Welcome to Chorale 2019-2020! This mixed choir prepares and presents in concert a wide variety of historical and contemporary choral repertoire in four concerts each year. Placement in this ensemble is based on audition each fall. As Western’s largest mixed choir, Chorale has a longstanding tradition of excellence in performance here at the Don Wright Faculty of Music, and provides a supportive and collegial environment for developing your individual and ensemble singing skills.

Learning Outcomes
Through weekly rehearsals, students will be introduced to and develop healthy ensemble singing technique, sight-singing skills, ensemble listening and intonation skills, choral rehearsal skills, and a working knowledge of vocal diction. Through several performances each year, students will develop confidence, independence, and presence as individual and ensemble singers, and offer vibrant performances to our Western and London communities.

Evaluation and Expectations
You are expected to arrive to rehearsals punctually and prepared, work collegially with your fellow choristers, demonstrate leadership and self-initiative within your section, and practice on your own to ensure your own preparation. In addition, the conductor may periodically assign and check for translations and markings in your score, or schedule individual or group note checks during class time.

It is understood that there are a lot of demands on students’ time and physical and mental well-being as part of a music training program. Your conductors are here to support you! If you need to be on voice rest for a rehearsal due to illness or extenuating circumstances, speak to your conductor at the start of that rehearsal. More lengthy periods of voice rest warrant a longer conversation outside of class. Students who are well enough to attend other classes are expected to attend rehearsal as well. If you are too sick to sing, you can still sit at the back, listen, take notes, and support your peers.
Your attendance and preparation for each rehearsal and performance is the primary method of assessment. Full attendance at all our events for the season is required for credit (see Schedule, Attendance, and Accommodation sections below). At the end of the year, students will be given a pass/fail grade for the course.

**Required Materials**
Music (to be picked up at the CBO)
Black choir folder (available for purchase)
Pencil
Uniform (see below)

- Option 1: Full length formal black skirt or pants with black blouse OR full length concert black dress. Sleeves must be at least ¾ length.
- Option 2: Black tuxedo with peak lapel, white pleated dress shirt with wing-tip collar, black tuxedo pants, black bowtie.
All Singers: Black socks or nylons, black dress shoes (flat or low heel)

**Dress Rehearsal and Concert Schedule**
Attendance at the following rehearsals and concerts is required. Our performances are considered your exams for the course. Please add these dates to your calendars and alert your conductor of any academic conflicts by the second week of classes.

**Concert 1: The Farthest Shore**
*With Western University Singers*
**Tue, Oct 15, 4-6pm,** Dress Rehearsal at First-St. Andrew’s Church.
(Course release from 3:30pm to travel to the venue.)
**Sat, Oct 19, 5-6pm,** WUS and CH Joint Dress Rehearsal, First-St. Andrew’s Church
**Concert: Sat, Oct 19, 7:30pm** (Call at 7pm), First-St. Andrew’s Church

**Concert 2: Carols and Choirs**
*All Choirs*
**Thurs, Nov 28, 4-6pm,** CH Dress Rehearsal, St. Peter’s Cathedral.
(Course release from 3:30pm to travel to the venue.)
**Fri, Nov 29, 4-6pm,** All Choirs Dress rehearsal, St. Peter’s Cathedral.
(Course release from 3:30pm to travel to the venue.)
**Concert: Fri, Nov 29, 7:30pm** (Call 7pm), St. Peter’s Cathedral.

**Concert 3: Lineage (performance of Chichester Psalms)**
*with Les Choristes*
**Tue, Feb 12, 4-6pm,** Rehearsal with instruments, First-St. Andrews
(Course release from 3:30pm to travel to the venue.)
**Thurs, Feb 14, 4-5:30pm,** Dress rehearsal, First-St. Andrews
(Course release from 3:30pm to travel to the venue.)
**Sat, Feb 16, 5-6pm,** CH and LC Dress Rehearsal, First-St. Andrews
**Concert: Sat, Feb 16 7:30pm** (call 7pm), First-St. Andrews
Concert 4: United We Sing

*All Choirs*

**Thurs, Mar 26, 4-6pm,** CH Dress Rehearsal, St. Peter’s Cathedral.
   (Course release from 3:30pm to travel to the venue.)

