

**Iowa State University
Iowa State Singers
Policy Sheet 2015-16**

Any university student is invited to audition to become a member of the Iowa State Singers. The ensemble is a select mixed choral ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of the masterworks of choral literature.

Course Objectives

1. To form a unified concert choir dedicated to the choral art.
2. To rehearse and learn music of high quality from various styles and historical periods.
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 daily, MTWRF 12:10-1:00 p.m. in the Music Hall.

The choir performs often during the academic year. In addition to regular concerts, the Madrigal Dinners are performed in January, and a tour is taken in the spring of each year. If accepted as a member of the Singers, you will be expected to participate in all of the performances and activities. Please study the calendar of events that accompanies this policy sheet. These dates should be cleared on your calendar so that conflicts do not arise. Class schedules should be arranged so that you 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 Dr. 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. Members of a great performing ensemble need to work together for a common goal, and so, your contribution to the aesthetic and psychological spirit of Iowa State Singers 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. Cell phone texting at any time during a rehearsal or performance is considered inappropriate behavior and will result in the loss of attendance credit for that event.

Attendance Policy

Daily class attendance is expected from every member of the Iowa State Singers. All conflicts will be excused or unexcused at Dr. Rodde's discretion. Should you have to miss a rehearsal, it is expected that you contact Dr. Rodde IN ADVANCE. A key to a successful attendance record is to COMMUNICATE.

Letter grades will be assigned through a point system, which will be explained in the choir e-handbook. The attendance policy has been designed to ensure fairness, both to the individual and the organization.

Officers

The elected officers help with the long-range planning, policy, and general well being of the group. They meet regularly with the director and need the input of every choir member to do an effective job.

Section Leaders

Designated section leaders are responsible for organization and (with the conductor) preparation of each sectional.

Music and Folder

Each member of the choir will be assigned a number and will receive a folder and music marked with that number. If music is lost or misplaced, the assigned member will be responsible for its replacement cost and will be billed. All singers will be expected to own their own scores for the spring Masterworks Concert. Scores will be available for purchase at the Memorial Union Bookstore. This expectation is also true for the Holiday Concert, December.

Concert Attire

MEN: The men will receive a tuxedo outfit (slacks, jacket, white shirt and tie) and garment bag from the University for use during the academic year. Men are responsible for providing black dress shoes appropriate for a tuxedo, and black socks.

WOMEN: The women will receive a black floor-length concert dress, garment bag, and pearl necklace from the University for use during the academic year. Women are responsible for obtaining black hose and black shoes with low/no heels. The hemming of the dresses will be the responsibility of the choir member. Strict guidelines for hemming must be adhered to! Professional seamstresses for hire will be available through the Choral Ensembles Office.

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.

Concert and Rehearsal Deportment

All visible head jewelry must be removed for performance (warm-up and concert) unless otherwise announced. Hair is to be styled in such a way that bangs do not touch eyebrows and that there is no flipping of hair during performance or dress rehearsal. Caps and hats should not be worn in rehearsal unless there are extenuating circumstances, cleared by the conductor.

Fees

Fees to participate in the ensemble are \$15 each semester. Students will be billed through the University. Iowa State Singers is also a registered student organization, and as such, members are requested to contribute \$5 per semester to support activities of the organization.

Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please request that a Student Disability Resource staff send a SAAR form verifying your disability and specifying the accommodation you will need.

Learning Outcomes

The student will demonstrate the ability to perform a variety of music with attention to several musical factors, including style, tone production, dynamics, balance, intonation, rhythm, and phrasing. The student will demonstrate the ability to successfully contribute in a cooperative learning environment.

Professor: Dr. James F. Rodde, Director of Choral Activities

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