Instructor: Dr. Ross C. Bernhardt
Office: Center for the Arts Rm. 137
Office Phone: 361.825.2572
Cell Phone: 361.443.2060
Office Hours: as posted on my office door or by appointment
E-mail: ross.bernhardt@tamucc.edu - Preferred method of communication

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is intended to prepare students to function effectively in the role of conductor/teacher in secondary-level, performance-based vocal music classes. Although the principal focus is upon the secondary school setting, this course is in fact of equal value to students whose choral music aspirations lie outside the secondary school arena.

COURSE INFORMATION
Class Time: MWF 9:00-9:50 a.m., Center for the Arts Room 228
You will also be given conducting assignments directing University Singers (T-TH 3:30-4:45) and Camerata Isla (MWF 12:00-12:50) in rehearsal.
Texts:
Other texts and materials for the class will be placed on library reserve.
Blackboard will be used to post assignments for the class.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
As a result of completing this course, the successful student will be able to:

! Describe and demonstrate appropriate procedures for the organization and scheduling of choral ensembles.
! Articulate a thoughtful, cogent philosophy of teaching appropriate for public secondary school performance-based choral classes.
! Describe the process of developing a refined choral ensemble sound with young voices.
! Describe and demonstrate an organized and effective choral rehearsal routine.
! Create effective vocal exercises and describe how each exercise improves both the individual voice and the overall ensemble sound.
! Describe typical ensemble diction problems and prescribe effective solutions for them.
! Demonstrate the abilities required to comprehensively analyze and prepare a choral score for rehearsal.
! Identify pitch and rhythm errors in four-part SATB choral performance (or instrumental reproduction thereof) and prescribe solutions for resolving these errors.
! Design an educationally effective concert program for a secondary school choral ensemble, including music with a broad variety of musical styles, eras, and languages.

EVALUATION
Your final grade will be calculated by weighing class activities as follows:

Error Detection, Score Analysis, and Other Homework Assignments 30%
Rehearsal Conducting 30%
Concert Program Design 10%
Final Exam 15%
Choral Literature Term Paper 15%

GRADING SCALE
A = 93-100
B = 85-92
C = 77-84
D = 70-76
F = below 70

CLASS ATTENDANCE
This course will follow the departmental attendance policy and allow you four class absences during the semester with no penalty. More than four classes missed will be an automatic “F” for the course. Missing class does NOT excuse you from due dates for work expected to be completed on that class date. Late submissions and make-up exams will be granted SOLELY at the discretion of the instructor and will not be automatically given for ANY reason.

A stricter policy will be in place, however, for your conducting assignments with the ensembles or in class. If you are assigned to conduct in a particular rehearsal, any absence must be excused by me beforehand. If your absence is unexcused, you will receive zero credit for the assignment and will not be allowed to make it up or reschedule it.

EXTRA CREDIT
None granted for any reason.

CELL PHONE USAGE
Cell phone usage is PROHIBITED in this classroom unless specifically instructed by me. You are expected to turn your phone off or set to silent/vibrate. If I see your phone out after class has begun, I will confiscate it.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism: University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in failure of the course and referral for disciplinary action.

Dropping a Class: I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. November 7, 2014 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of "W" this term.

Classroom/Professional Behavior: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Statement of Civility: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Academic Advising: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

Grade Appeals Process: Students who feel they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website (http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.
Disabilities Accommodations: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Statement of Academic Continuity: In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.
**PROPOSED CLASS SCHEDULE**
Schedule may be adjusted to fit class needs. Due dates for assignments will be posted on the class Blackboard site.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Syllabus, Philosophy Discussion</td>
<td>Phillips ch.2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Harmonic Score Analysis, Error Detection</td>
<td>Hondorp</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>note: Error detection exercises will continue weekly throughout the semester</strong></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Physical Conducting Review</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Analyzing the score in preparation for rehearsal</td>
<td>Phillips p. 164-175</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Overall rehearsal structure/pacing - note teaching, sightreading</td>
<td>Phillips p. 158-64, Ch. 16-17</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Vocal pedagogy in the choral rehearsal - building ensemble sound</td>
<td>Phillips ch. 13-15</td>
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<td>7, 8</td>
<td>In-class rehearsal conducting</td>
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<td>9, 10</td>
<td>Overview of choral eras, styles, performance practice</td>
<td>Phillips ch. 18</td>
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<td>11, 12</td>
<td>Selecting literature, designing effective concert programs</td>
<td>Phillips ch. 9, 19</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Structure of your choral program</td>
<td>Phillips ch. 4</td>
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<td>14, 15</td>
<td>UIL, tours, other external motivators - non-traditional ensembles</td>
<td>Phillips ch. 11</td>
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**FINAL EXAM:**
Monday, December 12 - 8:00-10:30 a.m.