

GT Chorale Fall 2026 Syllabus

Course Info: MUSI 3241

CRN: 88405

Credit – 1.0

Time/Location – West Village 175

Instructor - B.E. Boykin, Ph.D.

Email – Brittney.boykin@design.gatech.edu

Office: Couch 109E

Hours: Tuesday and Thursday by appointment

Course Description & Objectives

Chorale is a non-auditioned singing organization that welcomes all voices and experiences. The ensemble explores a variety of music that expands knowledge of musical genres, history, culture, and vocal technique. While previous choir experience is helpful, it is not a prerequisite. Through rehearsal and performance, students will gain a deeper understanding of how music reflects and shapes the human experience. The purpose of this class is to:

- ❖ **D**evelop and understand the necessary skills utilized in the performance of choral literature
- ❖ **E**ncourage vocal technique through structured aural and harmonic theory practices
- ❖ **E**xperience a variety of repertoire through refined rehearsal, sectionals and performance
- ❖ **D**isplay important membership qualities that consistently uplift and promote unity within the organization
- ❖ **S**trive for the highest standards of ensemble singing

Choir Member Responsibilities

- ❖ Attendance and participation
- ❖ Attending all sectionals directed by the section leader or other designated person
- ❖ Individual preparation includes:
 - Bringing your folder
 - Bringing your music...in the folder
 - Having a pencil to mark music...in the folder
 - Listening to practice recordings
- ❖ Following uniform guidelines

Evaluation & Grading

Attendance – Rehearsals and Performances

Each student is allowed to miss 4 classes with no penalty, including sick days. Each subsequent absence will lower the student's final grade by one full letter. Exceptions will be made for extenuating circumstances (chronic illness or family emergencies) but will be determined by the director. *If a student misses the dress rehearsal before the concert, the student will not be allowed to perform. Missing the designated concert will result in an automatic letter grade drop.*

4 Absences – A

5 Absences – B

6 Absences – C

It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the director when there is a problem attending class.

Participation Policy

Participation is an essential part of this course because Chorale relies on collaboration, preparation, and community. Your final grade will also reflect the quality and consistency of your participation throughout the semester.

Participation will be assessed on some of the following criteria:

1. **Quality and Quantity of Contributions in Rehearsal:**
 - Do you actively engage in every rehearsal? (i.e. **not on your phone**, ipad, laptop, etc.)
 - Do you remain respectful, focused, and responsive to both the conductor and your peers?
 - Do you contribute positively to sectional and full ensemble discussions (e.g., asking clarifying questions, offering thoughtful suggestions)?
2. **Preparedness:**
 - Do you arrive on time and ready to rehearse?
 - Do you bring your folder, music, and pencil to every rehearsal?
 - Do you complete required preparations, such as listening to practice recordings?
 - **Do you turn in your folder at the end of the semester?**

Final Grade Breakdown

- Attendance (Rehearsals & Performances): 60%
- Participation (Preparation, Contribution, Collaboration): 40%

Attendance alone is not enough — preparedness, engagement, and collaboration are equally valued and are instrumental in shaping the success of the ensemble.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources:

A list of resources for undergraduate students' academic success and information about advising can be found at [Success at Tech](#).

- Academic Support: Academic Success and Advising (a unit in the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success) provides free support for your courses. Students can attend scheduled supplemental review (PLUS) sessions, stop by Drop-In Tutoring, or schedule a one-on-one appointment through Knack. To explore what options work best for you, please visit us online at success.gatech.edu/tutoring, email us at tutoring@gatech.edu, or come see us at Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, Suite 283.

Graduate Student Academic and Professional Success Resources:

A list of resources for graduate students is given on the [Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education](#) website. Specific information for [current graduate students](#) includes

- [Academic Resources](#) such as the Communications Center, Language Institute, Library, Catalog, Registrar, resources for conducting research, Advocacy and Conflict Resolution resources, and how to manage unexpected situations that may impact your academic performance;
- [Student Resources](#) such as Campus Services, Child Care/Family programs, Health & Wellness, Career Services, and the Student Resource Guide; and
- [Professional Development](#) *such as the programming from the Career Center and other professional development resources and events”*

Student Well-Being:

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A [comprehensive list](#) of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being ([student-resource-guide \(gatech.edu\)](#))

Semester Calendar Information

Pending concert dates to be distributed