The University of North Texas *University Singers* – Spring 2019

MULB 1816-500 and 5171-506

MTWRF 12:00-12:50pm, MU232, plus scheduled dates with Grand Chorus

**Dr. Richard Sparks, COM 220, 940/369-7407,** **Richard.sparks@unt.edu**

**Office hours: Monday/Wednesday 1 PM**

**Assistant Conductor: Charlotte Botha, 940/218-5275,** **CharlotteBotha@my.unt.edu**

**Accompanist: Colleen Kilpatrick,** **ColleenKilpatrick@my.unt.edu**

**Mission**

**The University Singers is an outstanding choir that strives to make music at the highest possible level. It’s our goal to develop and use our talents as singers to:**

* Learn from and be inspired by great choral literature
* Share this inspiration by communicating the emotion, joy and meaning of this great music with our audiences
* Share the joy of learning and music-making with each other

**We accomplish these goals in both rehearsal and performance, but the majority of our time is spent in regular work together in rehearsal, requiring:**

* Perseverance as we strive to meet the challenge of great music, music which will not yield its rewards without equally great effort
* Improving our individual musical skills (vocal skills, musicianship and musicality), our group ensemble skills, and our work habits
* The understanding that the quality of the final result is dependent on the quality of each day’s work together and does not respond to “cramming”—just as one can’t forget to plow and plant in the spring, neglect weeding, watering and fertilizer in the summer, and then expect a good harvest in the fall: “*As you sow, so shall you reap*”

**We can accomplish these goals only by working *together* and striving for the best results *as a choir*. Therefore, we do it through:**

* Constantly working to support each individual in the choir
* Keeping commitments to each other
* Showing personal integrity
* Working to continually improve everything we do as a choir

**Requirements and Expectations**

A strong commitment to individual responsibility and initiative in preparation of music is expected of each participant. Study and practice of the ensemble’s music *outside* regular rehearsal hours is required. Your full involvement in each rehearsal (focused, cooperative, positive, engaged—we’ll talk more about what that means!) is also assumed at **every** rehearsal. **Failure to meet these responsibilities can lead to dismissal from the ensemble and/or severe lowering of the semester grade** (see grading procedures below).

Each student will be issued music for which s/he is responsible. If the music is lost or damaged, the student will be required to pay the replacement costs of music plus a $5 fee.

**Attendance** is required at every regularly scheduled rehearsal. In order for any absence to be considered excused, the class TA and I must be notified in advance of the absence via email, except in cases of emergency. Preparing for another class is not an acceptable excuse for missing rehearsals or concerts. Missing a dress rehearsal, concert or recording session constitutes grounds for immediate dismissal from the ensemble and failure of the course.

**Grades** will be computed based upon in-class performance, the student’s constructive contributions to the health and performance of the ensemble, development of the student’s positive leadership qualities, and the preceding attendance policy.

One unexcused absence will drop your grade to a B, two to a C, and so on. Being *late* to rehearsal counts as one third of an unexcused absence, so three times being late will cause your grade to drop, so please make sure you’re on time.

**The use of cell phones (for calls, messaging, or any other use) is not allowed in class at any time and grounds for dismissal from the class. Please be sure they are turned off and put away before class begins.**

**Attire**

**Men:** Standardtuxedo (bow-tie, etc.), black shoes & socks: a representative from Tuxedo Junction will be on campus to measure and take orders—times will be posted. Price for a full outfit is $120 plus tax.

**Women:**

1. Dress: $65-75. Order details to follow. The dress needs to be hemmed prior to wearing (first concert October 2)—2” off the floor in performance shoes.
2. Black, closed-toe dress shoes, no more than 2” heel.
3. Stud-style earrings are permitted; please, no hoops or anything that dangles. No necklaces or other jewelry; no headbands. Hair should be pulled off the face.

**Both:** Please do not wear perfume/cologne on stage—deodorant—yes!

**Spring 2019**

**You should *not* enroll in a Tuesday evening class in the Spring semester. Rehearsals for the Grand Chorus will begin Tuesday, January 15 and you must be available for *every* Tuesday evening rehearsal (Mendelssohn *Elijah*).**

* Sunday, Mar. 3 – U Singers Dress rehearsal with Concert Orchestra 7:00-9:30pm, MPAC
* Monday, Mar. 4 – US with Concert Orchestra 7:30pm, MPAC
* Monday, Apr. 1 – U Singers dress rehearsal with Concert Choir 12:00-3:00pm, MPAC
* Tuesday, Apr. 2 – U Singers with Concert Choir 7:30pm, MPAC
* Monday, Apr. 22 – Grand Chorus Dress Rehearsal 7:00-10:00pm, MPAC
* Tuesday, Apr. 23 – Grand Chorus Dress Rehearsal 7:00-10:00pm, MPAC
* Wednesday, Apr. 24 – Grand Chorus 7:30, MPAC, Call time TBC
* Sunday, Apr. 28 – Grand Chorus 6:00pm, Stonebrair Church, Call time TBC

**Other concerts you should know about:**

* Friday, Feb. 8 – Collegium Singers & Baroque Orchestra 7:30pm, MPAC
* Saturday, Feb. 23 – Men’s Chorus 5:00pm, FUMC Ft. Worth
* Friday, Mar. 22 – Collegium Singers & Baroque Orchestra 7:30pm, MPAC
* Thursday, Apr. 4 – Men’s and Women’s Choruses 7:30pm, MPAC
* Friday, Apr. 12 – Collegium Singers & Baroque Orchestra 7:30pm, MPAC
* Sunday, Apr. 14 – A Cappella Choir 3:00pm, MPAC

**Other Information—University Requirements and Guidelines**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term “cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

LINK: <http://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity>

**STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. (*Also see below, UNT Care Team*)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT**

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu/). All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

LINK:  [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

**ODA STATEMENT**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation.

LINK: [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu/). (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

**2017-2018 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)**

Link: <http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=17&navoid=1737>

**Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2017-2018**

Link: <https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2017-18/calendar>

**Final Exam Schedule**

Link: <http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring>

**FINANCIAL AID AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid.  Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term.   Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan.  If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being doing so.

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program.  If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

**RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS**

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university’s policy in accordance with those mandates.

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

**RESPONDING TO STUDENTS IN DISTRESS: UNT CARE TEAM**

Please visit the CARE Team website to tips to recognize students in distress and what you need to do in cases of extreme behavior or references to suicide.

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>