



Department of Music Ensemble FAQ's

Q: Can I be in a university musical group if I'm not a music major or minor?

A: Yes! All musical groups are open to all students, regardless of major. Some groups are more selective than others, but generally there is a group for most students who have prior high school or other band, choir, or orchestra experience. Directors in most groups will expect you to be able to read music. An audition may be required.

Q: How do I register for a musical group?

A: The same way you register for any other class, by enrolling in WINS. All ensembles are 1 credit. Note that except for Marching Band and Gospel Choir, simply signing up for the class does not mean that you are in the ensemble. You may also need to audition.

Q: How do I set up an audition?

A: It is your responsibility to contact the instructor/director to sign up for an audition. He/she will not contact you. Contact the instructor or ensemble director for details, or sign-up for an audition on sign-up sheets posted in the Center of the Arts. Auditions occur during the first week of classes.

Q: Should I be worried about the audition?

A: No. You should contact the director for specifics regarding auditions. Generally, singers will be asked to sing something they have prepared, to match pitches, and to sight-read. Instrumental auditions vary according to the nature of the group, but may include excerpts distributed in advance, or a prepared piece and sight-reading. In some cases, auditions are primarily for placement within sections.

Q: Can I be in a musical group without registering?

A: Yes, but there are advantages to signing up for credit: for non-music majors/minors, ensembles can count in University Requirements towards graduation. If you would like to be in an ensemble without registering, you should consult with the director.

Q: Do I need to own an instrument?

A: In most cases, yes. However, the Music Department owns a limited number of instruments that can be used by students, and the university provides specialty marching band instruments. Contact the director if this is an issue.

Q: What are the instructors' expectations?

A: Grading and expectations will vary from group to group, but generally, attendance at rehearsals and concerts and your own musical preparation are the most important factors. You should plan to practice your parts outside of rehearsal. Practice rooms are available to music major and minor students. Contact the music department office (CA2038) to set up access to these rooms.

IMPORTANT! All UW-Whitewater musical ensembles listed here also earn General Education Arts credit (GA), except Marching Band (MUSC 169) which earns General Studies Physical Education (GP) credit.



Department of Music Bands and Orchestras

Warhawk Marching Band (MUSC 169, Section 1, 1 credit; meets **Fall semester only** M/W 3:30pm-5:15pm in CA 1005 or the practice field; also on Fridays before Saturday performances). Students enrolled in Marching Band will check into Residence Halls early. A \$50 per participant fee will be charged via the Cashier's Office for all WMB members. Please go to warhawkmarchingband.com for more information. Contact: Prof. Glenn Hayes, hayesg@uww.edu

Symphonic Wind Ensemble (MUSC 161, Section 1, 1 credit; meets Tu/Th 5:30pm-7:10pm in CA 1005)
Select wind band, performing a variety of concert band repertoire. Audition required.
Contact: Prof. Glenn Hayes, hayesg@uww.edu

University/Community Band (MUSC 161, Section 2, 1 credit; meets M 6:30pm-8:45pm in CA 1005)
Wind band, performs a variety of concert band repertoire. Contact: Prof. Glenn Hayes, hayesg@uww.edu

Whitewater Symphony Orchestra (MUSC 162, Section 1, 1 credit; meets Tu/Th 3:30pm-5:10pm in CA 1005) Full symphony orchestra open to string, woodwind, brass, and percussion players. Performs classical literature. **Audition required.**
Contact: Prof. Christopher Ramaekers, ramaekec@uww.edu

Chamber Orchestra (MUSC 162, Section 2, 1 credit; meets M/W 5:30pm-6:20pm in CA 1005)
String Orchestra (violins, violas, cellos, and basses) performing a variety of string orchestra repertoire. The Chamber Orchestra is a small ensemble and is designed for advanced string players. **Audition required.**
Contact: Prof. Christopher Ramaekers, ramaekec@uww.edu

Jazz Ensemble I (MUSC 164, Section 1, 1 credit; meets M/W/F 10am-10:50am in CA 1005)*
Jazz Big Band including saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and rhythm section. New students should sign up for Jazz II (#1201). **Audition required.** Contact: Dr. Michael Hackett, hackettm@uww.edu

Jazz Ensemble II (MUSC 164, Section 2, 1 credit; meets M/W 10am-10:50am in CA 1001)*
Jazz Big Band including saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and rhythm section. **Audition required.**
Contact: Prof. Bradley Townsend, townsenb@uww.edu

