

MUS 156/MUS 157 – Beginning & Intermediate College Chorus
Course Syllabus

1 Unit, Room #314; Tuesday and Thursday 10:15 to 11:40AM

Dr. Hope A. Davis, Instructor (E-Mail: hope.davis@imperial.edu)

Office Hours:- MW – 8:00 – 8:30am AND TR – 12:00 noon – 1:30pm

Other Office Hours by Appointment

Course Description:- This course is open to ALL students who have an interest in learning to sing, and who enjoy music. Breath control, tone placement, articulation and enunciation will be stressed. The course entails rehearsal, performance and study of Choral Literature taken from a variety of genres including Spanish/Latino Music, Classical Music, Sacred Music, Secular Music, Vocal Jazz, Popular Music, Gospel Music, Spirituals, World Music, etc. Introduction to Music Theory and Sight-Reading as a means of learning to read music (to facilitate learning of Choral Selections) will be included in the course, and Graded Tests might be given (*See Websites BELOW, and Do Regularly*). **This course entails public performances on and off-campus.** The IVC Singers is one of the college's ambassadorial groups. *These courses may be taken for credit for 2 semesters in sequence (MUS 156 then MUS 157); thereafter, Chorus may be taken as a non-credit course (MUS 803) for up to 99 semesters. However, declared Music Majors may take Chorus Class sequence for 4 semesters of credit.*

Required Materials:-

1. A pencil to mark performance directions in the musical scores
2. Notebooks to record basic Music Theory and Sight-Singing Drills
3. A Black 3-Ring Binder in which to place Musical Scores given
4. IVC Polo Choir T-Shirt – Obtainable from IVC Bookstore

Class Expectations:-

1. Students will attend Choir Class regularly and punctually
2. Students will participate wholeheartedly in all class activities, including warm-ups, music theory learning (note-reading, etc), rehearsal of varied choral repertoire, marking of musical scores as appropriate, etc.
3. Students will attend scheduled Musical Performances, and give of their best.
4. Students will be orderly/disciplined during choir classes and performances and endeavor to maintain proper decorum. Talking should be minimized.
5. Students will do their best to be great team-members of the choral ensemble
6. Students will gain confidence in themselves as blossoming musical artistes

Class Assessment:-

1. Students will be evaluated on the quality of their Class Participation
2. Students will be evaluated on general improvement in their singing, musicality, note-reading skills, sight-singing skills, and their mastery of the music taught,
3. Students will be evaluated on their quality participation in public performances
4. Students will be **strongly evaluated** on Class, and Performance Attendance
5. Students will be evaluated on their class decorum

GRADING:-

Class and Performance Attendance/Participation.....	50%
Classroom and Concert Performance Decorum.....	20%
Musical Performance Quality.....	20%
General Musical Progress.....	10%
TOTAL	100%

Accommodations:- Any student with a documented disability who needs reasonable accommodations, must contact the Instructor and/or Disabled Student Programs and Services at the beginning of the semester.

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*****Please note that this is a Performance Class, hence, Participation in scheduled Concerts, on and off-campus is mandatory.** *If a student needs written documentation to give to an Employer, because of Choir Concerts, please do not hesitate to ask the instructor for Official Letters documenting such event(s). These Letters of Excuse for your Employers/Church Personnel, etc., will be signed by the Instructor, and IVC Higher Administrative Officials. Choir Concerts will be announced in advance, so preparations/accommodations can be made.*

GENERAL CONCERT PERFORMANCES for SPRING SEMESTER Choir Class

- Mid-Semester Chorus CONCERT (On IVC Campus) – Room #305
- FALL/FINAL EXAM CONCERT on Sunday May 11th, 2014 at 2:00pm; First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, El Centro (312 S. 8th Street)
- Possible PERFORMANCE for P.O.S.T. Commencement, May 2014, TBA

HELPFUL WEBSITES for PRACTICING Music Theory and Sight-Singing
www.lessonstutor.com/musicgenhome.html (Great Site to Learn Music Notes)

<http://www.practicespot.com//sightreading/> (Awesome site for Sight-Singing)

<http://www.musicintervalstutor.info/> (Great Site to learn train your Ear)

Some Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) Objectives:- Demonstrate Knowledge and performance skills in a wide variety of choral Repertoire, from Moderate to advanced levels of difficulty; and from genres including Classical, Jazz, Gospel, Easy-Listening, World-Music, Spirituals, Songs from Musical Shows, Broadway Tunes, Pop Tunes, and more. Additionally, demonstrate professionalism in decorum during public performances on and off-campus.

Assessment Tool:- Public Performance Exams, Class Participation, Class Attendance, and Individual Musical Singing Tests

Institutional Outcome:- ISL02, ISL04, ISL01, ISL05

