

College-Level Student Feedback, 2021 (*anonymous, via BYUH course evaluations*)
Instructor: Erica Glenn
Brigham Young University – Hawaii

MUSC 110R - UNIVERSITY CHORALE

“Dr. Glenn is incredible. She is so smart and never ever makes anyone feel dumb or out of place. She goes above and beyond in helping choir be a place of mistakes, learning, and growing. I love that she worked so hard to incorporate various cultures into our class. I think this really helped us bond as we learned songs in various languages from each other’s cultures.”

“My favorite class of all the classes offered here at BYUH. This group celebrates unity across cultures and creates a safe place to create with others. Inspires me to better myself and my talents. Dr. G does an incredible job creating an environment where all are welcome to come and share their talents and create something beautiful together.”

“THE BEST CHORAL PROFESSOR EVER. Reasonable work load. Fun out-of-class activities. Awesome repertoire. Very inclusive. Student input highly valued. Very organized. Goal-driven. Safe space.”

“The best course I had this semester!!!!!! I am so glad to have joined the choir! I am so grateful to have met Dr. Glenn! I got to learn so much from everyone! I am grateful for all the songs I have learned from Dr. Glenn, as well as my choir mates and for all the love I have received in our choir room.”

“When I was invited to join the choir by my friend, I was a little bit worried because I didn’t read music. However, once I joined the choir, this was a place where everyone can grow and sing together. I enjoyed that everyone was trying to help each other. It was an honor and privilege for me to have such a wonderful, beautiful, and humble choir conductor. I wanted to express my thousand thanks to her for teaching us how to sing. She is the best.”

“The professor is really good. She is ambitious and likes to do things well. The professor is really good at making collaborations happen. This class is fun and you learn a lot about how to use your voice correctly.”

“This class space is so warm and joyful. Dr. Glenn’s bright spirit brings life into the class, which at 5-7 PM, is very impressive.”

“This choir class helps students not only to sing, sightread, and perform. It also helps us to share love through singing.”

“Very active class and great skills to learn.”

“I always felt included and welcomed in this space. It was my first time singing in a choral group in 3 years since graduating high school. I forgot how much I loved singing. I grew so

much in my voice and being able to sing with a more mature sound now that I am in my 20s. So enlightening and uplifting.”

“This was one of my favorite classes! I loved learning songs from different cultures!”

“I love this class!! Dr. Glenn is so loving and talented!”

“I really love how passionate [the conductor] is about music. Her passion inspires me to do better and challenge myself to grow.”

“I think that this classroom is very welcoming and the songs are great choices for such a diverse amount of students. Dr. Glenn is very passionate about what she does and it shines through in her motivation to teach us.”

“[This class] is an incredible way for us to grow and improve. It is also a great way to de-stress.”

“Loved it. I love all the music we learn from different cultures.”

“Dr. Glenn is so passionate and makes choir so fun! She is also really good at not only helping us to learn the music, but she helps us learn good choir skills, like sight-reading.”

“Celebrates diversity and teaches students to appreciate the beauty that music brings in this world. Reminds students of how to stay mentally healthy and find joy in music. Makes an effort to build a loving community of friends. Understanding but also holds us accountable to help us become better students and people. Gives us many opportunities to share our music with the campus and perform in front of an audience.”

“She always communicates with students.”

“She is amazing.”

“She is very loving and caring. She encourages me to continue to sing better all the time. Every concert I feel very eager to perform because of her encouragement. Gives opportunities for me to showcase my talents by singing solos. And helps me develop more confidence onstage.”

“Exercises to help warm-up voices. Wide variety of songs with different styles. We learn a lot about different cultures. Very friendly and there’s room for everyone to grow.”

MUSC 225R – CONCERT CHOIR

“Amazing collaborative, spiritual, and emotional experience with an amazing professor who is kind, knows exactly what to say in order to get the choir to sound how she wants.”

“CONNECTION and CULTURE! What other class are you able to really explore one another’s culture and truly connect with the entire classroom?”

“Dr. Glenn is the best! She has transformed the whole choral experience. She puts so much effort to make everyone feel loved and valued, which is something I never experience in my other classes here. My other classes became much more bearable because I have choir to look forward to. The input in class creates so much output not just for us choir members but for the whole university. It cements years of tradition rooted in diversity. Chamber Choir makes me proud of my decision to come here to BYUH for school.”

“Dr. Glenn was able to help me harness the different parts of my voice that I didn’t know existed before. She was so good at helping me to understand what was happening in my voice and what I needed to change. I loved this class.”