**Fri, Mar 27, 4-6pm,** All Choirs dress rehearsal, St. Peter’s Cathedral.
   (Course release from 3:30pm to travel to the venue.)

**Concert: Fri, Mar 27, 7:30 pm** (Call 7pm), St. Peter’s Cathedral

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**Combined Choirs Rehearsal Schedule**

Two open rehearsals have been planned on weekends for Fall Preview Day and March Open House and have been approved by EPC.

**Fall Preview Day Side-By-Side Rehearsal:** Sun, Nov 17, 12:30-1:30pm, TC141

**March Open House Side-By-Side Rehearsal:** Sat, Mar 14, 11:30-12:30pm, location TBA

In addition, we are anticipating holding joint rehearsals with other choirs this year to rehearse mass choir repertoire, and women’s and men’s choir repertoire in Term 2. These rehearsals would be on select Wednesdays from 3:30-4:20. This proposed change to our regular rehearsal schedule is subject to EPC approval mid-September, and you will be notified of any changes to our rehearsal schedule once it comes into effect. Your attendance will be expected unless you have a non-music course conflict with that time. On weeks where we rehearse on Wednesdays, our Thursday rehearsal time will be reduced to 3:30-4:20 only.

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**Music Sign-out**

Choristers are responsible for signing out a folder of music for each term from the CBO library in Talbot College. Music must be returned in good condition at the end of each term to the CBO Library. Please take care to mark your music lightly, and with pencil only! You may wish to consider making copies of originals to ensure their safe return to the CBO, and to allow you to make whatever markings you may wish without worry. Students will be financially responsible for replacing any music not returned to the CBO.
**Participation and Attendance**
From the performance department...
“Large Ensemble rehearsals are not like other classes but rather like a professional service. Extra dress rehearsals are scheduled before each concert and performances are held in addition to rehearsal schedules. **Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.**

Punctuality is imperative for all rehearsals and performances. **Three tardy arrivals will be considered equivalent to an absence.** Perfect attendance and active participation are required to obtain course credit. Should a student miss more than two rehearsals for unvalidated reasons over the course of the year, they would be in jeopardy of losing their ensemble credit. This will be assessed on a case by case basis by the conductor and the Chair of the Performance Studies Department. Absence from performances or rehearsal(s) may result in the loss of your position in the choir and/or loss of ensemble credit. **Attendance at dress rehearsal is mandatory for participation in the concert.**

Notify the conductor of all absences with as much advance notice as possible. Attendance will be taken at all rehearsals.”

**Accommodation for Illness, Disability, and Validated Absence**
Students should consult the university’s policy on academic consideration for absences, found here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf

Students are permitted to self-report up to two short (up to 48 hour) absences between September and April due to unexpected illness or extenuating circumstance without documentation. Students must report their absence using the online portal. Any absences should be immediately discussed with the course instructor within 24 hours of the student’s return to class, or preferably before an anticipated absence. Any absences which do not qualify for self reporting require a medical certificate. Provided the university policy has been met, the absence will be considered valid and will not impact a student’s standing in the course.

Students with ongoing medical or mental health concerns should take appropriate measures with Student Accessibility Services to document their accessibility needs and accommodations, and speak to their professor as necessary. The university policy is found here:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10
Statement on Academic Offenses
University Policy: “Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Assumption of Risk and Media Release Forms
In order to attend off campus concerts/events associated with choir this season, all singers are required to fill out an assumption of risk form. These forms will be distributed as required by the instructor.

Publicity photos may be taken at concerts and rehearsals this year. Students will be asked to fill out a media release form prior to any photo sessions. In addition, all performances are video and audio recorded for archival purposes, and some video and audio may be used for promotional purposes. Again, students will be asked to fill out a media release form prior to any online distribution of video content.

Statement on Mental Health
“Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”

Statement on Technology Use in Class
Phones, laptops, and other electronic devices are not to be used in class.