If a student is not able to meet with the instructor during posted office hours, it is the student’s responsibility to arrange an appointment with the instructor during a time that is mutually convenient. Please do so via email.

The School of Music offers a comprehensive performance-orientated program which seeks to educate students to carry on the vital traditions of our diverse musical cultures through creative performance, education, composition, scholarship and community service. Its faculty strives to produce students who share the passion of music as an art, who possess the wisdom to appreciate and the courage to defend the highest artistic ideals, and who bring, with skill and dedication, the finest in music to the people in their communities.

Singing in this choir:

1. is FORMATIONAL: you expand your VALUES, BELIEFS, FAITH, SELF-WORTH, AND IDENTITY;
2. builds COMMUNITY: you engage in a cooperative group activity adding your personal gifts, talents, effort, heart, soul, and voice to a common purpose;
3. allows you to EXPLORE DIVERSE EMOTIONAL CONTENT: nurture, passion, empathy sets the mind and heart on fire;
4. TRANSPORTS OUR SPIRITS beyond words alone;
5. can MOTIVATE you MORALLY and SOCIALLY;
6. is a vehicle for CROSS-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING and EXPRESSING THE HUMAN CONDITION;
7. provides a LIVING EXPERIENCE IN EXCELLENCE, self-discipline, intent of heart and mind, demanding the best of one’s self, and working with others; and,
8. is a HEALING ART.

It is not possible to accurately measure these extra-musical elements and objectives. Yet, for many students, these are the reasons why we sing in choir. Indeed, the purpose of the ensemble is to provide all students (majors and non-majors) and community members with a choral experience that will be rewarding and life enriching. In addition, it is designed to provide the background, training, and experience (when coupled with the requisite coursework in other areas) needed for those wishing to enter the choral, voice, or music education fields. The choral art is a medium for communication between people. It is the development of this expressive communication that is at the heart of this philosophy.
Course Outline: **MUS 180/280/380/480/580 University of Victoria Chorus** is a Major Performance Organization (Large auditioned SATB choral ensemble). Large performance ensembles are auditioned musical groups comprised of music majors, minors, and non-music majors. This ensemble also includes community members. This ensemble is dedicated to performing the best of traditional and contemporary large ensemble choral literature in each area. This group may perform public concerts both on and off campus and at all times, it is one of the musical ambassadors of the University of Victoria and the School of Music.

**Prerequisites:** Audition by appointment.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students will:

SLO #1: demonstrate an entry-level professional individual skill in vocal technique (including posture), diction, and musicianship (pitch, rhythm, dynamics, phrasing, tone) appropriate to achieve a high level of artistic choral ensemble expression in concert and in rehearsal;

SLO #2: demonstrate accurate knowledge and skills of assigned music;

SLO #3: consistently demonstrate the applied skill of maintaining accurate internal pulse, rhythm execution and ensembleship;

SLO #4: demonstrate consistent skills in balance and blend within each SATB quartet and within the general choral ensemble;

SLO #5: demonstrate application of appropriate performance practice (use of voice and tone as well as stylistic nuance) of varied choral repertoire over various eras of western music (performance practice), musical styles, and world music;

SLO #6: demonstrate basic music reading literacy skills with fluency at sight;

SLO #7: demonstrate appropriate rehearsal and performance professional disposition not limited to: punctuality, consistent attendance, rehearsal attention and focus, respect for the ensemble and learning process, concert presentation and appearance, professional and mature attitude, and the ability to work independently on learning music;

**Outline of Subject Matter:**

Varied and appropriate choral repertoire for this ensemble will be provided each semester to meet the above outcomes including by not limited to:

- Gjeilo, *The Ground*
- Daunais, *Le Pont Mirabeau*
- McClure, *Kyrie*
- Basler, *Alleluia*
- Widor, *Tu Es Petrus*
- Thomas, *Ave Maris Stella*
- Caldwell/Ivory, *Hope for Resolution*
- Lauridsen, *O Magnum Mysterium*
- Forrest, *The First Noel*
- Gibbs, *Go, Tell It On The Mountain*
- Adams/Biery, *O Holy Night*
- Chapman, *There is Sweet Music here*

**Materials:**

1. A **PENCIL** with eraser is required at every rehearsal. Keep one in your Choir Binder! You are expected to mark your score (breath marks, dynamics, cues, pronunciation, interpretation markings) as discussed in each rehearsal. NO PEN!