“Dr. Glenn is professional and knows how to connect with all the resources to make sure we have good experiences in choir.”

“Our class time is very productive. There is a lot of unity within the class and it creates a welcoming and safe space. I know Dr. Glenn is available to answer my questions. I also liked the organization of the class, such as allowing students to share songs that are meaningful in their language and culture.”

“Outstanding leadership and musical talent.”

“It was a lot of fun. We had great performances.”

“Dr. Glenn is amazing.”

“Dr. Glenn is full of passion, spirit, power, enthusiasm, and faith. She is definitely one of the teachers that needs to be kept here because she has done so many incredible things for all the students here.”

“Dr. Glenn loves music. Holy cow, it is so evident that she is so passionate. Her drive inspires me to want to become better and more driven in everything I do. I love the energy she brings each day to class.”

“Dr. Glenn is great! She’s full of passion. She perfectly leads us in a better way.”

“This class doesn’t only help us learn how to sing. It helps us to love, to feel loved, and to share that love to our audiences as we sing.”

“[The professor is] invested in the course. Does a good job directing and helping improve her students choral ability.”

“This class is amazing. [Dr. Glenn] is very helpful with methods. Her teaching is lovely and I love her so much.”

“Unifying activities, caring and loving instructor.”

College-Level Student Feedback, 2019 (*anonymous, via ASU course evaluations*)
Instructor: Erica Glenn
Arizona State University

MUP 457/ 557 - WOMEN'S CHORUS

“The conductor makes the choir. She was great! Always inspired us to do better. Always made us feel welcome, at home, and accepted. She encouraged others to be the same.”

“I'm challenged enough and grow as a performer. Erica is by far the best conductor/choir teacher I've ever had!”

“Erica is one of the most amazing directors I've ever known. She's passionate about helping us become better singers and she puts so much hard work and dedication into the class and making it the best it can. She cares about each and every one of us, and that's saying a lot considering there's more than 50 of us. She always encourages us to be our best and never gives up on us even when we are having trouble with something. She's always giving helpful hints on techniques.”

“I loved the family atmosphere and the positivity that was brought to class by the instructor.”

“Music choice was great, I really like the way Erica instructs.”

“I loved the diversity of repertoire that we explored throughout the semester. I thought it really encompassed the diversity of the students we have in the choir and let us explore many different genres as an ensemble.”

“I think the choir really is a family. The team building activities and things like that helped to foster the growth of a community. It was a really positive and women-empowerment environment that I found joy in coming to every week.”

“Erica likes having the input of the members of her choir when it comes to repertoire and ways to do things. I appreciate that in a choir teacher because it allows the class to be more engaged in the music they're making.”

“I loved how happy everyone would be and how we became like a family that creates beautiful music.”

“I liked how we were able to have a say in the songs we sang each concert and of course the beautiful sound as a choir! I also loved the dedication and passion Erica has for the choir.”

“I like the community that is created in this chorus, the enthusiasm of the director, the many opportunities to perform and volunteer, and the songs that we sing (nice repertoire).”

“The director is open to everyone's thoughts and input for the pieces, and she picks songs that we would excel at as a group.”

“I like that Erica allows us to have creative license in the music, and be an active participant when creating the music.”

“The class has basically become a family. I love the music that we've been learning, and I can't wait to grow even more with this ensemble in the future.”

What did you like about the class?

“The amount of music we were able to perform and the overall positive energy of the class.”

“Everything! Choir is my second home and I love it!”

“The environment, the people, the music. I love it all.”

“The feeling of community.”

“I liked the strong positive environment.”

MUP 209 – BEGINNING CONDUCTING

“Erica is so attentive and brings such a wonderful energy to the class. All of her feedback and suggestions are relevant and effective. I enjoy having such a positive attitude guiding the class since the class demands so much constructive criticism; I feel very respected and that any comments made are delivered in a way which doesn't bring students down.”

“Erica is a very dedicated teacher who shows great concern for her students. She is willing to work with students and go far beyond her required teaching commitments to do everything she can to help students succeed.”

“I like how involved the professor was with the material and that she genuinely wanted to know what we thought about how things were going throughout the course. She also provided meaningful feedback on pretty much everything we did, responded to emails quickly, and was eager to help if we had any questions.”

“This instructor is absolutely amazing. She is very helpful and always considerate of any difficulties we may have. She not only corrects our conducting positions, as necessary, but provides reasoning. She is always questioning and challenging us to think deeper into the pieces and conducting techniques we learn. Furthermore, she applies skills acquired through conducting to other aspects of musicianship. This is especially helpful for those of us who are not vocalists.”

