

# MUS 156 – College Community Chorus(IVC Singers) Course Syllabus

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Office Hours: MW – 4:30 – 5:30pm  
& TR – 12:00 noon – 1:30pm

**Course Description:-** This course is open to ALL students who have an interest in learning to sing, and who enjoy music. Breath control, tone placement, articulation and enunciation will be stressed. The course entails rehearsal, performance and study of Choral Literature taken from a variety of genres including Spanish/Latino Music, Classical Music, Sacred Music, Secular Music, Vocal Jazz, Popular Music, Gospel Music, Spirituals, World Music, etc. Introduction to Music Theory and Sight-Reading as a means of learning to read music (to facilitate learning of Choral Selections) will be included in the course, and Graded Tests given there-upon (*See Websites BELOW, and Do Regularly*). This course entails public performances on and off-campus. The IVC Singers is one of the college's ambassadorial groups. This course may be taken for credit for a maximum of 4 semesters; thereafter, it may be taken as a non-credit course.

## **Required Materials:-**

1. A pencil to mark performance directions in the musical scores
2. Notebooks to record basic Music Theory and Sight-Singing Drills
3. A Black 3-Ring Binder in which to place Musical Scores given
4. Black and White clothing (Dresses, Pants, Shirts, Skirts, Blouses) for Musical Performances, so choir students will look like a team
5. (Optional)a portable music recorder to record rehearsals, if that will assist learning of music.

## **Class Expectations:-**

1. Students will attend Choir Class regularly and punctually
2. Students will participate wholeheartedly in all class activities, including warm-ups, music theory learning (note-reading, etc), rehearsal of varied choral repertoire, marking of musical scores as appropriate, etc.
3. Students will attend scheduled Musical Performances, and give of their best.
4. Students will be orderly/disciplined during choir classes and performances and endeavor to maintain proper decorum. Talking should be minimized.
5. Students will do their best to be great team-members of the choral ensemble
6. Students will gain confidence in themselves as blossoming musical artistes

## **Class Assessment:-**

1. Students will be evaluated on the quality of their Class Participation
2. Students will be evaluated on general improvement in their singing, musicality, note-reading skills, sight-singing skills, and their mastery of the music taught,
3. Students will be evaluated on their quality participation in public performances
4. Students will be **strongly evaluated** on Class, and Performance Attendance
5. Students will be evaluated on their class decorum
6. The Instructor may award prizes for the best choral section, and possible **Merit-Awards for outstanding Choir Members.**

## **GRADING:-**

Class and Performance Attendance/Participation.....50%  
Music Theory and Sight Reading Exams.....20%  
Musical Performance Quality.....20%  
General Musical Progress.....10%  
**TOTAL .....100%**

**Accommodations:** Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) office as soon as possible. The DSPS office is located in the Health Sciences Building, room 2117. The telephone number is 355-6312.

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**\*\*\*Please note that this is a Performance Class, hence, Participation in scheduled Concerts, on and off-campus is mandatory.** *If a student needs written documentation to give to an Employer, because of Choir Concerts, please do not hesitate to ask the instructor for Official Letters documenting such event(s). These Letters of Excuse for your Employers/Church Personnel, etc., will be signed by the Instructor, and IVC Higher Administrative Officials. Choir Concerts will be announced in advance, so preparations/accommodations can be made.*

**GENERAL CONCERT PERFORMANCES for SPRING SEMESTER Choir Class**

- CONCERT IN IVC CAFETERIA (On-Campus)
- SPRING CONCERT, Off-Campus (Imperial Valley)
- SPRING CONCERT, Off-Campus (out-of-town)
- COMMENCEMENT PERFORMANCE (On-Campus, June, 2010)

**HELPFUL WEBSITES for PRACTICING Music Theory and Sight-Singing**

[www.lesstutor.com/musicgenhome.html](http://www.lesstutor.com/musicgenhome.html) (Great Site to Learn Music Notes)  
<http://www.practicespot.com//sightreading/> (Awesome site for Sight-Singing)  
<http://www.musicintervalstutor.info/> (Great Site to learn train your Ear)

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):**- By the completion of this course students should be able to demonstrate Knowledge and performance skills in a wide variety of choral Repertoire, from Moderate to advanced levels of difficulty; and from genres including Classical, Jazz, Gospel, Easy-Listening, World-Music, Spirituals, Songs from Musical Shows, Broadway Tunes, Pop Tunes, and more. Additionally, demonstrate professionalism in decorum during public performances on and off-campus.

**Assessment Tool:**- Public Performance Exams, Class Participation, Class Attendance, and Individual Musical Singing Tests

**Institutional Outcome:**- ISL02, ISL04, ISL01, ISL05