



Syllabus for Chamber Singers - Fall 2026

MUS 1112 - 002 & MUS 3112 - 002

Credits: 1

Place: FAB 200 (choir room)

Time: M/W/F @ 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Instructor:

Dr. Andrew Alegría

Office: FAB 200A

Phone: (432) 837-8216

Email: andrew.alegria@sulross.edu

Accompanist

Beth Kerzee

Office: FAB 206C

Phone: 210-412-7827

Email: bethzee@gmail.com

Office Hours:

M/W/F 9:00 AM — 10:00 AM

or by appointment

Course Description: This group prepares and presents sacred and secular music of all styles and folk and popular song arrangements. Enrollment is open to all students with permission of the instructor.

Materials: Most choral scores will be provided. Some scores may be purchased by students. Students purchase performance attire as decided by the conductor and a concert black choral folder (\$30).

Course Learning Objectives:

1. Students will receive an introduction to all styles and periods of choral music
2. Students will sing in a manner consistent with healthy use of the voice
3. Students will understand the repertory and arrangements available for teaching and performing choral music
4. Students will listen and sing cooperatively
5. Students will evaluate their singing experience
6. Students will understand aspects of choral music history and music reading
7. Students will participate in a cross-campus experience for majors and non-majors interested in choral music

Student Learning Outcomes:

- * SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.
- * SLO 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes for recitals and performance pieces.
- * SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

Marketable Skills:

The music student graduating with a BM in music (instrumental or vocal performance; instrumental or vocal education; or music business) should have the following Marketable Skills:

1. Ability to collaborate and network with others to achieve a shared goal, utilizing problem solving, flexibility and improvisation, and consideration of others' thoughts and creative processes.*
2. Proficiency in public speaking and writing about music, especially in teaching basic musical concepts to all ages and incorporating technology for presentation and production.
3. Ability to prepare and perform a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and diverse repertoire, as an individual or part of an ensemble, to an audience, advocating for the arts through engaging with and serving the community.*
4. Experience using problem solving skills and abstract thinking to analyze compositions and examine their aesthetic through musical and extra-musical concepts, such as historical context and text setting.
5. Ability to create and disseminate basic marketing and public relations materials, as well as resumes, websites, and digital portfolios.

Marketable Skills specifically addressed by this course indicated with *

Evaluation:

Grades will be assigned based on three general areas: attendance, performances, and vocal quizzes (pop or memorization)

Attendance: Each person is significant due to the nature of the group. There are two types of absences: unexcused and excused. Regardless of absence type, singers will be responsible for preparing music outside rehearsal. Be on time with your music **and a pencil**, as our time is limited in rehearsal. **DO NOT** schedule doctor's appointments, trips, etc., which conflict with class time. **DO NOT** take off early or return late from scheduled college vacations.

The tardy policy applies when a singer arrives during or after the stretches and breathing exercises. A tardy is equivalent to one-third of an absence. Even if you know you will be more than 10 minutes late, still arrive. There is so much information to learn/hear.

Excused absences include university activities and sickness. For both categories, an email must be sent to Dr. Alegría by either an SRSU professor, the SRSU university system, or a letter from your physician. Remember, a severe illness is one that needs hospitalization or follow-up visits with a physician. Unless you are contagious, have a fever, or have projectile bodily fluids, make plans to come to rehearsal and sit in the back without singing.

Unexcused absences will be decided by the conductor on a person-by-person basis. Known conflicts should be submitted by email as soon as possible. This includes but is not limited to mental health day, mental health week, forgetting about choir rehearsal, hanging out with friends and/or family, car problems, house problems, pet problems, personal illness in which the singer does not plan to see the doctor (e. g. headaches, tummy-aches, toothaches, bowel movement problems, etc...).

Each singer will receive three unexcused absences for the whole semester. (A)

Upon the 4th unexcused absence, you will be dropped one letter grade. (B)

Upon the 5th unexcused absence, you will be dropped another letter grade. (C)

Upon the 6th unexcused absence, you will be dropped another letter grade. (D)

Upon the 7th unexcused absence, you will be dropped another letter grade. (F)

2. **Performances:** Concert participation includes being present on time for an announced call with appropriate music in concert dress. Participation in each dress rehearsal and concert is required. Missing a dress rehearsal and/or concert will result in an **automatic zero**. If you become ill on the day of the dress rehearsal and/or concert, you will have until a week after the performance to provide a note from your physician of your illness. There will be no make-up on a dress rehearsal and/or performance.

