

MUSA 1151/4033 *Cantare*
Fall 2023 || CRN: 10436/14481

Professor: Mr. Brian Downen

bgdownen@utep.edu

Office: FFA M333

Phone: (915) 747-6352

Mobile: (646) 591-6471

Office Hours

M/W/F 10:30-11:20 a.m., M333

REQUIRED DATES (call times subject to change)

Tues. Oct. 3	Chorale and Chamber Singers	7:30 concert (attendance required)	Recital Hall
Thur. Oct. 5	Cantare, Singing Miners, Symphonic Band	6:00pm call/7:30pm concert	Recital Hall
Sun. Nov. 19	Holiday Revels Tech Rehearsal	2:30-6:00pm	Recital Hall
Mon. Nov. 20	Holiday Revels Concert #1	6:00pm call/7:30pm concert	Recital Hall
Tue. Nov. 21	Holiday Revels Concert #2	6:00pm call/7:30pm concert	Recital Hall

COURSE DESCRIPTION

MUSA 1151 *Cantare* fulfills one of several large ensemble credits required by all music majors. Non majors are most welcome and this course may be repeated. Our primary goals are to learn and perform choral literature from a wide variety of historic time periods, styles, and languages, and to become proficient in the fundamental skills of good choral singing. Additionally, this course provides the unique experience of singing together with a common purpose resulting in compelling art and a sense of community, teamwork, and pride among its members.

Cantare meets three times weekly, M/W/F from 11:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m. in Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall / FFA M340 (Choir Room)

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who complete this course will improve their skills in the following areas

- Maintaining correct posture, breath management, and free phonation while singing, *which leads to improved singing and development of teaching skills*
- Sight singing in a multi-part choral setting, *which leads to proficiency as a musician*
- Creating a unified choral sound through accurate intonation, correct diction, ensemble blend, and balance, *which leads to critical listening skills and teamwork.*
- Modifying vocal tone through vowel shape and diction to sing authentically in different styles of music, *which leads to versatility as a performer.*

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Music for this course will be provided.

You will need to provide

- 1-inch Black three ring binder to hold your music
- Pencil with eraser
- Access to technology requirements (see below)

REQUIRED CONCERT ATTIRE

- **OPTION #1: Students are required to provide their own full-length black dress with black closed-toe dress shoes and black or nude hose. Hair should be kept away from the face.**

- **OPTION #2: Students are required to provide their own black tuxedo with an appropriate pleated tuxedo shirt, black cummerbund/vest, black bow tie, black dress socks, and black dress shoes. Shirts should have cuff links and black stud covers. Hair should be kept away from the face.**

INFORMAL CONCERT ATTIRE

- **UTEP Choirs T-shirt with jeans, pants or skirt. No shorts. No shredded jeans.**

GRADING SCALE

- 100%-90% = A, 89%-80% = B, 79%-70% = C, 69%-60% = D, 59% and Below = F

GRADING DISTRIBUTION

- 70% Class attendance and active participation
 - 0-1 absences = 100%
 - 2 absences = 95%
 - 3 absences = 90%
 - 4 absences = 85%
 - 5 absences = 80%
 - 6 absences = 75%
 - 7 absences = 70%
 - 8 absences = 65%
 - 9 absences = 60%
 - After 9 absences, it is recommended the student drop the course Each absence will lower the grade by 5%
 - **Each missed dress rehearsal or concert will lower the final grade 1 letter.**
- 30% Repertoire Assessments (live or recorded) and written assignments uploaded to Blackboard
- **Attendance:** You are expected to attend all class sessions and to arrive on time. You will be recorded as late if you arrive more than 5 minutes past class time, rehearsal, or performance call time. Every three sessions that you arrive late will count as 1 absence.
Each absence for a dress rehearsal or performance will lower the final letter grade by one letter.
Absences may be excused for occasional illness, COVID-19 illness, family medical emergency or death in the family, all with proper documentation. Prolonged or frequent absences will not be excused. If you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the [Registrar's Office \(https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/registrar/students/registration.html\)](https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/registrar/students/registration.html) to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.
- **Participation:** Students are expected to actively participate in rehearsals. Participation equals arriving in teachable condition, taking part in all physical and vocal activities, having required materials, and taking written notes in their musical copy.
- **Repertoire Assessments:** Students will demonstrate their ability to independently sing their voice part in person or by recording scheduled assessment exams.
- **Written Assignments:** Students will be assigned written assignments related to the learning goals of each piece of repertoire.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need access to a phone or tablet that can utilize scanning software such as the free app TurboScan. You will need this to scan and upload written assignments to Blackboard. Your free Microsoft OneDrive app has built-in scanning capability.

APPLICATIONS REQUIRED

- Microsoft OneDrive (set up your free account at my.utep.edu)
- Access to Blackboard

COMMUNICATION

- **Email:** Please contact me through UTEP Email. I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt. You may also visit me in person during office hours, or email me to make an appointment.

DEADLINES AND LATE WORK

- Written Assignments and recording submissions: A loss of 10% for each class period the assignment is late

MAKE-UP WORK

Make-up work will be given *only* in the case of a *documented* emergency and will apply only to written assignments and recording submissions. Note that make-up work may be in a different format than the original work, may require more intensive preparation, and may be graded with penalty points. If you miss an assignment and the reason is not considered excusable, you will receive a zero. It is therefore important to reach out to me—in advance if at all possible—and explain with proper documentation why you missed a given course requirement. Once a deadline has been established for make-up work, no further extensions or exceptions will be granted.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Incomplete grades are not available for this course.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship for the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as one's own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT FOR COURSE MATERIALS

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials and music for the course are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

UTEP SERVICES AND SUPPORT

Technology Resources

- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

Academic Resources

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help, and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.
- [The Miner Learning Center](#): Join peer-led study sessions in person or online to review content and discover study strategies in core curriculum courses.
- [UTEP Edge](#): UTEP's cross-campus framework for student success and empowerment – develops students' assets through high-impact experiences made possible by the expertise and dedication of faculty, staff, alumni, and community partners.

Individual Resources

- [Student Success Help Desk \(SSHD\)](#): Students experiencing challenges or obstacles to academic success including registration, financial, food, housing, and transportation resources may submit a ticket request assistance to studentsuccess@utep.edu
- [Military Student Success Center](#): Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#): Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#): Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.
- [UTEP Food Pantry](#): Non-perishable food items are available to students who are currently enrolled in classes. Bring a Miner Gold Card to Memorial Gym, Room 105, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.