

MUEN 311/511 Oriana Women's Choir
Units: 1
Fall 2017—Tuesday & Thursday—4:00 PM–5:50 PM

Location: MUS 106

Instructor: **Rina Ritivoiu, DMA Lead Conductor**
Office: MUS 209
Office Hours: By appointment
Contact Info: PH: 530-305-6657 (cell – text/call only; no voicemail)
PH: (213) 821-5756 (office)
Email: ritivoiu@usc.edu

Instructor: **Irene Apanovitch, DMA Assoc. Conductor**
Office: MUS 209
Office Hours: By appointment
Contact Info: PH: 424-542-200 (cell – text/call only; no voicemail)
PH: (213) 821-5756 (office)
Email: ireneapanovitch@gmail.com

Instructor: **Daniel Gee, DMA Assoc. Conductor**
Office: N/A
Office Hours: By appointment
Contact Info: PH: 626-627-8406 (cell)
PH: (213) 821-5756 (office)
Email: danielgeemusic@gmail.com

Course Description

Performance of vocal chamber music and choral masterworks from the thirteenth century to the present. Open to all students by audition.

Learning Objectives

- To demonstrate an understanding of ensemble skills and musical interpretations and to instill a sense of musical flexibility in diverse musical situations.
- To display an understanding of fine details regarding various styles, historical performance practices, voicing and languages.
- To demonstrate an ability to operate at an accelerated pace in rehearsals and concert preparation.
- To practice professional standards and technique that promotes individual responsibility for vocal health.

Prerequisite(s): Open enrollment

Course Notes

- Membership in this ensemble is granted for the entire academic year.
- Members are responsible for learning assigned portions of music outside of class.
- Members must bring the required music to EVERY rehearsal.
- Members must have a sharpened pencil in EVERY rehearsal for score marking.
- Members are responsible for numbering the measures in each piece of music, as they will be referred to for rehearsal purposes.

- Some of the selections for concert performance will be performed memorized. Each member should be prepared for periodic “memory checks.”

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

- Music scores of assigned repertoire (provided by choral librarian at the start of the course)
- A sharpened pencil with eraser for marking music
- Uniform
- The Black Folder

Description and Assessment of Assignments

- Group vocal production
- Daily rehearsals culminating in live performance, recordings and outreach events
- Sectional rehearsals

Grading Breakdown

Assignment	Points	% of Grade
Participation	750	75
Demeanor	200	20
Final Exam	50	5
TOTAL	1000	100

Additional Policies

You will be expected to respond efficiently to email and phone (or text) communication from your conductor and from the department. Please keep the department aware of your latest contact information.

Please note that in all rehearsal and performance venues no food or drink is permitted other than water in sealable water bottles.

Use of cell phones (including texting) or other electronic devices is strictly prohibited during rehearsals or performances. Use of such devices will adversely affect your participation grade.

Participation Policy:

In keeping with the professional objectives of the program, the Department of Choral and Sacred Music at the University of Southern California enforces a strict policy on participation and punctuality.

- Participation is required at ALL rehearsals and performances.
- Singers are expected to be in the Rehearsal Hall 5 minutes prior to the beginning of the rehearsal period, with the music to be rehearsed out and organized according to the days plan posted on the board. Failure to be ready to rehearse at the beginning of the rehearsal will result in a tardy and will affect the participation portion of the grade as follows: 2 tardies results in 1 unexcused absence.
- Choral faculty and section leaders keep daily records.

- Do not schedule voice lessons, meetings with faculty members or other organizations, make-up classes or exams, USC registration, doctor/dental appointments, job interviews, or any personal obligations during rehearsal times.
- FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE in a dress rehearsal without the prior approval of the instructor will result in a loss of two full letter grades.
- FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE in performances or recording sessions without the prior approval of the instructor will result in a loss of three full letter grades. (Resulting in a failing grade).
- FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE during the week of a performance will result in a lowered grade.
- FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE in rehearsals without prior written approval of the instructor will result in loss of one letter grade according to the following:
 - 2 unexcused absences results in an A grade
 - 3 unexcused absences results in an B grade
 - 4 unexcused absences results in an C grade
 - 5 unexcused absences results in an D grade (Failing grade)
- Absences for the following reasons are considered EXCUSED:
 - Unavoidable excuses given five days in advance
 - Extended illness with doctor's verification
 - Death in the immediate family
 - Religious holidays – See below
- Unavoidable emergencies will be handled on an individual basis. If an emergency occurs, (including acute, but brief, illness) the student must contact the director in a timely manner, followed with written notification in three days. The instructor will determine whether the emergency is excused. If the instructor does not recognize the reason as acceptable, the student may appeal to the chair.