3. **Singing/pop quizzes:** There will be periodic singing quizzes throughout the semester. This could be a solo in my office (FAB 200A), an ensemble in class, or a video recording. Singing quizzes will be announced at least one week before the quiz.

Pop quizzes will consist of writing the specific markings given out in your music and having each bar numbered. Everyone should expect two pop quizzes within the semester.

4. **MUS 3112 - 002 Assignment:** For those students who are registered in the upper-level ensemble, there will be one writing assignment. Each student must write one program note for one given work. This assignment will be due, via Blackboard, one week before the performance of the work. Please check Blackboard for details on the writing assignment.

Concert Attire

Concert Attire will consist of All Black. Professional performance dress shall include BLACK shirts and trousers (not jeans), dark socks, dress shoes for men, and BLACK blouses, black skirts or slacks (not jeans), and closed dark dress shoes for women. The skirt length should be professional, below the knee, and not short. All jewelry should be conservative without causing a distraction to the audience or the conductor. Also, since we are close to each other while singing, please refrain from using perfumes/ colognes or body sprays. However, please use deodorant. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

If robes are needed, they will be provided by the University. NOTE: You are wearing Sul Ross State University Property. Robes should always be placed in garment bags when not being used. **Robes need to look clean and without wrinkles.** Grades will be lowered by a full letter if you arrive at a concert with a robe that needs to be cleaner and/or with wrinkles. If you lose, destroy, or return a robe dirty, you will be charged for the replacement, tailoring, and/or cleaning. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Lost or Replace Music

You are using Sul Ross State University Property. **Music that is lost or needs to be replaced will be charged to your student account.** The amount will include the replacement plus shipping and handling. It is your responsibility that you pick up the number that is associated with your music. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Food and Drinks in FAB 200

Aside from a scheduled social event in FAB 200, **DO NOT** bring food into the choir room. Closed bottled water will be allowed during rehearsal. If a spill happens, please clean up the liquid immediately. NOTE: Allow time to eat dinner before or after long rehearsals (e.g., Dress Rehearsals).

Grade Weighting

Grading Categories	Weighting
Performance	50%
Dress Rehearsal	30%
Quizes	20%
Rehearsal/Attendance	Please see Attendance Evaluation

Professional Communication Policy

- * All communication with Dr. Alegría should be done in person or through email.
- * If done in person, please email to recap our conversation within the day.
- * You are expected to check your SRSU email regularly.

Required by Americans with Disability Act Statement (ADA)

SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. To help protect confidentiality, students seeking accessibility/accommodation(s) services must submit the Accommodation Request Form located on our website. Students are welcome to call the Office of Accessibility Services at 432-837-8203 or stop by Ferguson Hall Room 112 if they have any additional questions regarding the process. Our mailing address is PO Box C-122; Alpine, TX; 79832.

Required Student Responsibilities Statement

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements of such laws.

SRSU Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

Chamber Singers Calendar Fall 2026

August

24, Mon.	n/a	First Day of Classes	n/a
27, Thurs.	n/a	Last Day to Drop Classes	n/a
28, Fri.	4:00 PM	Music Major/Minor Meeting	FAB 200

September

30, Wed.	TBD	Guest Vocal Master Class	Studio Theatre
30, Wed.	TBD	Guest Vocal Recital	Studio Theatre

October

29, Thurs.	TBD	Día de los Muertos Festival	UC-Mall
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November

18, Tues.		Concert Choir Dress Rehearsal 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM	FUMC
19, Wed.		Concert Choir Performance Call Time: 6:30 / Performance: 7:30 PM	FUMC

December

04, Fri.	12:30 PM	Chamber Singers Final Exam	FAB 200
09, Wed.	TBD	Scholarship Audition Day	Studio Theatre

Disclaimer

Due to weather or an egregious situation, scheduled dates for dress rehearsals and/or concerts may change.

Events that may happen this semester:

* Presidio High School Visit or Choir Tour to Midland/Odessa Schools