



Mus-130-140 College Choir (1 credit)

Spring 2025

Instructor	Dr Tim Williams
E-mail	twilliams@harlaxton.ac.uk
Course Meeting Days and Time	Mondays, 11am-12.15pm Wednesdays, 11am-12.15pm
Course Mode	In-person rehearsals, practical musical activities, and performances.
Required Experiential Learning Dates	
Office Hours	Dr Williams works at Harlaxton 10am-1.30pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, and on Tuesday evenings. Please email for appointment times.

Catalog Description:

Harlaxton College Choir is an ensemble formed every semester from students, faculty, college staff, families and people of Harlaxton. The choir is trained and directed by Dr Tim Williams, who is Director of Music at Harlaxton College, and is also an established professional choirmaster in the English choral tradition (he is a national tutor for the Royal School of Church Music, and Director of Music at St Wulfram's Church, the civic church of Grantham).

The repertoire covered by the choir necessarily needs to reflect the numbers and experience levels of members each semester; but the approach is to enrich students' horizons through engagement with music that has reflected (and shaped) the cultural landscapes of the British Isles. In addition to the English choral traditions of art music and sacred music, the course also delves into folk traditions, the setting of significant poets via music, and the development of later and contemporary musical styles. The choir works towards performance opportunities at the end of the semester, which may include the opportunity to film and publish output online.

Harlaxton College Choir exists for the students, faculty, staff and people of Harlaxton. A new ensemble is formed every semester, working towards performance opportunities provided in the last weeks of term.

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Credit Hour Policy Statement:

“This class meets the federal credit hour policy of 1 hour of class with an expected 2 hours of additional student work outside of class each week for approximately 15 weeks for each hour of credit, or a total of 45-75 total hours for each credit.” (Def 1)

General Education Requirements:

This course meets the General Education requirements for Outcome 5.

Course Learning Objectives:

Although repertoire covered will vary according to the balance of the choir formed each semester and according to the previous experience level of the singers involved, the course aims to deepen students’ appreciation of music across many different styles and historical eras, via immersive learning and practical choral engagement.

The outcomes of this learning will include development of skills in:

- a. Singing, ensemble and musicianship
- b. Musical, artistic, and historical appreciation
- c. Teamwork and collaboration
- d. Performance and evaluation

Course Meeting Days and Time

Tuesdays, 7.30 to 8.30pm
Through all 14 weeks of semester, with a one-week break midterm

Office Hours Catalog Description:

Dr Williams works at Harlaxton 10am-1.30pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, and on Tuesday evenings. Please email for appointment times.

Course Meeting Days and Time:

Tuesdays 7.30-8.30pm in the Great Hall, with additional performance opportunities created at the end of the semester, and further training opportunities provided through term.

Methods of Instructions:

Practical rehearsal, including a holistic approach to choral warm ups, grounded in best practice for enabling vocal health, and current research.

In-class discussions, including creative rehearsal methods (e.g. exploring acoustic and sonic effects, shared direction of pieces), and technical approaches to enabling the flow of breath, vowel formation, consonant placement, moving between different vocal registers, and sensory awareness especially with regard to intonation (tuning), choral blend and balance.



Methods of Instructions:

A combination of in-class discussion of musical artworks, short lectures, and class-related activities.

Grading Criteria:

As no previous choral experience or knowledge of reading music is required to enrol in the choir, the grading reflects the approach to personal musical development and teamwork that the choir member has shown through term, including in:

- -Taking a professional and responsible approach to rehearsal attendance, including communication of unavoidable absences;
- -Being fully present and diligent in rehearsal;
- - Working in an adaptive way to improve skills and contribution to ensemble.

This is assessed on an ongoing basis through term.

Textbooks and Required Reading:

Links to online performances, rehearsal files and or texts about music may be provided between rehearsals.

Course Schedule:

Choir commences on Tuesday 14 January, 2025, and continues throughout the semester

After the mid-semester break, classes re-commence Tuesday 11 March, 2025.

Grading Criteria:

Grade Scales:

A 93+ **A-** 90-92. **B+** 87-89 **B** 83-86 **B-** 80-82 **C+** 77-79 **C** 73-76 **C-** 70-72 **D+** 67-69 **D** 60-66

Withdrawal and Attendance policies:

Harlaxton College expects regular class attendance by all students. Students are considered sufficiently mature to appreciate the necessity of regular and punctual attendance, to accept this personal responsibility and to accept the consequences of failure to attend. When absences occur due to emergency or medical reasons, students are expected to notify their instructors of the absence



prior to class or to seek the assistance of the College nurse or a member of the Student Experience Team for help in notifying instructors.

Instructors have the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons upon review of appropriate documentation and professional recommendation supporting such a request. In the event of long-term illness, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow a student to complete a course. In these cases, the Dean will need to approve the long term nature of the accommodation.

The Dean of Harlaxton College has the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons.

Each instructor is expected to maintain an attendance policy in keeping with the nature of the Harlaxton program and may consider it in evaluating performance in their courses.