2. **FOLDER.** A black choral folder/binder is required for this class.

3. **MUSIC.** The singer shall be responsible to purchase the octavos which will be bought and distributed. If scores are provided from the School of Music Choral Library, the singers will be required to care for and return those pieces.
For any music lost or not returned in acceptable condition as deemed by the instructor, the singer will be required to reimburse the department for all replacement costs. Grades may be withheld until music is returned or the School of Music is reimbursed. Students are required to erase scores prior to returning them. DEADLINE for return of music is the official last day of class for each term. The consequence for failing to meet this deadline will be the lowering of your grade by one letter.

4. **MEMORIZATION.** As part of a professional training program, you will be required to memorize all choral music for concerts except when performing major works or directed otherwise by the instructor.

5. **Concert Attire / Course Fee**

**Women:** Uniform is a formal concert black dress which you are required to purchase from Southwestern apparel. It will cost approximately $67.00 unless you require a taller dress. You are required to have the dress properly hemmed. NO DUCT TAPING. Women are required to obtain black dress shoes (closed toe, low or flat heel).

**Men:** Men are required to purchase the complete formal tuxedo uniform which includes: black tuxedo short jacket, black tuxedo flat front pants, white tuxedo wing tip shirt, black bowtie, and black cummerbund. Singers will provide their own black dress shoes and dress socks. Sneakers or other such casual foot ware are not permitted.

Uniform payment is given directly to the UVic Chorus Assistant by September 29, 2014. Cash is acceptable. Checks should be made out to The University of Victoria.

NO jewelry. All colored nail polish is to be removed. Hair is required to be worn in an updo or tied back and away from the face to allow for full performance expression.

For all concerts and dress rehearsals students should do everything they can to encourage others to perform at their very best. To this end, singers will use deodorant. PERFUME is not allowed as it may set off allergies. Any hair products or body lotion/sprays with fragrances must not be used for the same reason. Even a little bit of scent when added with some body heat will create problem. To avoid the embarrassing situation of being asked to leave due to student complaints about a certain odor, please consider this high level of respect for your fellow musicians.

**Assessment:**

Singing is important; participation and hearing a choir can change lives. The choral experience is about a group of individuals striving to create something greater than any one individual can do. Therefore, attendance combined with full participation makes all the difference. This is assessed by dedicated and consistent attendance, visual and aural demonstration of participation to the best of a student’s abilities, and intrinsic sense of investing or risking of oneself to experience life fully and richly in the music making process.

Entry-level professional musical skills as demonstrated by individual students are ultimately assessed by the success of the artwork as it is perceived in performance. Therefore the public concert is an essential element of assessment. The instructor, as the musical leader makes an assessment of the “Artistic quality” of that performance event based on his or her experience as an artist and musician. However, each SLO listed above can also be assessed individually as a part of the student’s final grade. It is in fact, the synthesis of all of these skills that the professional musician brings individually to the large musical ensemble.

**Assessment in MUS 180/280/380/480/580:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category #</th>
<th>Assignment Description</th>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes Linked to SLO</th>
<th>% of Course Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Assignment: Demonstration of Prepared Music at Rehearsals</td>
<td>SLO #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Assignment: Performance Preparation Week of October 20-25 Assignment: Performance Preparation Week of November 24-28</td>
<td>SLO #1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Assignment: Attendance at rehearsals and performances Assignment: Promptness at rehearsals and performances</td>
<td>SLO #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Assignment: Professional Disposition exhibited at rehearsals Assignment: Professional Disposition exhibited at performances</td>
<td>SLO #7</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Category 1: Demonstration of Prepared Music At Rehearsals
Throughout the rehearsal, the instructor and section leader will be assessing the singer’s ability to demonstrate an active demonstration that they have prepared the music for rehearsal through proper singing posture (standing and singing), focused attention to the director and on the music, respectful behavior in rehearsal for both the director and the other singers, appropriate use of good singing tone, uniform vowels, breath control, speaking and singing of the correct text, singing correct rhythm and pitches, and visible synchronization with the choral ensemble.

