

Syllabus Music 390 15

Ebony Heritage Singers



Class Meets: Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Instructor: Dr. Donna Cox • Music 101

Office phone: 229-3946 email: Donna.Cox@notes.udayton.edu

Office Hours: Posted on door

Materials: Fees (to cover group parties, shirts, travel etc. to be discussed in class). These should be paid within the first two weeks of class.

At least one audio cassette or compact disc for recording music to be learned during the semester. You should go to the MALL to make a copy of the reserved cd. You should expect to have a listening quiz on the materials on the cd.

African print outfit in your choice. I have a few for purchase. You may also make your own, purchase from someone else or borrow an outfit from former members.

Purpose: To develop musicianship through the study African American sacred music (including gospel, spirituals and anthems. Listening to various styles of gospel music and learning basic improvisational skills will be integral parts of the course.

To better understand the multifarious nature of African American sacred music and its impact on the development of American popular music.

Attendance:

Students are expected to be in class on time for **every** class period. Absences and tardiness should be rare. If an emergency arises and a student cannot make a class, they should email the Professor. Performances are an integral part of the requirements for EHS and participation in each performance is required. The schedule of performances is typically planned a semester in advance and will be posted on-line as well as on the bulletin board in the music building. Additionally, this information is emailed to students.

Attitude: Students are expected to demonstrate a willingness to learn the materials presented in class. This willingness should be **observable** on the faces and in the posture. This class is designed for **active** participation including singing, clapping, dancing and other forms of movement. The only students excused from these activities are those who physically are unable to do so. *Students who believe that they cannot actively participate every class period should drop this class.*

Policy on missed classes:

Students are expected to be present and on time for **every** class period. More than three unexcused absences will result in dismissal from EHS with no credit. Grades will be lowered for unexcused absences and tardiness. Attendance is also recorded for performances and will be factored into the final grade. **Letter grades** will be assigned based on the degree and quality of participation, attendance and learned music.

Touring:

All members are expected to travel with the ensemble. Any tours will be planned well in advance of the date. Rarely will students be expected to miss other classes to travel with EHS. Exceptions to this are for travel to major conventions. In this case a letter from the Department Chair will be sent to the students' Deans. Additional letters will be given to students to take to their professors well in advance of the travel dates.