Demeanor Policy:

Assessment of work ethic while in class:

- Do you follow instructions by marking your score?
- Is your participation conducive or disruptive to the rehearsal process?
- Do you respond favorably to constructive criticism?
- Do you bring your scores and a pencil to every rehearsal?
- If you are unable to phonate, do you follow along in your music, mark your score, and submit written comments to the conductor at the end of the rehearsal?

Assessment of preparation outside of class:

- If assignments are given, are you prepared by the announced deadline?

Assessment of professionalism:

- Do you show respect for the conductor and your fellow students?
- Do you adhere to the participation policy of the ensemble?
- Do you participate in choral performances with clean, proper concert attire and in a professional manner?

Final Exam Policy:

Students will be expected to accurately sing their part during quartet or octet testing, to the best of their ability.

Music Rental Policy:

All printed music required for performance by the ensemble is borrowed, therefore students are not required to purchase music. However, students are responsible for the care and timely return of their music. All students will receive a music checkout form at the beginning of the semester. This form must be signed and returned to the conductor upon receipt of the music.

Concert Attire Policy:

You are responsible for your own concert attire. Attire for concerts must be complete.

Concert Uniform:

- Long Black Dress – professionally hemmed / ironed
- Pearl necklace
- Pearl earrings
- Black pantyhose
- Black closed-toed character shoes, with 1.5 inch heel
- Black Choir Folder: \$27

In addition to the specified concert attire, choristers must wear minimal jewelry and where relevant, attend all performances with their hair tied back neatly and up.

For all rehearsals and performances, please refrain from wearing any perfume; however, deodorant is essential.

Cost of hemming the uniforms is included in the overall price. A professional seamstress has been hired to complete a uniform fitting for the entire choir. Any singer failing to attend the uniform fitting (to be scheduled during a normal rehearsal time) will be charged an additional \$50 rescheduling fee.

Payments for uniforms (which includes accessories and dress hemming cost) are to be given ONLY to Woody Gatewood in MUS 416. Cash or check only. Payment must be received by September 8, 2017.

You are also responsible for purchasing a black folder, which may also be acquired from the Choral and Sacred Music Department. This is part of your concert attire. Checks are to be made out to "Department of Choral and Sacred Music".

COSTS

- Choir Uniform: long black dress with pearl necklace and earrings
 - Size 0-28: \$90
 - Size 0-28, 5'9 or taller: \$95
 - Special Order: \$125
- Black Choir Folder: \$27
- Closed-toe Character Shoes with 1.50" inch heel (must be purchased separately and must be in hand by Sept 15, 2017)

Concert Ticket Policy: Admission to all USC choral concerts is free. Tickets must be reserved in advance by calling (213) 821-5756 or emailing uschoral@usc.edu.

Religious Holidays: The University of Southern California, has always sought to acknowledge and accommodate those students who wish to observe religious holy days. It seeks to reflect its awareness and sensitivity to religious holidays whenever possible when scheduling University activities. Each student shall, upon notifying their instructor in writing during the first week of classes, be excused from class to observe a religious holy day of their faith.

Penalties:

Your registration at USC for future semesters may be denied and/or your university grades may be withheld and/or your grade in this class may be lowered as a result of the following:

- Failure to return music by announced deadline.
- Failure to pay for lost/damaged music by announced deadline.
- Failure to pay any other fees by announced deadline (uniforms, etc.).