“Professor Glenn is a very friendly person and she is easy to talk to. She makes class fun and engaging, and you can tell she loves what she is doing, and that she really cares about the success of her students. I highly recommend this instructor.”

“Erica is both very passionate about her conducting/teaching and very compassionate towards her students. She's always upbeat and supportive, and open to new ideas. She's very knowledgeable and facilitates great conversations.”

“Professor Glenn is super flexible in the different levels of conductors and musicianship throughout the class.”

“This course is very interesting, educational, and eye-opening. I thoroughly enjoy learning about aspects of beginning conducting skills. I never realized how intricate conducting can be until now. Not only have I learned about conducting, but I have gained insight to myself as a musician. I am more aware of my movements and musicianship. How I act and move can greatly impact and determine how effectively I communicate with fellow musicians and express my vision of the musical piece.”

“Erica is very clear in what she explains things and very succinct when she gives feedback.”

“I love how we get technical with the conducting.”

“I have learned a lot in beginning conducting which I can apply towards myself as a musician. Such as the relaxing techniques for hand/ arm gestures to reduce tension, and bringing my own vision and character into the pieces I am working with. Also learning how important it is to develop confidence in leadership skills, and creating a positive environment for myself and those I am working with.”

“I feel like it’s been a great introductory course to conducting. I’ve never taken an official conducting course before this class, and I really feel comfortable building upon my limited foundation in this class. There’s a good balance between self and peer assessment, which I think is very important in this subject.”

“Very informational and instructive, as well as a lot of fun!”

“Great teacher!”

“I really appreciated the time that Erica took to make sure that everyone received relevant and individual feedback.”

“The instructor did their best to provide a safe environment for students to feel comfortable trying something new.”

Middle and High School-Level Student Feedback, 2017
Instructor: Erica Glenn
American International School of Utah

“I've grown the more in this course than any other class I've taken. I've learned to truly take initiative, and take strides to improve myself each day. I've learned how to be healthily constructive with myself, recognizing when I make a mistake and striving to make it better. I've learned that I doubt myself way too much, and that I'm my biggest enemy. However, I've also learned that I have the power to overcome it all, and do things even if it scares me. ‘I will make this world my own devising;’ never have I sung words more inspiring!”

“Ms. Erica is by far the best teacher at AISU I have ever had.”

“I like how Erica teaches. She's very invested in her work and in her students.”

“Group Voice was great and she really knew what she was talking about.”

“Miss Erica did AMAZING! She taught us to be poised and professional, pushing us out of our comfort zones and keeping us on our A game.”

“This was an amazing experience for me!”

“This is the best course ever.”

“Thank you for fostering a love for music in me that will never die and thank you for being sort of my mentor. I really appreciate all that you offer and do for me. Before you convinced me to sing in choir, I was kind of on a weird path. I was having a hard time motivating myself to do anything besides play video games or watch TV. I think if I had continued on that path, I would be struggling right now and unsure of my graduation or future at all. I don't know if you knew any of that. But, yeah, I'm so thankful for the role model you have been for me and am truly appreciative of the knowledge I have learned from you. Thank you, Ms. Erica.”

“When I first started at AISU I was scared. I had been severely bullied by the girls in choir at my old school. And my perception of choir as a safe space had been completely shattered. But I decided to audition for choir at AISU in hopes of having a better experience. You saw my potential and took a chance on me and because of that I was able to learn to love myself and find a true love and passion for music. Choir has become the place where I feel safe from all of the storms from life. And because of you choosing to believe in me and help me become who I am, I have become a better person. All of this that you have done to help me is amazing and I can never pay you back for all of this but I want you to know how much you have changed my life.”

“I want to thank you for everything you have ever done for me. When I met you and started to learn about all of the incredible things that you had accomplished, it inspired me. You are an incredible human being and, if I had never met you, I believe that I wouldn't be on my way to college and never would've found enjoyment in education or learned the importance of setting long-term goals. I will never forget the email you sent me at the beginning of this school year

that pointed out some negative patterns in my life and how, after that message, I became the young lady I am today. It was a pivotal moment in my life and the love and care that you showed/gave me, by being vulnerable enough to call me out, is what changed me for good (thank you so much, Erica). You have touched my heart with your kind-hearted words and have instilled within me a belief in myself and that a good life is possible if a person is willing to take out the negative and really work for, and live in, the goodness of life and the world. Thank you for pushing me to be the best me. Honestly, Erica, you have taught me more than anyone I have ever met and I feel like you are, and will always be, a part of me. You are always a joy to be around and make me so happy. You are one of the most interesting, inspiring, and intellectual human beings I've ever met and I love and value the time I have shared with you. I will never forget you and the great impact that you have had on my life that has made me who I am today."

