LES CHORISTES
MU 1911, 2911, 3911, 4911

Don Wright Faculty of Music, Western University
Instructor for first term: Janet Loo / E-mail: jloo5@uwo.ca / Office: TC 118
Instructor for second term: TBD
Graduate Assistant Conductor: Meredith Wanstall / mwanstal@uwo.ca
Graduate Teaching Assistant/Pianist: Juhee Park / jpark885@uwo.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE SCHEDULE
Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 - 5:30pm in TC 100 for in-person rehearsals / via Zoom video conferencing platform for virtual rehearsals

There are additional dates/times for dress rehearsals and concerts which are mandatory. See “Dress Rehearsal and Concert Schedule” section on page 3 of this course outline.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
COURSE CONTENT: Les Choristes is a dynamic upper voices choir comprised of students from across campus, most of whom are voice majors at the Don Wright Faculty of Music. The repertoire is diverse and includes music of all eras and genres while specializing in music of the 21st century. Placement in this ensemble is based upon audition. Note: Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will develop musicianship and performance skills that reflect their professional potential, develop healthy vocal technique, learn to maintain their vocal health in a choral setting, learn about style and performance practice in a wide variety of choral repertoire, and develop ensemble rehearsal and listening skills.

REQUIRED MATERIALS
- Music scores – to be picked up at designated location given by the Choral/Band/Orchestral Library (CBO). Any music not picked up by 3:30pm on September 16 is available for sign-out at the Music Library.
- Black choir folder (available for purchase through, among many sources, Long & McQuade or at musicfolder.com)
- Pencil at every rehearsal (including dress rehearsals)
- In the event of virtual rehearsals, you will need a quiet space with a strong internet connection where you can sing freely. A laptop or other device with good sound and video quality is required. Headphones and an external microphone are recommended.
- Performance Uniform: Full-length black skirt or black dress pants, black blouse or dress shirt (at least ¾ length sleeves), black socks or tights, black dress shoes.
COMMUNICATIONS
The primary means of communication in the course will be through e-mail, with the e-mail address that was provided in your audition form. An OWL project site has been created for this course in which the course outline and other resources will be housed.

EVALUATION AND EXPECTATIONS

On conduct and professionalism:
You are expected to conduct yourself as in any professional-level ensemble setting. This means arriving to rehearsals punctually and prepared, working collegially with your fellow choristers, demonstrating leadership and self-initiative within your section, and practising 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.

On attendance:
Your attendance and preparation for each rehearsal and performance is the primary method of assessment. Full attendance at all our events, whether in-person or virtual, is required for credit. At the end of the year, students will be given a pass/fail grade for the course.

From the Music 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 the 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.”

On responsibility for music scores:
You are responsible for signing out a folder of music for each term from the Choral/Band/Orchestral Library (CBO). Music must be returned in good condition at the end of each term to the CBO. Please take care to mark your music lightly, and with pencil only. Please erase all of your markings on your scores before you return them to the CBO. Students will be financially responsible for replacing any music not returned to the CBO and music that is damaged.

On masking policy:
Please be advised that everyone will continue to wear three-layer non-medical masks during rehearsals, recording sessions, and concerts until further notice. This is in line with the university’s COVID health and safety guidelines.
**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 with as much advanced notice as possible.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 21, 2021</td>
<td>3:30 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recording session, von Kuster Hall (vKH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, December 6, 2021</td>
<td>3:30 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dress Rehearsal, Paul Davenport Theatre (PDT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 7, 2021</td>
<td>7:30 - 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Les Choristes &amp; St. Cecilia Concert, PDT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, February 14, 2022</td>
<td>3:30 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dress Rehearsal, PDT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022</td>
<td>7:30 - 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Les Choristes &amp; St. Cecilia Concert, PDT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 24, 2022</td>
<td>4:00 - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dress rehearsal, St. Peter’s Cathedral*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 26, 2022</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Concert call (All Choirs), St. Peter’s Cathedral*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 26, 2022</td>
<td>7:30 - 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Concert (All Choirs), St. Peter’s Cathedral*</td>
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*St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica is located downtown at 196 Dufferin Avenue (corner of Richmond Street and Dufferin Avenue)*

**Sessional Dates**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, September 6</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 8</td>
<td>First day of classes for first term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, October 11</td>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1 to 7</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 8</td>
<td>Last day of classes for first term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, January 3</td>
<td>First day of classes for second term</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21 to 25</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, April 1</td>
<td>Last day of classes for second term</td>
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**Notes**

1) **Academic Consideration for Student Absence:** Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade.

**Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus.** Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year
If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. **Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.**

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office. For the Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

**Special Note for Covid-19-related Situations:**

As a guideline, if a student has been contacted by the Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) to self-quarantine due to a Covid-19-related situation, then the Self-Reported Absence system is not to be used to report this absence or to request an academic accommodation. The student should contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as they are notified. In general, students are advised to not self-determine when to self-isolate. Unless directed by the MLHU students should go about their business as usual. But if a student chooses to self-isolate due to a suspected Covid-19-related situation while waiting to receive direction from the MLHU then the student is directed to contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as possible for further direction on receiving accommodation consideration.

ii) **Mental Health & Wellness:** Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (https://www.uwo.ca/health/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

iii) **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

iv) **Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=e-univwo

v) **Contingency Plan:** In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading
scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor.

vi) **Examinations & Attendance:** Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

vii) **Electronic Devices in Classrooms:** The in-class use of electronic devices (other than for instructor-approved in-class uses) is expressly prohibited. Students found guilty of disrupting the class with electronic devices will be asked to leave the class and may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

eight) **Masking Guidelines:** Students will be expected to wear triple layer, non-medical, paper masks at all times in the classroom as per University policy and public health directives. Students who are unable to wear a mask must seek formal accommodation through Western Accessible Education, and present medical documentation. Students are not permitted to eat or drink while in class to ensure masks stay in place. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks. Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Western policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean, and such actions will be considered a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

ix) **Course Absences due to Daily COVID Screening Questionnaire**
Missed assessments (e.g., presentations, essays, quizzes, tests, midterms, etc.) require formal academic considerations (typically self-reported absences and/or academic counselling). Methods for dealing with missed work and course content are at the discretion of the instructor(s). Students should be aware that some learning outcomes cannot be easily made up and may need to be completed in a subsequent year. Your instructor will provide you with further information as to how this applies within this course. Students who demonstrate a pattern of routinely missing coursework due to self-reported COVID symptoms, and therefore do not demonstrate mastery of the learning outcomes of the course, will not receive credit for the course.

x) **Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning**
In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor. In the event that online learning is required, a stable internet connection with working microphone and webcam will be required. As has been the case in the past, the decision to pivot to online learning will be made by Western, and not individual instructors or departments (excepting temporary online instruction in the event of instructor illness).