

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

316.21 Chamber Singers / 316.20 College Choir

2010 - 2011

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Office Hours: by appointment (please do not hesitate – see schedule on my office door)

SYLLABUS

Special Note to Students:

It is your responsibility to retain course syllabi for possible future use to support applications for transfer of credit to other educational institutions.

A. Course Goals

1. Education

- 1.1. musical: development of musicianship, style, expression
- 1.2. vocal: development of the voice through vocal techniques and challenging repertoire
- 1.3. aesthetic: development of an appreciation of a diversity of musical styles as well as literary and liturgical texts

2. Performance

- 2.1. develop the ability to perform with excellence, expression, poise, and professionalism
- 2.2. be presented with opportunities to perform for a variety of audiences: congregations, high school students, music educators, fellow students
- 2.3. be presented with the opportunity to perform in a variety of acoustical environments and adapt to them

3. Ministry

- 3.1. Become aware of the relationship of text, music and worship
- 3.2. Become aware of the paradigm of worship where God is the audience
- 3.3. Learn about music and its use in the various components of worship: praise, prayer, proclamation, confession, etc.
- 3.4. Learn about offering our 'best' to God for the benefit of others

B. Course Requirements

1. Prompt and consistent attendance:

Each member of the ensemble is integral to its improvement and success. Morale and performance suffer when members come late or miss rehearsals.

Any potential absence must be cleared with the director ahead of time.

If you need to miss a rehearsal for a legitimate reason, you will be expected to spend a half hour working on your music before the next scheduled rehearsal. Check with the director about which pieces you should concentrate on. You will need to give the director a written note or e-mail documenting the time you spent practicing if you wish to get credit for the missed rehearsal.

Missing more than four rehearsals per semester (two for College Choir) without adequate excuse (as evaluated by the instructor) may result in your de-selection from the ensemble.

2. A professional work ethic.

Bring a pencil and your music to each rehearsal. Be prepared to give 100% attention and effort. Talking / visiting while the conductor is speaking, whether addressing your vocal section or not, is disrespectful to both the conductor and the other members of the ensemble.

3. Commitment to every performance engagement, whether large or small.

Plan ahead! Organize your schedule! Be pro-active about informing yourself and others about any changes or additions to the rehearsal and performance schedule as they occur. Commuters, make travel arrangements ahead of time.

3. Pull your weight and share in the work that needs to be done.

This may include moving chairs, risers, publicity, fund-raising, arranging transportation, and other logistics.

4. Work toward unity, both musical and spiritual.

Pray for each other and collectively for the ministry/performances of the choir. Be a good steward of your body/voice.

5. Work on being an expressive communicator.

Study the texts of the music. Sing with your mind, emotions, body (especially your face!).

C. Course Text/Materials

1. Music will be purchased by the Providence College Music Department and loaned to each singer (lost music will be charged to your account).
2. Standard black music folders will be available on loan from the Music Department. Students may also purchase their own deluxe black music folder from the Providence Bookstore.
3. Performance outfits:
Men: tuxedos or black suits / white shirts / black bow-ties /black socks / black dress shoes
Women: black dress slacks or long black skirt with formal blouse/top with sleeves [no cleavage or midriff showing: remember the focus is on the music!], comfortable black dress shoes (no flip-flops).

D. Course Evaluation

- Chamber Singers: 65% on attendance, attitude, and effort (College Choir: 100% on attendance, attitude, and effort).
- Chamber Singers: 35% on performance: two individual tests per semester and quartet / double quartet tests will be expected at two occasions during the semester
- Dates of tests TBA \ pieces to be assigned\
- grade scale

A+: all rehearsals and performances attended

A : one rehearsal missed but made up for by individual practice

B : one rehearsal missed but not made up

C : two rehearsals missed but not made up / dress rehearsal missed

D : three rehearsals missed / or one performance missed

F : four rehearsals missed / not made up

--Except for A+, plus and minuses will be based on attitude and effort

E. Course Repertoire (subject to modification):

Chamber Singers:

City Called Heaven – J. Poelintz

1. Ae Fond Kiss and 2. Island Spinning Song – Donald Patriquin

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me – Ron Smail

Kyrie Eleison – Larry Nickel

Let Everything That Hath Breath – Ron Ames

Baba Yetu – C. Tin/Chris Kiagiri

Abendlied – J Rheinberger

Locus Iste – A. Bruckner

Requiem – G. Faure

Other repertoire TBA

College Choir:

Christmas Cantata – Daniel Pinkham (with the Winnipeg Brass Quintet)

Hodie, Christus Natus Est – H. Willan

Halleluia – Handel

Other carols TBA

F. Course Credits

316.21 Chamber Singers: 1.5 credit per semester

316. 20: College Choir: .5 credit (first semester only)

G. Course Schedule

Rehearsal / Performance Schedule for Chamber Singers

PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR!

First semester:

Rehearsals: Wednesdays 11:10 – 12: 25 PM (College Choir slot this year)

Mondays and Thursdays: 4:30 – 5:50 PM

All rehearsals in the College chapel except during last week of Major Theatre production (Feb. 15 – 26) rehearsals / performances, then we move to the Recital Hall

Festival of Christmas Praise: December 2 (dress: 7:30 – 9:30 PM) 3, 4 (performances: call at 6:30 PM)

Extra rehearsals: Monday Nov. 18 and 25: 7:00 – 8:30 PM.

Chamber Singers rehearsals (Mon/Thurs 4:30 – 5:50 PM) on that week will be Christmas choir rehearsals.

Winter Semester 2011 (these dates pertain only to the Chamber Singers)

Saturday, January 15, 2011: all day rehearsal:

Sunday morning Church performances: Jan 9 or 16, Feb. 6 or 13, March 27

Spring Concert: Sunday, March 20, 7:30 PM (Faure *Requiem*)

Sunday April 17: Graduation Exercises: one piece

Spring Tour to Eastern Canada: April 19 – May 3

Addendum

Chamber Singers Student Leaders

Choir President (to be elected):

- is the officially designated representative of the choir
- liaison with Tracy Doerksen, tour ensembles coordinator
- liaison with Dr. S's student worker.
- The tour coordinator will take care of booking / dates / transportation / logistical arrangements / informal outfits, however the CP will keep her/himself informed about all of the above.
- free-time activities on tour, keeps track of the comings and goings of choir members on trips; arranges for pick-up of bag lunches when necessary, etc.

Physical Arrangements Coordinator (volunteer or by appointment):

- arrive early to set up chairs / make sure rehearsal / performance space is set up. Recruits assistance when needed

Choir Librarian (usually Dr. Schellenberg's student worker):

- organizes music / folders / numbers / takes attendance /assists choir president

Billeting Manager (volunteer or by appointment):

- coordinates accommodations / lodging during the tour

Treasurer (volunteer or by appointment):

- keeps a daily balance / record of revenue and expenses during tour
- records addresses of donors; dispenses funds when necessary

Literature / Publicity Display Coordinator (volunteer or by appointment):

- takes care of the Prov Display; inquiry cards, etc.
- liaison with admissions dept.

CD Salesperson:

- co-ordinates all aspects of distribution of CDs/sales
- deposits funds in CD account, etc.

Programs Person (volunteer or by appointment):

- ensures that programs have envelopes/inserts
- makes contact with host ushers to ensure that programs are handed out.

Fund-raising Coordinator (Volunteer or by appointment):

- spearheads and manages fund-raising
- Initiatives and projects