"I am really going to miss you. I will try to stay strong and keep my head held high. Thanks for a great two years of being my choir teacher. Now you will be a choir teacher for another group of students that will adore you and your love for music and I look forward to our last concerts with you before you leave. I love you and so does the rest of the choir. Congratulations on the opportunity to express your love for music even more and in a bigger environment with a new group of students with the same love for music just like you."

"You have helped me so much through the years. You have helped me find where I feel most safe and what I love to do. I have made so many friends in choir including you. I will miss you so much but I'm glad you get to have this amazing opportunity. And I hope we will still get to see you and talk to you after schools over."

"You're an amazing person and I think I stand alongside all of the choir when I say you have changed me on a deep level, through the power of music and through the power of love. I can't thank you enough for that."

"I have never loved, cared, and looked up to someone so much as I do you. You've made an impact on my life and though I am crying right now! I know you have, and will continue to do amazing things, and I'm so glad I can spend the rest of the year with you."

"Through my experiences in life, I have learned that it is too easy to take things for granted and until you lose that thing you don't realize just how important it is to you, that has become even more clear to me now than ever before. My love for choir and singing stemmed from yours, I would never have come so far if you were not a part of my life. No one could ever replace you. Someone else may be able to help us continue to grow as singers and as a choir, but you are the reason that choir has become such a close family. You are, and always will be the most incredible, loving, helpful, talented person I have ever met. Thank you, Ms. Erica."

"You are the best choir teacher I could have ever asked for. All my other choir teachers would just ignore me and wouldn't even let me perform, but you brought me into your welcoming arms and will miss you so much."

"You have been one of the best teachers I have ever had. I promise I will never forget the experiences I had in choir with you as a teacher and as a friend."

“You are an inspiration to me and such a kind and amazing soul. It's funny, this week I decided that choir was something that gave me life, something that I missed more than anything, and I was willing to give up even theater to be back. The reason I am angry with myself is because I missed out. I missed out on what you had to offer me. I missed out on our community. I miss you. I love you.”

“I personally have enjoyed working with you as a TA and you have taught me so much about how to keep my voice healthy and sounding the best that it can be. Thank you so much.”

“You're my favorite teacher at the school.”

“You are the best choir teacher I've ever had and I wouldn't have improved so much without you. You have helped me so much in my confidence and my singing.”

“I can't express how amazing, nice, kind, and wonderful teacher you are. I am so proud that I know you! I really felt myself like at "home" in our Group Voice class since it started. By the time I enter the class, my concerns, and worries about how unsafe my family is in Afghanistan go away! And you were very right Ms. Erica when you said that those people who sing, and perform together are more connected than any other group, I really felt this! Thank you much for taking time to teach us Ms. Erica!!”

“Thank you so much for being our choir director. I don't think me and the rest of the choir could've had someone better to lead us over the past three years. Last school year (2015-16) was my best year ever thanks to choir.”

“You have taught us about different types of ways to sing. You have helped me to work through problems with another person back at the beginning of the year, and I am very grateful for that. You have taught us many songs which have become a large part of my life. I want to be a singer when I am older and you have definitely solidified that for me the rest of the way. I am very happy for you that you will be able to progress with your passion. You have helped many of us in our passions so we will all stand behind you in your decision that you made, and we will cheer you on. I can now sing with a million times more confidence in myself and not care if anyone hears me out in public. I am proud to say that you have been my teacher, and always will be. You are the best choir teacher ANYONE could EVER wish for.”

“I have LOVED working with you in my two years at AISU. I have learned so much, before AISU, I had never been in a choir and now I feel confident in my skills as a choral singer.”

“Thank you for spending so much time teaching uncooperative, noisy, middle schoolers. But thank you for putting up with our behavior, and looking past it to give us a chance to sing. You worked really hard, and as a result we sing so much better. You have the voice of an angel, and the patience of one, too. Thanks for helping me follow my dreams.”

“Hi Miss Erica, thanks for making my dream come true. You helped me so much, I'm really going to miss you.”

“You have taught me so much. I do not know how you can be replaced. Thank you for everything you have done for the choir and myself I have become a better singer because of you.”

“I want to thank you for all of the hard work you have done not only for our choir, but for the entire school. You have not only helped me, but everyone as well. I also want to thank you for giving me the courage to sing out, and audition for some pieces. If it weren't for you, my voice wouldn't have come so far along. Thank you for the time and effort you have put into all of us.”