Category 2: Performance Preparation and Demonstration
Students will have the option to perform the concert repertoire for the director alone or with others to demonstrate their preparation of the music. The director will instruct the choir ahead of time if the music is to be performed memorized or with music. If the singer chooses to perform the music with others, the group must be a mixed quartet of at least one from each voicing SATB. A maximum of 2 people may sing on any given part. They may not stand next to each other. (Maximum 8 people to a group SSAATTBB).

Category 3: Attendance
Attendance is essential for a choir to achieve any level of excellence. As such, all scheduled rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Due to the importance of attendance in making the ensemble a viable artistic and educational endeavor, attendance is directly reflected in the evaluation. Regular scheduled rehearsals are on Tuesday (7:15pm-9:45pm). Dress rehearsals and concerts are a natural outcome or performance of that achieved level of excellence. In short, performances are mid-term exams and finals. Therefore, attendance at all concerts and dress rehearsals listed on the syllabus are also mandatory. There are no make-ups.

Each unexcused absence will be cause for a 10% reduction in category #2. Two (2) unexcused absences may be cause for being dropped from the course or at the very least, the requirement for the student to demonstrate mastery of the music by individually singing the entire repertoire for the instructor as well as a 20% reduction in category #2. An unexcused absence from a scheduled performance will result in removal from the group and failure of the class. The student is required to meet with the instructor for any unexcused absence for whatever reason; this must be done prior to the next rehearsal. COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE!

Life happens, and sometimes there are events which are beyond our control. In case of serious illness or family emergency, students must notify the instructor in writing via email and proof (doctor’s verification) of illness is required. In case of immediate death of a family member, students are required to produce evidence such as a doctor’s note or an obituary. Other valid excuses for an absence include: illness, accident, religious reasons, jury duty or government obligation, and university sanctioned or approved activities. All absences require appropriate documentation to be excused prior to the date to be excused, no exceptions.

Tardiness is not acceptable professional behavior. A student is expected to be in seated or in standing position and prepared to sing at the beginning of class which is at 7:15pm. Preparation of the body, voice, mind and spirit is essential to a good rehearsal experience. Three (3) unexcused tardies equal one unexcused absence which results in a 10% reduction in category #2. An excused absence or tardy from rehearsal is one that has been confirmed by the instructor previous to class time.

Rehearsal and concert attendance is facilitated by a number of methods including but not limited to, attendance monitors or sign in sheets. It is the STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY to ensure that his/her attendance has been noted by SIGNING IN or noting that it is taken by the attendance monitor.

This Course adheres to the university attendance Policy:
http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2014-09/FACS/UnIn/UARe/Atte.html

Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. An academic unit may require a student to withdraw from a course if the student is registered in another course that occurs at the same time. In some courses students may be assigned a final grade of N or debarred from writing final examinations if they have failed to satisfy a minimum attendance requirement set by an instructor for lectures, laboratories, online course discussions or learning activities, tutorials, or other learning activities set out in the course outline. Instructors in such courses must inform students in the course outline of any minimum attendance requirement and the circumstances under which they will be assigned a final grade of N or debarred from final examinations. Students who are absent, late or cannot attend an entire class because of illness, an accident or family affliction should report to
their instructors as soon as possible. (For more information, refer to “Academic Concessions”.) An instructor may refuse a student admission to a lecture, laboratory, online course discussion or learning activity, tutorial or other learning activity set out in the course outline because of lateness, misconduct, inattention or failure to meet the responsibilities of the course set out in the course outline. Students who neglect their academic work may be assigned a final grade of N or debarred from final examinations. Students who do not attend classes must not assume that they have been dropped from a course by an academic unit or an instructor. Courses that are not formally dropped will be given a failing grade, students may be required to withdraw and will be required to pay the tuition fee for the course.

IMPORTANT information for the singer/student to understand.
The complex nature of choral rehearsals and music ensemble teaching requires hundreds of decisions on the fly. Speaking to Dr. Con just before a rehearsal is not the most appropriate time to give him important information that requires a major decision or discussion. Likewise, after a rehearsal, Dr. Con has many things to clean up and attend to; so discussion afterwards is also not an ideal time to speak with him if the conversation is of an important nature requiring an important decision. This is not to say that speaking to Dr. Con before or after a rehearsal is discouraged. Rather, this is a caution that whatever is discussed before or after a rehearsal may likely to be forgotten. It is best to wait and see Dr. Con at another time (during office hours) to properly discuss whatever issue you may have or send him an email. If you do have a conversation with Dr. Con, YOU MUST FOLLOW UP BY AN EMAIL TO HIM CONFIRMING WHAT WAS SAID. The chances are high that if you do not confirm the conversation with an email, the information and communication between you and him will be lost until it is too late.

