

**MUEN 311/511 Oriana Choir**

**Units: 1**

**Spring 2018—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-Leites, 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

## 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 January 26, 2018.

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: \$95
  - Size 0-28, 5'9 or taller: \$100
  - Special Order: \$126
- Black Choir Folder: \$27
- Closed-toe Character Shoes with 1.50" inch heel (must be purchased separately and must be in hand by February 13, 2018)

**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](mailto: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
<b>Week 1</b> Jan. 9/ 11	First rehearsal MUS 106 / Rehearsal		
<b>Week 2</b> Jan. 16 / 18	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		
<b>Week 3</b> Jan. 23 / 25	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		Dress fitting for new students Payment due by 1/26 at MUS 416
<b>Week 4</b> Jan. 30 / Feb. 1	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		
<b>Week 5</b> Feb. 6 / 8	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #1 Due	
<b>Week 6</b> Feb. 13 / 15	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #2 Due	
<b>Week 7</b> Feb. 20 / 22	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #3 Due	
<b>Week 8</b> Feb. 27 / Mar. 1	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Memorization Assignment #4 Due	
<b>Week 9</b> Mar. 6 / 8	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		<b>Tuesday, March 6</b> <b>Retreat: Oriana &amp; Apollo</b> 6:00am – 9:00pm Location: MUS 106
<b>Week 10</b> Mar. 13 / 15	NO REHEARSALS - Spring Break		
<b>Week 11</b> Mar. 20 / 22	Rehearsal / Rehearsal	Video Review Assignment Due	
<b>Week 12</b> Mar. 27 / 29	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		<b>Tuesday, March 27</b> <b>Apollo/Oriana Outreach Concert at California Hospital Medical Center</b> 4:15pm soundcheck at the hospital; 4:30pm concert
<b>Week 13</b> Apr. 3 / 5	Rehearsal / Rehearsal		<b>Wednesday, April 4</b> <b>Music@RushHour Concert</b> Ramo Recital Hall (Booth 100) 4pm at MUS 106 soundcheck; 5pm concert
<b>Week 14</b> Apr. 10/ 12	Rehearsal / Dress Rehearsal (in Newman)		<b>Saturday, April 14</b> <b>Oriana/Apollo Concert</b> Newman Recital Hall 6 pm soundcheck; 8 pm concert
<b>Week 15</b>	No Class		

Apr. 17 / 19			
<b>FINAL</b> Apr. 24 / 26	Concert / Final Exam 4:00 pm in MUS 106		

### Additional USC Choral Department Concert dates

Tuesday, February 27 7:30PM Chatterton/Fratzke's Recital Choir Concert MUS 106 (Free Admission)

Friday, March 2 8:00PM Chamber Singers/Concert Choir Concert at St. Matthews in Pacific Palisades (\$35)

Friday, March 30 7:30PM Chamber Singers/Concert Choir Beethoven 9th Symphony with Thornton Symphony at Bovard Auditorium (Free Admission, RSVP Required at [usc.edu/visionandvoices](http://usc.edu/visionandvoices))

Sunday, April 8 4:00PM Chamber Singers Vision and Voices Concert at Bovard Auditorium (Free Admission, RSVP Required at [usc.edu/visionandvoices](http://usc.edu/visionandvoices))

Friday, April 13 7:30PM University Chorus Concert at St. John's Episcopal Church (\$5, first 50 USC students with a USC student ID is free)

### 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