Welcome to Oxford Chorale and the study of vocal performance in an ensemble. It is your responsibility to read this syllabus and follow all course policies. Our course meets on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:30 p.m. in Few Choral Rehearsal Room. My office hours are by appointment. The College Honor Code governs all course work. See [http://oxford.emory.edu/catalog/regulations/honor-code.html](http://oxford.emory.edu/catalog/regulations/honor-code.html)

**Course Goals**

You will master basic technical skills required for singing including effective breathing, intonation, rhythm, and style

You will improve your individual vocal performance

You will develop your aesthetic sense by enhancing your appreciation of beauty in music

You will develop self-confidence and poise in public presentation

You will develop your ability to lead others and work in coordination with others

You will develop your ability to reflect on the experience of learning music

**Experiential Learning in Oxford Chorale**

The methodology for this class is based on experiential learning. In this course you will have the opportunity to create a large-scale artistic product, the Spring Concert to be presented to the public. As we are preparing the music for performance, you will be evaluating and reflecting on your individual performance, and on the performance of the Chorale as a whole. Your self-evaluation that will be written at the end of the course should be a reflective essay in which you demonstrate how the aesthetic experience in the Chorale class has helped you to understand the process of learning and presenting music in public performance, as well as how the course affected your growth as a musician and a person.
Assessment of Learning

You are graded on your progress in achieving the course goals. All dress rehearsals and all performances are equal in importance to examinations. Your grade in "plus-minus" system is based on a 100-point scale.

Class attendance and participation with concentration and cooperation with the Director, Assistant Director, and Accompanist (20%)

Rehearsal attendance (20%) You must meet call times and wear proper dress.

Concert performances (30%) You must meet call times and wear proper dress.

Singing competence (20%) (including breathing and intonation, mastery of melody and rhythm, understanding and pronunciation of texts)

Reflective essay (10%) is due in hard copy in my office on Monday, April 27 by 6 p.m. Review the paragraph on experiential learning on page one of this syllabus. Describe how experiential learning in this course has impacted your understanding of music and public performance. Then explain to what extent you achieved the course goals. Describe what you learned and how you learned. If you had a learning issue, explain how you dealt with it. If you learned something beyond the stated course goals, explain. Essays must be typewritten on white paper in black ink with size 12 font, double-spaced. Minimum length is 500 words. Your name, Music 300R, and the word count must appear in the upper right hand corner of your paper. Papers lose 5 points for each day late.

Grading scale:
95    A
90    A-
87    B+
85    B
80    B-
77    C+
75    C
70    C-
65    D
below 65    F

Attendance and Behavior

One absence is allowed from Tuesday class and two from Thursday class, for a total of three absences in the semester. These should be used for serious illness, emergencies, or religious holidays. You need to inform the professor of religious holidays or other events within the first two weeks of classes.

No absences are allowed from Dress Rehearsals or Performances. Persons with excessive absences or who miss dress rehearsals will not be allowed to perform in concerts and will fail the course. Persons who miss performances unless excused by the
Director will fail the course. If you must be absent from a class or performance because of illness, a physician’s written document stating that you are too ill to be in school is required. **In all cases of illness or emergency, you must inform the director before the beginning of class, rehearsal, or performance time, and you must present written documentation.**

Polite and civil behavior is expected in the classroom and at all performance venues. Non-cooperation with the Director, Assistant Director, or Accompanist will result in failure for the course. At Oxford College we foster an environment where people of diverse backgrounds, identities, abilities, and ideologies are respected and valued. It is expected that everyone will show respect for our educational enterprise by civil behavior at all times.

Be on time for class. If you arrive more than five minutes beyond the starting time, you will be marked late. Two late arrivals will equal one absence.

You may not leave the class while it is in session. Please take care of personal needs before the class starts, and during designated break times.

Do not eat or chew gum in class. You may have water or cough drops.

Do not use cell phones and other electronic devices in class.

**Disability Services**

The Office of Accessibility Services works with students to provide reasonable accommodations. For consideration, please contact OAS and complete the registration process. Faculty may not legally provide accommodations until an accommodation letter has been processed and discussed with them; accommodations do not start until this point and are not retroactive. Students registered with OAS are strongly encouraged to immediately coordinate a meeting with their professors to discuss a protocol to implement accommodations that will (or may) be needed. For more information contact oas_oxford@emory.edu

**Materials to bring to class:**

You are required to bring your folder, books, and pencils with erasers to all classes.