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings and Homework	Deliverable/ Due Dates
Week 1 Aug. 22 / 24	First rehearsal MUS 106 / Rehearsal		
Week 2 Aug. 29 / Aug. 31	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		NEW members uniform fitting
Week 3 Sept. 5 / 7	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		Friday, September 8 Payments for uniform Woody Gatewood in MUS 416
Week 4 Sept. 12 / 14	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		Saturday, September 16 10 am – 4 pm Retreat: Oriana & Apollo Location: Glendale First Baptist Church
Week 5 Sept. 19 / 21	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #1 Due	
Week 6 Sept. 26 / 28	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #2 Due	
Week 7 Oct. 3 / 5	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #3 Due	Thursday, October 5 4:00 – 5:00 pm Rehearsal w/ Apollo Men’s Chorus MUS 106 Tuesday, Thursday NEW members uniform Pinning – bring your character shoes
Week 8 Oct. 10 / 12	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #4 Due	
Week 9 Oct. 17 / 19	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		Friday, October 20 8pm Chamber Singers/ Concert Choir Concert Newman Recital Hall (Optional)
Week 10 Oct. 24 / 26	Rehearsal / Rehearsal – NEWMAN HALL		Friday, October 27 (6:00 – 7:30 PM) Sound check Newman Recital Hall Apollo / Oriana Fall Concert Newman Recital Hall (8pm Concert) Sunday, October 29 (3:00 – 3:45 PM)

			Dress Rehearsal First Baptist Church of Glendale Concert #2 First Baptist Church of Glendale (4:30 pm concert)
Week 11 Oct. 31 / Nov. 2	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		
Week 12 Nov. 7 / 9	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #1 Due	
Week 13 Nov. 14 / 16	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #2 Due	Friday, November 17 8PM University Chorus Concert St. John's Episcopal Cathedral (optional)
Week 14 Nov. 21 / 23	Rehearsal / Thanksgiving Break NO CLASS	Memorization Assignment #3 Due	
Week 15 Nov. 28 / Nov. 30	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #4 Due	
Dec. 7	Dec. 5 Study Day 4:00 – 6:00 PM MUS 106/ Rehearsal – Bovard Auditorium		Thursday, December 7 (4:00 – 6:00 PM) Winter Gala Rehearsal – Bovard Auditorium Saturday, December 9th (12:00- 3:00PM) Winter Gala Tutti Rehearsal – Bovard Auditorium Winter Gala Concert Bovard Auditorium (7:30 PM Concert) Advance Tickets required (purchase)
FINAL Dec. 12	Final Exam 4:00 – 6:00 PM MUS 106		

**Other Dates
Spring 2018**

**Tuesday, January 9
4-6pm**

**First Rehearsal
MUS 106**

Friday March 2
7:30 pm

Concert Choir Concert
St. Matthew in Pacific Palisades
Advance Tickets Required

Sunday April 8
4 pm

Chamber Singers Visions and Voicese concert
Bovard Auditorium

Tuesday April 6 4 pm	Dress Rehearsal Newman Recital Hall
Friday April 13 7:30 pm	University Chorus Concert St. John's Episcopal Cathedral
Saturday April 14 6-7:30 pm	Rehearsal (sound check) Newman Recital Hall
Saturday April 14 8 pm	Apollo/Oriana Spring Concert Newman Recital Hall
Sunday, April 15 3 pm	Chamber Singers/Concert Choir Beethoven 9 with Pacific Symphony SOKA Performance Arts
Tuesday April 17 4 pm	Music Score Return & Year-end Party MUS 106

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Religious Observance

University policy grants students excused absences from class for observance of religious holy days. Faculty are asked to be responsive to requests when students contact them IN ADVANCE to request such an excused absence. The student should be given an opportunity to make up missed work because of religious observance. Students are advised to scan their syllabi at the beginning of each course to detect potential conflicts with their religious observances. Please note that this applies only to the sort of holy day that necessitates absence from class and/or whose religious requirements clearly conflict with aspects of academic performance.

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" <https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

Support Systems:

Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/>

Sexual Assault Resource Center

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: <http://sarc.usc.edu/>

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX compliance – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class.

<https://equity.usc.edu/>

Bias Assessment Response and Support

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/>

Student Support & Advocacy – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/>

Diversity at USC – <https://diversity.usc.edu/>

Tab for Events, Programs and Training, Task Force (including representatives for each school), Chronology, Participate, Resources for Students