“Thank you for all the music you taught. But it wasn't just music you taught me, you taught me. You taught me how to persevere how to be patient, how to hold a part when everyone around me is different, how to work with a big group, for a bigger reward, and most of all, you made me a better person and vocalist.”

“You made ME sound good and I can never thank you enough for that. I want to give you a hug and never let go. I definitely will not forget what you have done for me, and I will never ever forget you.”

“You taught how to hold a part and be more confident. Thank you for everything.”

“You made music fun, interesting.”

“Thank you Ms, Erica for letting me into Symphonic Chorale after the first Tri. I was able to perform during Broadway in Utah, which was one of the highlights of my year. I appreciate you working with all the students that you do. You're a fantastic choir director and thank you for being ours this year!”

“When I first came here I didn't know much about singing in a choir. I wasn't super confident on the first day, but over these two years I've grown so much. I've learned so much from you and I just want to say thank you.”

“Thank you so much for being you! You are an amazing Choir teacher and friend. I wish I could have many more years of choir with you.”

“I am very thankful that you took the time and patience to teach a group of middle schoolers to sing. Especially me. To me choir is a stress relieving class where I can finally get away from my normal stressing life.”

“You have brought light and music into everybody's lives.”

“You have helped me grow my voice so much. You have helped me gain confidence in my abilities. Thank you so much for all of the effort you've put into this program.”

“You are the greatest teacher ever and i am so happy that i got to have you as a teacher you taught me everything i know.”

“I don’t think we could find a better choir director than YOU! The patience you show is pretty amazing. When you look at us or when one person says something you can tell you really care about them. Your smile lights up the whole room. Your laugh can turn a bad day into a good one, instantly. Your voice sounds like a trillion angels playing in the back yard. Your piano playing is like the sun coming out from the clouds on a stormy day. Thank you for everything that you have done for me, for us, for the school. We love you our amazing, talented, kind Ms. Erica!”

“Thanks so much for welcoming me into your loving arms. Thanks for trusting me to catch on to the song and letting me perform all of my other choir teachers wouldn't even let me perform.”

“You are an amazing teacher and person!”

“I’m so glad that I had the opportunity to have you as my choir teacher. You have taught me so much; not just about technique and how to sing the right notes for however long they needed to be held for, but also about music in general and how music can impact a person’s life. You are such an amazing teacher (the best choir teacher I’ve ever had).”

“Thank you for being such a great teacher. You have taught me so much and have inspired me to do more than I ever thought I would be able to. You have helped me through some hard times just by being such a great person and helping me through music. Last year I wanted to join the choir program but I had been told many times before that I was not good at singing. Even though I had heard this I decided that would try out anyways because had heard what a great teacher you were and I wanted to know you. Thank you for being here for me.”

“I am really thankful for everything you did for the choir in general and me specifically. I still remember the time that I nearly gave up because I thought that I couldn’t do well in choir, but you are the one who encouraged me not to give up and supported me a lot. You gave me more strength and confidence to keep going and do my best.”

“I wanted to stop and take a minute and thank you for everything you have done for me. You have opened up a lot of opportunities for me. I am so glad that i got to be in your class. I love the way you love that each and everyone of your students differently. I love you Miss Erica.”

“Dear Ms. Erica, when I came into Symphonic last year, I couldn’t even read music. I was just a girl who could hardly sing. I used to be so scared to sing. Now I feel like I can sing out with out being scared. You have taught me so much.”

“Thank you for helping me get a head start on how to sing and do pitch checks.”

“I’ve noticed something over the years: you’re not as scary as I always thought you were...(awkward dots). I noticed that you are a compassionate, hard working, strong, patient (I could go on and on) individual.”

“I want to thank you for all the wonderful things you have done for the choir and for myself. I have only been in AISU’s choirs for 2 years now but you have improved our choirs so much.

And the Middle School Chorus has improved largely it's wonderful. You have boosted my confidence in my singing more than I thought anyone could. So thank you. With so much Love and appreciation that I don't even know how to put it."

"Oh my gosh, Miss Erica, this year has been the greatest year ever! Your leadership and amazing work has brought the best out of all of us. You're the greatest choir director that I've ever worked with, and it has been amazing working with you. I wish that I had more time with you. This year went by so fast. I've grown so much, and I finally feel at home here at AISU. Thank you so much for being a friend, leader, and role model to all of us as we learn to discover our dreams. I love you so much, we all do."