Any female university student is invited to audition to become a member of Cantamus.

Course Objectives
1. To form unified ensembles dedicated to the choral art.
2. To rehearse and learn music of high quality in a variety of styles.
3. To enhance the vocal development of each individual singer.
4. To reflect credit on the University, the Music Department, and the ensemble itself by demonstration of high standards of preparation, performance, appearance, and pride.

Rehearsal Procedure, Concerts
Rehearsals are held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 11:00-11:50 a.m. in the Music Hall.

If accepted as a member of Cantamus, you will be expected to participate in all of the performances and activities. Please study the calendar of events that accompanies this syllabus. These dates should be cleared on your calendar so that conflicts do not arise. Class schedules should be arranged so that you can arrive at rehearsals on time.

Evaluation
Attendance regulations do not allow for any unexcused absences or tardiness. Any absence due to illness or other uncontrollable conflict is to be cleared IN ADVANCE with Kathleen Rodde. Grades will be based on rehearsal participation, evidence of preparation outside of rehearsal time on special assignments, and each member's general conduct, attitude, and contribution to the enrichment of the group effort. A great performing ensemble centers its desire around working together for a common goal, and so, your contribution to the aesthetic and psychological spirit of the Statesmen is required at all times. With the exception of student teachers, each member is expected to participate in the group for the full academic year. Please arrange your schedule accordingly.

Attendance Policy
Daily class attendance is expected from every member of Cantamus. Illness, family emergencies, or University-related events off campus will be considered excused. All other conflicts will be excused/unexcused at Kathleen's discretion. Should you have to miss a rehearsal, it is expected that you contact Kathleen IN ADVANCE. A key to a successful attendance record is to COMMUNICATE.

Letter grades will be assigned through a point system, which is explained below. Should a student be on track for a failing grade at any time during the semester, the student may, at the discretion of the conductor, be dismissed from the choir at that time.

Officers
The student officers help with the long-range planning, policy, and general well being of the group. They meet occasionally with the director and need input from choir members to do an effective job.

Music and Folder
Each member of the choir will be assigned a number and will receive music marked with that number. This music represents the class text. If music is lost or misplaced, the assigned member will be responsible for its replacement cost and will be billed.

Concert Attire
Cantamus members will receive a black floor-length gown from the University for use during the academic year. Members are responsible for providing black shoes with closed toe and low/no heel, and black nylons.

Each choir member will be required to sign for concert attire. This signature will hold each singer responsible for the care of his/her attire. Please carefully adhere to the guidelines for care of your attire to avoid unnecessary billing. Each singer’s concert outfit is to be returned to the Music Department at the announced time. A minimum grace period (announced) will be allowed for late returns. A non-refundable fine of $25 will be assessed following the grace period for late returns. Students who do not return their concert attire within one month of the initial return date will be billed a final non-refundable amount of $200 for replacement costs.

Fees
Fees to participate in the ensemble are $15 per semester. Students will be billed through the University. Cantamus is also a registered student organization, and as such, members are requested to contribute $5 per semester to support activities of the organization.
Disabilities
Any student who desires accommodations based on the impact of a disability should contact the conductor privately to discuss specific needs.

Grades
Each singer will receive a final grade based on the following point system:

Rehearsal = 5 points per day
  on time
  all materials
  musically prepared
  fully engaged in rehearsal, including marking music, displaying good poise and behavior, and maintaining a positive attitude

Performance/Recording Session = 25 points per event
  on time
  all materials
  appropriate attire
  perform to maximum of personal ability, displaying good poise and behavior, and maintaining a positive attitude

Part testing/sectional rehearsal/dress rehearsal = 10 points per assignment

All three areas are averaged for the final grade:
  96%=A
  93%=B
  89%=C
  86%=D
  Less=F

An unexcused absence from a performance or recording session, or certain behaviors determined to be detrimental to the choral program may result, at the discretion of the conductor, in a failing grade.

Tardies:
Three unexcused tardies for daily rehearsals will be equal to one absence.
An unexcused tardy to a dress rehearsal, recording session or concert can result in the loss of one letter grade.

Here are some numbers/possibilities for an ensemble meeting 3 days per week:

(Maximum rehearsals in a semester: approximately 43 x 5 = 215 points)
Probable rehearsals in a semester: 37 x 5 = 185
Dress rehearsal: 1 x 10 = 10
Performances: 3 x 25 = 75
Probable TOTAL points possible: 270

Assuming that 5 points are achieved per rehearsal:
2 unexcused rehearsals: 96.2%......A
3 unexcused rehearsals: 94.4%......B
4 unexcused rehearsals: 92.6%......C
5 unexcused rehearsals: 90.7%......C
1 unexcused concert: 90.7%......C
1 unexcused concert and 1 unexcused rehearsal: 88.9%......D
1 unexcused concert and 3 unexcused rehearsals: 85.2%......F

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