	
Black Dress Shirt	\$20	Black Dress	\$90
Tux Pants	\$35		
Windsor Tie	\$18		
Tux Coat	\$65		

For those wearing the tuxedo, please wear black socks and very nice, clean black dress shoes.

For those wearing the dress, please wear black opaque tights, hose, or kneehigh socks and black, closed-to dress shoes. No big clunky platform shoes or high heels. Black character shoes work well.

Online Materials

Please check D2L often for course materials, information, and updates.

Course Changes

The syllabus, assignments, sequence of activities, and content of this course are subject to change.

Grading Scale

A+ 97-100	A 93-96	A- 90-92
B+ 87-89	B 83-86	B- 80-82
C+ 77-79	C 73-76	C- 70-72
D+ 67-69	D 63-66	D- 60-62
F 0-59		

Evaluation and Grading

The semester grade for this course will be based on attendance, participation, and work ethic.

20%	Participation
40%	Preparation
40%	Performance

Assignments in Detail

Participation

Participation in this ensemble is a privilege—not a right. Assessment for attendance and participation will be derived in a holistic manner, taking into consideration student absences, tardies, preparation for class, and work ethic. Deficiencies in any of these areas will result in a reduction in total points.

- Attend all classes.
- Arrive to class on time with course materials.
- Notify instructor in advance of missing class.
- Be in class for the entirety of the scheduled session. Do not leave class unless absolutely necessary, and do not leave before the end of the period.
- Complete all course assignments on time. Late work is not accepted, though pre-arranged extensions may be granted.
- Listen and respond to others.
- Avoid disruptions or distractions in the classroom, including the use of cell phones.
- iPads or other tablets may be used as electronic choir folders, provided that you are able to notate markings into the score. Cell phones may not substitute for a tablet.

Attendance Policy: Absences and Tardies

- Each unexcused absence will result in a reduction of the final grade by one letter.
- Three tardies equal one absence.
- A missed concert will result in failure of the course.

Participation Assessment Rubric				
Criteria	Needs Improvement	Developing	Proficient	Exemplary
Attendance at Rehearsals	Frequently absent from rehearsals.	Occasionally absent from rehearsals.	Rarely absent from rehearsals.	Never absent from rehearsals.
Punctuality at Rehearsals	Frequently late (or leaves early).	Occasionally late (or leaves early).	Rarely late (or leaves early).	Never late (or leaves early).
Engagement and Focus	Frequently off-task; distracts others.	Sometimes distracted; needs reminders.	Attentive and on task.	Fully attentive at all times.
Dress Rehearsals & Performances	Absent or tardy to dress rehearsals.			Is on time and attends all events.

Preparation

- Write in solfège for your assigned part by the next rehearsal after the piece is distributed.
- Learn your vocal line outside of class.
- Be able to sing all assigned music from memory, if asked.
- Perform music on solfège, rhythm syllables, text, or neutral syllable, if asked.
- Be ready to perform your part in quartets or octets without accompaniment.

Preparation Assessment Rubric				
Criteria	Needs Improvement	Developing	Proficient	Exemplary
Preparedness	Little to no preparation; unable to perform assigned material.	Partial preparation; frequent errors in assigned music.	Most music accurate.	All assigned music thoroughly learned; independence on difficult sections.
Score Markings	Few or no markings; score very disorganized or missing.	Some markings missing or incorrect; score somewhat disorganized.	Most markings complete and accurate; generally organized.	All markings (e.g., breath marks, dynamics, phrasing, translations, solfège) correct and complete; music neat and organized.
Practice & Improvement	No evidence of outside practice; no improvement.	Limited practice outside rehearsal; minimal progress.	Some outside practice; noticeable progress.	Evidence of consistent outside practice; shows clear improvement.

Performance

Dress rehearsals and concerts occur outside of class time. These are not optional. Being late or missing dress rehearsals will result in a reduction of the final grade, failure of the course, and/or being withdrawn from the ensemble. Generally speaking, a missed concert will result in failure of the course. Note that “dress rehearsals” are denoted as any rehearsals that occur outside of class time and do not necessarily require choir members to wear concert attire.

Performance Assessment Rubric		
Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory
Music Performances	Is absent from one or more music performances.	Participates in all music performances.
Dress Rehearsals	Is late to, absent from, or leaves early from one or more dress rehearsals.	Is on time to, participates fully in, and stays for the entirety of all dress rehearsals.

School of Music and East Texas A&M University Procedures and Policies

School of Music Mission Statement

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University 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.

University Mission Statement:

East Texas A&M University provides a personal educational experience for a diverse community of life-long learners. Our purpose is to discover and disseminate knowledge for leadership and service in an interconnected and dynamic world. Our challenge is to nurture partnerships for the intellectual, cultural, social, and economic vitality of Texas and beyond.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [13.99.99.R0.01 Class Attendance](#) .

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance when possible.

School of Music Engagement Expectations

Students are expected to actively participate in all assigned components of this course. Active participation includes being present, engaged, responsive, cooperative, respectful, and professional. It may also include providing feedback, asking questions, and being supportive of class members and faculty during instruction time.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes. Notification for excused absence must be received in advance. It is the individual student’s responsibility to notify the instructor of a legitimate absence in advance. It is also the individual student’s responsibility to acquire any missed notes and assignments from other students and/or the instructor. Students are expected to actively participate in all classes by coming prepared and with all assigned materials. This course is a graduate research course. Bibliographical material, repertoire, library resources, applied techniques, as well as research techniques applicable to graduate study in music specific to flute/woodwind pedagogy will be surveyed and discussed. Be prepared to spend a significant amount of time doing research and review of materials outside of class. Students are expected to demonstrate skills in pedagogy through their observation, analysis, discussion and feedback of the performances of other students. Students are expected to gain skills in this area by the observation of teaching techniques in their own private lessons and through the observation of teaching techniques of other students in studio class, guest artist classes on campus, and optional conference attendance or optional observations of master teachers online. Students will need to submit teaching videos and acquire a waiver from the student(s) in their videos.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes. It is the individual student’s responsibility to notify the instructor of a legitimate absence in advance. It is also the individual student’s responsibility to acquire any missed notes and assignments from other students and/or the instructor. After one (1) unexcused absence, the student’s final grade will be dropped by one (1) letter grade for each additional unexcused absence. Three tardies equal once absence.

Late Assignments or Work

No late work will be accepted.

Texas Education Code – Music Education

This course content is aligned with the standards established by the Texas Education Code, covering areas such as Music, the Commissioner's Rules, Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities, Technology, and English Language Proficiency. To review these standards, please visit the Music Education Program D2L Shell and select "Standards and Objectives."

Musician Health and Safety

As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty](#)

[13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty](#)

AI Use Policy

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed. In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Technology Requirements

Learning Management System (LMS) in D2L: All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements.

- LMS Requirements: [LMS Requirements Link](#)
- LMS Browser Support: [D2L Brightspace Support](#)
- Zoom Video Conferencing Tool: [Zoom Video Conferencing Tool Link](#)

Access and Navigation

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace D2L, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit <https://www.etamu.edu/counseling-center/>

Students with Disabilities—ADA Statement

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, contact the Office of Student Disability Services at 903-886-5150, 903-886—5835; email studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu; online at [Student Disability Services](#) or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

Tenets of Common Behavior

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook.)

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University 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 East A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to [34.06.02.R1 Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.