Policy Governing Unexcused Absences:

Harlaxton College operates an attendance policy that is binding on all faculty and students. The number of unexcused absences that are allowed before incurring a penalty is related to the number of times a class meets each week. For courses which meet three times a week, students are allowed a maximum of three unexcused absences during the semester without attracting penalty points. For courses meeting twice a week two such absences are permitted, and for courses meeting once a week a single absence is allowed. Additional unexcused absences will attract a third-letter grade penalty.

Policy Governing Excused Absences.

- Excused absences are not given to facilitate student travel independent of College-sponsored travel.
- Students may be permitted to miss class because of participation in academic field trips.
- Instructors must co-ordinate and confirm academic fieldtrips with the Dean, prior to the commencement of the Semester to ensure their inclusion in the Semester timetable.
- Where authorization for an academic fieldtrip is requested after the commencement of the semester, the request must be submitted to the Dean.

The following information is required:

- Purpose and brief description of the official Harlaxton event or academic fieldtrip.
- Dates, location, and times (as applicable).
- Alphabetical list of students involved [Last Name/First Name] along with their student identification number.

If approval is granted:

- Instructors affected will be notified at least one week prior to the class period during which absence is anticipated, or as soon as possible.



- Missed class time due to student participation is to be considered an excused absence.
- The grade of a student may not be lowered in any class due to excused absences.
- It is the student's responsibility - to take the initiative by consulting with their instructors before the absence occurs, and - to do what is required by the instructor to make up all missed assignments and/or examinations.
- Instructors are required to assist students in these occasional situations of excused absences.

Honor Code:

All students at the University of Evansville agree to the University honor code: *I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment that condones the use of unauthorized aid.*

AI may be used only with prior permission or direction by the instructor.

- All work submitted in this course must be your own.
- The use of generative AI composition tools, such as those offered by ChatGPT, Google Bard etc. is prohibited in this course except for specific assignments and subject to the instructor's guidelines.
- Work generated by such tools without proper attribution is plagiarism and, thereby, a breach of the University's Plagiarism and Academic Honesty policy.

Disability Policy:

It is the policy and practice of the University of Evansville to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Students should contact Disability Services within the Office of Counseling Services by calling 812-488-2663 to seek services or accommodations for disabilities. Written notification to faculty from Disability Services is required for academic accommodations.

The University of Evansville Disability Services office will share the request for academic accommodations with the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College. Staff members at Harlaxton will meet individually with students to discuss needs and provide additional information related to examinations or other assessments.

Students from partner institutions should provide the appropriate letter of accommodation from their institution to the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College.



Non-Discrimination Statement

The University of Evansville expects all members of its community to treat each other with respect and civility. Harassing behaviors directed towards any member of our community will not be tolerated. As part of its commitment to non-discrimination, the University specifically prohibits harassment based on any other characteristics set forth in its nondiscrimination statement as follows: including race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, creed or religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran status and all federally protected groups/classes. Any form of harassment undermines the mission of the University and negatively impacts the University community as a whole.

Prohibited Conduct and Confidentiality

The University of Evansville is committed to fostering an atmosphere free from harassment and discrimination. This commitment includes identifying problems that may lead to sexual harassment and misconduct, as well as other forms of harassment and discrimination, by creating an atmosphere in which the entire University community is sensitive to preventing prohibited conduct. Additionally, the University is committed to providing support and resources to individuals who have experienced prohibited conduct. This commitment includes effectively responding when a student, visitor, guest or program participant is the victim of prohibited conduct.

All campus employees, students, and guests are required to abide by the Title IX and Other Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy, the Harassment and Discrimination Policy, and the Consensual Sexual or Romantic Relationships Between Employees and Students Policy. Violation of these policies could result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for students and termination for employees.

Faculty members at the University of Evansville are considered “Responsible Employees” under the applicable federal guidelines and the University’s policies. This means that I am unable to offer you confidentiality if you report any incidence of prohibited conduct to me as defined by Title IX statute. If I am made aware of a violation, I am required to report any known information to the Office of Institutional Equity.

You may choose to report the violation yourself the following ways:

Email: · Annie Sills, Assistant Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator:

cs175@evansville.edu ·

Keith Gehlhausen, Executive Director of HR and Institutional Equity: kg77@evansville.edu ·

Title IX: titleix@evansville.edu

Phone: [812-288-5261](tel:812-288-5261)



Online: <https://www.evansville.edu/safety/report.cfm>

You may also choose to speak with a Confidential Resource. Confidential Resources are required to maintain confidentiality and cannot report violations to the Office of Institutional Equity:

University of Evansville

- Counseling Services: counselingservices@evansville.edu, 812-488-2633
- Health Center Professionals: healthcenter@evansville.edu, 812-488-2033
- University Chaplain: chaplain@evansville.edu, 812-488-5262

Harlaxton College

- College Nurse: Lesley Selby, RGN, +44 01476 403027, lseyby@harlaxton.ac.uk
- Counselling Services: counselling@harlaxton.ac.uk