Category 4: Professional Disposition at Rehearsals and Concerts
To receive full credit for professional disposition at rehearsals and concerts, students must:

• attend and be on time to all rehearsals and concerts;
• turn OFF (not vibrate mode) all devices with a power switch (phones, PDAs, pagers, tablets) during rehearsals and concerts; texting during class is the same as your phone going off. See Cell Phone policy.
• mark scores / sheet music as directed;
• care for music and folder;
• on task behavior: singing, listening;
• demonstrate appropriate singing posture at all times;
• taking responsibility for learning choral parts = notes, rhythms = sing your part independently;
• respect the other singers, the conductor, and the rehearsal process; and,
• wear appropriate and complete concert uniform for all concerts.

Final grades will be based on four specific demonstrations of competence. This will include two public demonstration/performances, and two individual/group testing 2 weeks prior to each concert.
### GRADING RUBRIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
<td>Performance of the student has been at the highest level, showing sustained excellence in meeting all rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and concert requirements including attendance, punctuality, rehearsal preparation, memorization, and respect for the choral rehearsal, fellow singers and conductor. Student exhibits an unusual degree of personal drive to continuously improve themselves, their respective choral section and the ensemble.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85 – 89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80 – 84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77 – 79</td>
<td>Performance of the student has been at a high level, showing consistent and effective achievement in meeting all rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and concert requirements including attendance, punctuality, rehearsal preparation, memorization, and respect for the choral rehearsal, fellow singers and conductor. Student demonstrates a strong desire to improve their contribution to the choral ensemble as well as their respective choral section and the ensemble.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73 – 76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70 – 72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>65 – 69</td>
<td>Performance of the student has been at a minimal level, showing inconsistent achievement in meeting all rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and concert requirements including attendance, punctuality, rehearsal preparation, memorization, and respect for the choral rehearsal, fellow singers and conductor. Student demonstrates a basic contribution to the choral ensemble as well as their respective choral section and the ensemble.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60 – 64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50 – 59</td>
<td>Performance of the student has been less than satisfactory, meeting that basic requirements for all rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and concert requirements including attendance, punctuality, rehearsal preparation, memorization, and respect for the choral rehearsal, fellow singers and conductor. Student demonstrates little effort to contribute to the choral ensemble, their respective choral section or the ensemble.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 49</td>
<td>Performance of the student has been such that the minimal course requirements have not been met all rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and concert requirements including attendance, punctuality, rehearsal preparation, memorization, and respect for the choral rehearsal, fellow singers and conductor. Student has detrimentally affected the choral ensemble and their respective choral section.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supplemental Information:

RCSD: Resource Centre for Students with a Disability
This class and instructor support individual student learning needs. Students with disabilities needing academic or physical accommodations should:

- Contact the Resource Centre for Students with A Disability (RCSD) at (250) 472-4947;
- Make a consultation appointment at Campus Services Building, 3800 Finnerty Road, Room 150;
- Bring a letter to the instructor from the RCSD indicating what your need may be for academic or physical accommodation. This should be done within the first two weeks of class.

The RCSD is part of UVic’s Division of Student Affairs. They work with faculty and students to promote educational equity and accessibility for students with disabilities. They support students in achieving academic goals by providing services and programs and coordinating academic accommodations for students. They also act as consultants to faculty and work with the university community to help create a more accessible learning environment. The RCSD supports the principles of universal design, which is the process of creating environments that are usable and accessible to people with a wide range of abilities. Applying these principles minimizes the need for individual adaptations or accommodations. For the purposes of accessing RCSD services and supports, a disability includes any long-term or recurring physical, mental, sensory, psychiatric or learning disability that affects a student's performance in an academic setting.

Civility
The Professor shall not allow another person to disrupt the learning or full participation of others in this ensemble. Students are expected to communicate in a civil manner in academic interactions at all times, both in and out of the rehearsal. This means that interactions are to be carried out in a polite, courteous, and dignified manner, which is respectful and understanding toward both peers and professors. Unbiased and non-discriminatory actions that reflect the utmost respect for one another, regardless of race gender, religion, disability or sexual orientation are mandatory. Failure to behave in a civil manner may result in disciplinary actions as described by the General University Policies GV0205/SS9105).

