

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – MUS 156, Beginning College Chorus

Semester – Spring 2015

Instructor's Name – Dr. Hope Davis

Room – Room #305

Instructor's Email – hope.davis@imperial.edu

Class Dates – 02/17/15-06/13/15 Office Hours – MTWR 8:00 – 8:30am & R 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Class Days – TR 10:15 – 11:40am

Office Phone – (760)355-6287 Units – 1.0 Emergency – Contact Instructor Email or Phone

Course Description: Open to all students who have an interest in learning to sing and who enjoy music. Breath control, tone placement, articulation and enunciation are emphasized. Rehearsal, performance and study of choral literature are entailed. Introduction to music theory as a means of learning to read music rather than learning by rote is done. Maximum credit is 2 units. (CSU, UC)

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to 1. Demonstrate knowledge and performance skills in a 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, and Pop Tunes; 2. Additionally, demonstrate professional decorum during public performances on and off-campus (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, and ILO5)

Course Objectives: Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to: 1. Correctly perform vocal parts from a varied literature for chorus, both accompanied and A Capella in concert; 2. Correctly perform assigned vocal parts from a varied literature for chorus, both accompanied and A Capella in rehearsal; 3. Demonstrate proper vocal technique appropriate to the style of the composition being performed; 4. Correctly interpret music notation symbols of pitch, dynamics, and expression; 5. Recall details about the style, period, and performance practices of the composers and compositions studied in class; 6. Isolate technical performance problems in rehearsal, and systematically apply standard rehearsal techniques to them; 7. Correctly sing assigned vocal parts using solfeggio (do-re-mi, etc., or 1, 2, 3, etc.); 8. Correctly memorize assigned vocal parts; 9. Correctly balance the individual voice within the choral ensemble, so as to produce a choral sound, appropriate to the style of the composition being performed.

Textbooks and References/Supplements: 1. *Choral Ensemble Selections*, provided by the instructor; 2. *Choral Sight-Singing materials*, provided by the instructor 3. *Choral Research Assignments*, given by the instructor; 4. *A Black or a White 3-ring Binder*, for your Choral music; 5. *IVC Polo Choir T-Shirt*, obtainable from IVC Bookstore

Class Requirements and Instructional Methods: Students are expected to attend choir class regularly and punctually. Students will participate wholeheartedly in all class activities, including warm-ups, music theory learning, rehearsal of varied choral repertoire, marking of

musical scores as appropriate, and more. Students will attend scheduled musical performances and give of their best. Students will be orderly and disciplined during choir classes and performances, and endeavor to maintain proper decorum. Talking should be minimized or non-existent during rehearsals and performances. Students will be great team-members of the choral ensemble. Students will gain confidence in themselves as blossoming musical artistes. **Please note that this is a Choral Performance Class, hence participation in Concerts is important and mandatory. Final Exam/Concert will be on Sunday May 31st, 2015 at 2:00pm, at First United Methodist Church Hall, El Centro (312 S. Eighth Street). Also, the Choir Class is expected to sing for Commencement on Saturday June 13th, 2015 at 9:30am at IVC.**

Course Grading:

In-Class participation and Attendance.....	25%
Choir Class Quizzes and Research.....	25%
Choir Class Semester Concerts.....	25%
Final Exam Concert.....	25%
TOTAL.....	100%

Class Attendance: A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class, will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of the class. Should readmission be desired, the student’s status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student’s responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General catalog for details.

Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week, may be dropped.

Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as ‘excused’ absences.

Classroom Etiquette: Electronic Devices – Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Food and Drink – are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Disruptive Students – Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer, before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog. Children in the Classroom – Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism – is to take and present as one’s own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism, and keep it in mind when taking exams, and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to

properly cite a source, you must ask for help. Cheating – is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question. Anyone caught cheating will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course, and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following: (a) Plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or part of an assignment; and (e) use of commercial term paper service.

Additional Help: Learning Labs – There are several ‘labs’ on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Music Lab (Room #305), Reading and Writing lab, and learning Services (library). Please speak with the instructor about labs unique to your specific program/course. Library Services – There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS): Any student with a documented disability, who may need educational accommodations, should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. If you feel that you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations, the DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313.

Student Counseling and Health Services: Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information, see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/> The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy: Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar, Highly Subject to be Changed depending on Class Progress

Weeks 1 – 16Appropriate training in Choral Ensemble Repertoire, Sight-Singing, Music Theory, Choral Research, etc.

Week 7 – 8.....Choir Class Quizzes

Week 9.....Mid-Semester Exam/Choral Concert on-Campus

Weeks 10 – 13.....Choral Research Projects

Weeks 12 – 15.....High Possibility of Other Choral Concerts, TBA

Week 16.....Final Exam/ Concert Performance of Choral Selections Off-Campus