Books (available in the College Bookstore):

- Clippinger, *The Clippinger Class-Method*
- Vaccai, *Practical Method of Italian Singing*

**Deposit** A refundable deposit of $15.00 is due by September 15. You are responsible for returning your folder and music when these are collected. If any music is not returned or is damaged, you will forfeit your entire deposit. Students who do not submit the deposit will not be eligible to be members of Chorale.

**Soloists and Select Groups.** The Director chooses soloists and select groups. They are auditioned and perform under the same policies as the full Chorale.
Concert dress:

WOMEN:
¾-sleeve or long-sleeve dressy black blouse
Black dressy skirt—ankle length
(A black dress ankle length is also fine)*
Black hose
Black dress shoes

MEN:
White tuxedo shirt
Black tuxedo jacket**
Black dress slacks
Black socks
Black dress shoes
Black bow tie**

**A limited number of tuxedo jackets and bow ties are available to borrow.
*A limited number of dresses and skirts are available to borrow.

REQUIRED REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Tues 14, 21, 28</td>
<td>7:00-9:30 PM</td>
<td>Chorale Room</td>
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<td>Full Chorale</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thurs 16, 23, 30</td>
<td>SA 7:00-8:10 PM</td>
<td>Chorale Room</td>
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<td>TB 8:20-9:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Tues 4, 11, 18, 25</td>
<td>7:00-9:30 PM</td>
<td>Chorale Room</td>
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<td>Full Chorale</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs 6, 13, 20, 27</td>
<td>SA 7:00-8:10 PM</td>
<td>Chorale Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TB 8:20-9:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Tues 3, 17, 24, 31</td>
<td>7:00-9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Chorale Room</td>
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<td>Full Chorale</td>
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Please note: no rehearsal Tue/Thu March 10 and 12 (Spring Vacation)

|       |               | SA 7:00-8:10 pm | Chorale Room  |
|       |               | TB 8:20-9:30 p.m.|               |
| April  | Tues 7        | 7:00-9:30 PM    | Chorale Room  |
|        |               | Full Chorale    |               |
|       | Thu 9, 23     | 7:00-9:30 PM    | Chorale Room  |
|        |               | Full Chorale    |               |

DRESS REHEARSAL AND CONCERT SCHEDULE

DRESS REHEARSALS:  
MONDAY, APRIL 13  
6:30-10:30  
WILLIAMS HALL
TUESDAY, APRIL 14  DRESS REHEARSAL II  WILLIAMS HALL
6:30-10:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15  DRESS REHEARSAL III  WILLIAMS HALL
6:30-10:30 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 16  CONCERT  WILLIAMS HALL
CALL AT 6:00 PM.
CONCERT AT 8:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17  CONCERT  WILLIAMS HALL
CALL AT 6:00 PM.
CONCERT AT 8:00 P.M.

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Tuesday, April 21  NO CLASS
Thursday, April 23  FULL REHEARSAL
May 7 Chorale/Ensemble dinner
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May  Performance at Baccalaureate Service  Old Church*
             Rehearsal from 12:30-3:00 PM  Old Church
             Call for performance at 4:15 PM  Old Church
             Performance at 5:00 PM  Old Church

*Old Church is the white wooden church on Wesley Street.

Student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education.

Singing Smart: Some Basic Ideas to Help You Maintain Your Vocal Health

Take Good Care of Your Body

Plan your rest
  1. Be sure to get enough sleep (7-9 hours per day)
  2. Stay on a regular sleep schedule as much as possible
  3. Schedule time to unwind during your day
Keep yourself well hydrated
1. Drink plenty of water daily
2. Drink throughout the day

Eat a healthy and balanced diet
1. Eat vegetables, fruits, and whole grains
2. Drink milk and avoid too much soda
3. Do not skip meals

Dress properly for the weather and activities

Maintain your physical fitness
1. Exercise 3 to 5 days each week
2. Do not smoke and avoid smoke-filled areas
3. Avoid alcohol and caffeine

Develop Good Vocal Behavior

Warm up with proper techniques—breathing, support, resonance, and focus

Practice in short intervals of time—in long rehearsals, take breaks and drink water

Avoid noisy environments, and do not talk, laugh, or sing over loud noises

Don’t sing if something hurts
1. When you are tired, hoarse, or have laryngitis, rest your voice
2. If discomfort lasts more than one week, see your doctor
3. When you can’t sing, you can practice by listening to your music and memorizing notes and words

Tips for singing with a cold
1. You may sing if you have nasal congestion and no throat symptoms
2. Don’t clear your throat—swallow or drink a sip of water instead
3. Drink water and caffeine-free herbal teas
4. Avoid too many cough drops with sugar and menthol