Religious Holiday Policy
In accordance with University Policy, students are permitted to absent themselves from classes, seminars or workshops for the purposes of religious or spiritual observance. ADVANCE arrangements (prior to the date of absence) must be made with the instructor to make-up coursework. http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2014-09/GI/GUPo.html?pageTop

CELL/SMART PHONES
Cell/smart phones (includes texting) in the David Lam Auditorium are not permitted. Cell/smart phones may not be left on the vibrate mode. Basically, any electronic device not keeping you alive must be powered OFF! Being present without the distraction of texting or a cell phone demonstrates your level of discipline, dedication to the choral art and respect for both the teacher and the other students. Since we are working with identifying sounds and pitches, it is important that students are not distracted by extraneous sounds. A student whose cell/smart phone VIBRATES or RINGS will be expected to bring treats for the entire choir at the next rehearsal. Second offences may result in a lowering of your final grade by one letter grade. In the event of an ongoing family emergency, the student must have PRIOR permission from the instructor.

E-mail
E-mail is an official means of communication from the University. Students are required to use their UVIC e-mail address when communicating with regard to this ensemble and director. It is your responsibility to check your UVIC e-mail address regularly and open e-mails the University and director sends. It is not an excuse to say you did not receive the e-mail in time because you did not check your account. FACEBOOK and TEXTING is not an accepted mode of communication for this class.

Caveat (A caution to prevent misinterpretation)
Although this syllabus is an understanding between the professor and student to respectively provide a worthy learning experience, the dates, schedules, procedures listed are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. By remaining a registered student in this course, the student has identified their understanding of the obligations and caveat set-forth in this syllabus for satisfactory completion of the course.

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## UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA CHORUS
### CALENDAR - FALL 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Tuesday rehearsals will be at DLA 7:15pm – 9:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
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<td>DECEMBER</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>CONCERT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Part Testing Week

**SMA =** Saint Mary the Virgin Anglican Church, 1701 Elgin Road, Victoria, BC, V8R 5L7

**CCC – Christ Church Cathedral,** Quadra at Rockland Ave., Victoria, BC

**DLA – David Lam Auditorium,** MacLaurin Building (Education Faculty), University of Victoria

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** While every effort will be made to stay within the parameters of this schedule, unexpected circumstance may occur, which is typical in the performing arts; therefore, the times or dates outside of the regular rehearsal hours may need to be adjusted. Students will be given as much time in advance as possible should this occur.
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
FACULTY OF FINE ARTS
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Course Title: UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA CHORUS (SATB)  
Course No.: MUS 180/280/380/480/580  
Class Time: Tuesday – 7:15pm - 9:45pm
Drop/Add: Friday, September 19, 2014  
Last Day to Withdraw without penalty “F”: Friday, October 31, 2014

Instructor: Dr. Adam Jonathan Con  
Office: MAC A163  
Hours: M/W/F 10:00am – 2:00pm  
and by appointment (email)

Office: MAC- MacLaurin  
Building:  
Room: MAC A411 – David Lam Auditorium  
Credits: 2.0 credit (Full academic year)

If a student is not able to meet with the instructor during posted office hours, it is the student’s responsibility to arrange an appointment with the instructor during a time that is mutually convenient. Please do so via email.

Contract of Understanding

I, __________________________ (print singer name) have read the syllabus and acknowledge that by remaining in this ensemble, I shall abide by the stated requirements. This includes, but is not limited to, attending all required rehearsals, dress rehearsals and concerts promptly. I understand that I am responsible for notifying Dr. Con via email of any rehearsal conflicts and for providing proof of any legitimate absences. I also understand that I am responsible to meet with Dr. Con in person outside of rehearsal times for all unexcused absences and will be required to sing my respective choral part to demonstrate mastery of music. I understand that the nature of the arts means I must learn to be flexible if times or dates should need to be changed beyond the stated calendar.

I understand that attendance and the recording of attendance is my responsibility alone. I understand that I am responsible to demonstrate the learning of my music.

(Singer Signature)  
(Director Signature)

(WITNESS Signature)  
Dated: September 16, 2014