



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
MUPF 205 / 305 University Chorus
Fall 2019/Winter 2020

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Kathryn Parrotta CHE211D Kathryn.parrotta@ucalgary.ca By request
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:45PM F202
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	Music packet available from bookstore, black folder for performances.
Prerequisites	MUPF205 needed to register in MUPF305
Course description	UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY CHORUS
Course learning outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: 1. Sing a variety of variety of choral music genres with an understanding of their historical significance and performance practice. 2. Learn how to use their voices in a healthy manner, expanding their range, agility, and confidence. 3. Develop aural skills (learn how to listen to others, understand harmony), as well as understand the map of choral sheet music. 4. Have the opportunity to audition for solos, collaborate with other artists, and perform in public.
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Assessment components	As a performance course, attendance and participation at all rehearsals and performances are required to receive credit. If you miss more than three rehearsals or one performance per semester, this could result in a non-credit allocation. If you are ill or must miss a rehearsal or performance, you must let Kathryn Parrotta know in writing before the date to receive an excused absence and/or request an alternate assignment. UPDATE March, 2020: Completion of assignment is needed to receive a grade of PASS. Please see this document to view to assignment options. Assignment description is at the end of this course outline. As a non-credit/volunteer singer, the same criteria must be met in order to continue as a member of the chorus.
Assessment expectations	Criteria that must be met to pass: -Leave all electronics for personal use in your bag. Using devices to record rehearsals for music learning is acceptable as long as it does not become a distraction. -Bring your music and pencil to every rehearsal.

	<p>-You are expected to be intelligent and respectful and bring a positive attitude to the singing team.</p> <p>-Performance dress: to be discussed in class.</p> <p>-Respect for the music. Music that is performed is chosen because of its educational value, thematic content, history, suitability to the choir, and to honor cultures and traditions. Any concerns should be addressed with the director privately.</p>
Grading scale	This course is PASS/FAIL based on attendance
Student Support	Please visit this link for a concise list of UCalgary's student support services: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines
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Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.</p>

MUPF 205/305 UNIVERSITY CHORUS

ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

The subjects of the assignments are all related to our repertoire or musical theme this term (“Gems From the Silver Screen”) or are general choral music topics. These assignments are designed to be completed in the same number of hours (or less) as there are left in class/concert time.

Being a performance class, MUPF205/305 attracts students for many reasons- some are interested in improving their singing technique, some want a course where they feel like a part of the larger community, some want the performing experience, some find it meditative, and some are interested in choral history and composition. Because of our unique needs, I have created a selection of 5 very different assignments from which you can choose.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need clarification.

Please select ONE of the assignments below:

A. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT

RESEARCH/ESSAY ASSIGNMENT – due by Wednesday, April 15th

In this written assignment, you will discuss **one** of the following topics:

- *The Significance of Music in Movies.* Discuss the importance of music used in movies, the most influential score composers, recognizable themes from movies.
- *Class and Music Reflection.* Pick 3-4 University Chorus pieces from this term and discuss the challenges from the view points of both a conductor and singer. Topics can include those discussed in class and those of your own observations. Include your thoughts and observations about each piece. What did you like about the piece and why? What didn't you like about the piece and why? Were there any pieces that surprised you? Any pieces that were a challenge to sing? Why or why not?
- *The Choral Movement: Why Choir Has Become Increasingly Popular on a Global Level.* Look at current topics such as media, movies and celebrities, global integration, “virtual” choirs, etc.

The essay should be limited to 3-4 pages, typed in 12 point font, and double spaced. Site your examples, list sources. Email to Kathryn.parrotta@ucalgary.ca.

B. CREATIVE ASSIGNMENT

CREATE A CHORAL CONCERT- due by Wednesday, April 15th

Our concert this term would have looked like this (click link):

[Gems From the Silver Screen- Program Order](#)

When picking repertoire, a conductor must consider factors such as ensemble skill level and ranges, size, balance, rehearsal time, extra instruments, collaboration, performance space, copyright laws, language, political views, educational value, historical relevance, genre, mood, cost of scores, theme, variety in tempo and key, and likeability, to name a few!