Jazz Lab (MUSC 164, Section 3, 1 credit; meets Tu/Th 1pm-1:50pm in CA 1005 & CA 1001)*
Jazz combos, with focus on improvisation. **Audition required.**
Contact: Dr. Michael Hackett, hackettm@uww.edu

*For more information regarding Jazz Ensembles, please go to: <https://sites.google.com/a/uww.edu/uww-jazz>



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

College of Arts
and Communication

Department of Music Choirs

Chamber Singers (MUSC 172, 1 credit; meets M/Tu/W/Th 3:30pm-4:20pm in CA 30)

Selective choir of 32 members performing classical and world music, including newly commissioned works. Tours throughout the upper Midwest and occasionally internationally. Open to all students by audition. Auditions are held during the first week of classes Fall semester, and January as needed. Incoming voice majors: see additional information below under University Choirs. Contact: Prof. Robert Gehrenbeck, gehrenbr@uww.edu

Vocal Jazz Ensemble (MUSC 277, 1 credit; meets Tu/Th 4:30pm-5:20pm in CA 1001)

Small, select group performing swing, jazz, and musical theatre repertoire. Open to all university students by audition. Annual tours with Chamber Singers. Auditions are held during the first week of classes in the Fall semester, and January as needed. Contact: Prof. Sharri VanAlstine, vanalsts@uww.edu

Concert Choir (MUSC 279, Section 3, 0.5 credits; meets Tu/Th 4:30-5:20 pm in CA 30)

Large mixed choir performing classical and world music, including annual performances with Whitewater Symphony Orchestra. No audition required. Simply register on WINS and attend the first rehearsal.

Contact: Prof. Robert Gehrenbeck, gehrenbr@uww.edu

Harmonia Chorale (MUSC 279, Section 1, 0.5 credits; meets M/W 4:30pm-5:20pm in CA 5)

Tremble-voice choir performing classical, world music, and popular musical styles with a focus on women composers. No audition required. Simply register on WINS and attend the first rehearsal.

Contact: Prof. Robert Gehrenbeck, gehrenbr@uww.edu

Hawk-Kor Chorus (MUSC 279, Section 2, 0.5 credit; meets M/W 4:30pm-5:20pm in CA 30)

Bass-clef choir performing classical, world music, Broadway, and popular musical styles. No audition required. Simply register on WINS and attend the first rehearsal. Contact: Prof. Brian Leeper, leeperb@uww.edu

University Choirs (MUSC 171, 1 credit; meets M/Tu/W/Th 4:30pm-5:20pm in CA 30)

This is an umbrella course that includes membership in two groups: Concert Choir plus either Harmonia or Hawk-Kor. Incoming voice majors should sign up for University Choirs and then take the audition for Chamber Singers. Voice majors are required to sing in either University Choirs or Chamber Singers every semester. No audition is required for University Choirs, and non-voice majors are also welcome to enroll in this course in lieu of registering for the individual choirs (Concert, Harmonia, or Hawk-Kor.) listed above. Contact: Prof. Robert Gehrenbeck, gehrenbr@uww.edu

Opera Performance Techniques (MUSC 271, 1 credit; meets Tu/Th 2:00-2:50 in CA 1001)

A study of basic techniques for the singer/actor through performance of scenes or complete one-acts from operatic masterworks and musical theatre of various historical periods. Audition required during the first week of classes each semester. Contact: Prof. Brian Leeper, leeperb@uww.edu

Department of Music Small Ensembles

Improvisers Orchestra; Mr. Townsend, townsenb@uww.edu

Brass Ensemble; Dr. Onstad, onstadm@uww.edu

Clarinet Ensemble; Dr. Ellenwood, ellenwoc@uww.edu

Saxophone Quartets; Dr. Sintchak, sintcham@uww.edu

Percussion Ensemble; Mr. Wilkinson, winkinst@uww.edu

Flute Quartet; Dr. Ballatori, ballatoc@uww.edu

Sonict New Music Ensemble; Dr. Sintchak, sintcham@uww.edu

Trombone Choir; Dr. Dugan, duganm@uww.edu

Cello Ensemble; Dr. Whitcomb, whitcomb@uww.edu

Piano Ensemble; Dr. Boe, boek@uww.edu

Trumpet Ensemble; Dr. Onstad, onstadm@uww.edu

New Media Ensemble; Dr. Herriott, herriotj@uww.edu

Basketball Pep Band; Dr. Hayes, hayesg@uww.edu