Your assignment is to create your own choral concert program. Assume that your choir is similar to University Chorus in size and ability. You have an amazing accompanist and can collaborate with a small orchestra if needed. Here are the rules:

1. Pick a theme. Be as specific or general as you like, but there must be a theme!
2. Write a paragraph or two as to why you picked the theme and why you picked to songs you chose.
3. You will select **8-10 songs** for your concert.

4. Be sure to note the composer, lyricist, and arranger.
5. Please consider the factor of selecting music (as listed above). Remember to keep your audience and singers interested in the music! Singers can't have too much vocal strain and keep your audience awake 😊
6. Make sure you consider the order in which you program the songs. You need strong openers and closers and variety in the middle.
7. Send it in an Excel or Word document by the due date.
8. Use the example document as a guide.

Youtube can be a great resource for gathering choral repertoire ideas. The best thing is to listen to choirs singing repertoire to get an idea of how a piece sounds. The most popular sites for print music in Canada are:

www.jwpepper.com

www.halleonard.com

www.cypresschoral.com

These sites tell you what music is in print and usually has both audio and PDF samples of the scores.

You can also check out the Vancouver Youth Choir, Voces8, Swingle Singers, Real Group, University of Pretoria Chamerata, Conspirare, Canadian Chamber Choir, just to name a few!

Email to Kathryn.parrotta@ucalgary.ca

C. SINGING ASSIGNMENT

VIDEO SONG SUBMISSION ASSIGNMENT- due by Wednesday, April 15th

In this digital assignment you will video-record yourself singing your voice part along with a choral recording OR a cappella if you choose. (Hint: you will more likely stay in the right key if you sing along with the recording). Attention should be given to accuracy of pitches, vowels, intonation, and articulation, as discussed in class.

Please select **THREE** songs:

Mission Impossible

O Fortuna

This Is Me

Skyfall

Double Trouble

Hanging Tree (a cappella, not in dropbox)

Bring Him Home

When You Wish Upon a Star- (use audio from live video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NZiLsfpnzE>)

The tracks for you to sing along with are in our Dropbox folder:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ep0up4bjtafgd1u/AADiuG4K39FvE_3wiNlcyacuUa?dl=0

C. REFLECTIVE VIDEO ASSIGNMENT- due by Wednesday, April 15th

In this project you will video record yourself speaking about a variety of topics. Your video should be approximately **5-7 minutes in length**. Discuss your personal thoughts on things we have learned and discussed in class. Remember, try to be positive and respectful and also analytical and introspective. Here are some questions to help guide you:

- Which pieces did you like this term? Why?
- Which pieces were you excited to perform/scared to perform?
- Which pieces were challenging for you to sing? Why?
- Did our class inspire you to learn more about choral music, conducting, or singing? If yes, what, specifically?
- Is there something that you would like to learn more about?
- What did you learn from our class warm-ups?

- Did you discover a composer that you like?
- What are some things you would do if you led vocal warm ups?
- Besides the music, what you did gain/hope to gain from the class?
- Do you feel that you gave this class 100%?
- Which songs from movies would you have added to our concert if we could?

These are just a few guiding questions should you need to use them. Please think of this video as a live journal entry, reflecting on our time together in class and the music we sang. You may also choose to speak about your feelings around other choral issues and topics. No one else will see your video.

Please upload to Youtube (in a private, non-public video) or Dropbox and send the link directly to kathryn.parrotta@ucalgary.ca. Please do not send full videos via email or text.

D. COMPOSITION ASSIGNMENT- due by Wednesday, April 15th

In this assignment, you get to try your hand at writing a song! This does not have to be anything professional or fancy or even complete. You can try writing a song for piano, voice, choir (any voicings), any other instrument, or any combination of voices and instruments. Maybe you just have a text (free for public use or not otherwise published) that you would like to write a melody for. Maybe you would like to try writing for 4-part choir (like a Bach-chorale), or something really contemporary (like “Look Out Above” from our first term).

This project is pretty wide open. Please contact me if you’d like more guidance or have any questions. I would love to give you feedback (if you want it!) and/or help guide you write your song.

I have attached a link for some blank manuscript paper [here](#) if you’d like to print it off. You can submit your assignment with a notation program like Finale or hand-write. (If using a program other than Finale please save and export XML file).



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