Welcome to St. Cecilia Singers

St. Cecilia Singers is a vibrant choral ensemble of treble voices joining together to make beautiful music! Here you will find a supportive environment, which encourages the development of your singing voice in a choral setting. Members of this choir are committed to achieving excellence through individual and group study. The transformative power of choral music nurtures a cooperative spirit, historical, social, and cultural awareness, and the intellectual, emotional and spiritual enrichment of each singer. The St. Cecilia Singers has a long-standing tradition at the Don Wright Faculty of Music and performs an eclectic variety of repertoire in concerts on and off campus. Placement in this ensemble is by audition, based on voice and sight-reading abilities.

COURSE CONTENT

Music 1912, 2912, 3912, 4912 St. Cecilia Singers
The rehearsal and performance of repertoire for SA choir. 4 hours plus performances.
Meets large ensemble requirement.

REHEARSALS 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, MB254
Room locations may alter if there is a resurgence of Covid to comply with physical distancing protocols.
Additional dress rehearsals will occur before concerts, see p. 3

REHEARSALS BEGIN ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course students will

- know how to use the singing voice in a choral setting, integrating musical literacy, artistic expression, and technical facility, through the study of choral repertoire.
- have become an independent, accurate singer, with the ability to sing any part of an SSAA score.
- have developed sight reading, aural skills and teamwork by singing in quartets, trios, duets.
- have learned to sing with accurate intonation, precise rhythm, musical expression, style and correct diction.
- have developed healthy voice production through the use of daily warm-ups, body alignment, breathing, tone quality, resonance
- have developed a positive attitude and personal responsibility for daily preparation of repertoire so that rehearsal time is efficient and productive.
COURSE MATERIALS
Repertoire, Concert Dress, Choir Folder, Choir Etiquette

CBO POLICY FOR BORROWED MUSIC
Music can be picked up from the Choral / Band / Orchestral (CBO) Collection, located on the main floor of Talbot College (T.C. 134). Envelopes with assigned music will be available before your first rehearsal. You are responsible for the music signed out to you. Use pencil marks only and please avoid damaging your music to prevent potential fees. Please erase all unnecessary markings on your parts/copies before you return them to the library. If, at any time, you need to switch parts with someone, please email or visit us in the Music Library, so that we can reassign the part(s) to the appropriate account. You can return music to the CBO or the Music Library (T.C. 234) by the appropriate due date, as indicated or earlier. Contact muscbo@uwo.ca for any inquiries.

MUSIC AND A PENCIL: Have required music and a pencil for every rehearsal. By using your own scores, you are respecting your colleagues, so that they can mark their music and sing with proper body alignment.

CONCERT Dress: Stage appropriate formal dress. Full-length black skirt (e.g., to the ankles) or dress pants. Long-sleeved black dress blouse (e.g., to the wrist or ¾ length), Shoes: dress flats or low-heeled (2”) to accommodate standing on risers. (e.g., no boots, flip flops or stilettos) Appropriate matching hose/socks.

CHORAL FOLDERS: A black choral folder is required for concerts. Folders are available for purchase from Long and McQuade or online.

ASSIGNMENTS
Students must take individual responsibility to prepare repertoire for rehearsals as scheduled. Knowing the music thoroughly allows the ensemble to rehearse efficiently with accuracy and proficiency. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS are at the conductor’s discretion and may be assigned for missed rehearsals.

DRESS REHEARSALS and CONCERTS 2022-23
Concerts are considered a culmination of the course e.g., like exams. Attendance is mandatory. Any conflicts with non-music courses must be resolved by September 21. Scheduled dress rehearsals replace the regular rehearsal schedule where designated. All rehearsals have been approved by EPC (Educational Policy Committee). All professors are notified of scheduling. Each student is required to individually speak with any instructors whose classes they may be missing due concerts as early as possible. Bring any conflicts to your choir conductor's attention as soon as possible. Depending on the status of public health, concerts may be in person, virtual or cancelled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dress Rehearsals</th>
<th>Concerts</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday October 20, 2022, 3:30 vKH</td>
<td>Thursday, October 26, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>von Kuster Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, 3:30 vKH</td>
<td>Wednesday December 7, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>von Kuster Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 3:30 vKH</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 7:20 p.m.</td>
<td>von Kuster Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 30, 2023, 3:30 vKH</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>von Kuster Hall</td>
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Should we have a resurgence of the Covid pandemic, we will adjust to an ONLINE or hybrid model for delivery of our program as directed by the University administration. Provisions for sanitation and safety in all measures will be a priority to prevent the spread of any disease.

VIRTUAL TEACHING STRATEGIES for ONLINE LEARNING
If needed virtual learning will take place through Zoom video application and OWL.

Virtual learning will allow for:

- setting of immediate and long-term goals for the course
- rehearsal of repertoire in large and small groups
- individual voice coaching for vocal development and repertoire
- score study
- break out rooms for sectional learning, duets, trios, quartets.
- Harmonic and structural analysis
- guest artist input with lecture series and interviews
- instructional videos on choral singing, voice technique, choral concerts, vocal health, wellness, etc.
- yoga instruction with certified instructor for body alignment and breathing
- discussion groups
- interaction with peers
- building community through social interaction
- rehearsal tracks for home study
- sight reading and ear training
- more opportunity for guided process learning as opposed to time pressured performances
- virtual performances when possible

METHODS OF EVALUATION

STUDENTS are EVALUATED on ATTENDANCE, PUNCTUALITY, MUSICAL PREPARATION, and ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

From the Performance Department: Large Ensemble rehearsals are not like other classes or labs, but rather like a professional service. Choirs rehearse four hours per week. Extra dress rehearsals are scheduled before each concert and performances are held in addition to rehearsal schedules. Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals, and performances. Dress rehearsals are mandatory to sing in the concert. Students are evaluated on attendance and active participation. A Pass/Fail evaluation for Ensemble Credit, is recorded on the student record.

ATTENDANCE

The CONDUCTOR MUST BE NOTIFIED in ADVANCE of ALL ABSENCES.

Students who miss more than two rehearsals for unvalidated reasons over the course of the year, will 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 is taken at all rehearsals. Excusable absence consists of a serious illness or emergency. The Music Office should be notified for serious extended illness.
PUNCTUALITY

PUNCTUALITY is imperative and considerate for all rehearsals and performances. Three tardy arrivals will be considered equivalent to an absence. Absence from performances and/or rehearsal(s) will result in dismissal from the choir and loss of credit.

VOICE REST POLICY

If students are well enough to attend classes, they must also attend choir. For a sore throat/cold, voice rest is allowed, where students can observe, listen and mark their scores. Notify the coach at the beginning of rehearsal to request voice rest.

CHOIR ETIQUETTE

Respectful behavior: rehearsal discipline and a positive attitude are essential for productive rehearsals. Focused attention results in optimal learning. Avoid chatting and distracting behavior. Take care of personal needs before choir so that the rehearsal momentum is not disturbed.

Scent free environment: Due to allergic reactions do not wear fragrances at rehearsals or concerts. Maintain physical and oral hygiene (e.g., before choir, refrain from spicy foods which linger on the breath).

Water: Bottled water is allowed at rehearsal. Due to safety issues - no hot drinks, gum or food is allowed. In consideration of the environment, take all belongings when leaving.

Space: Due to space constraints and mobility of the choir, all large backpacks, bags, etc. are left in lockers. Bring only your choir music to rehearsal.

Be a good team player. Work positively with your colleagues, offering assistance when you can.

Clothing: Wear comfortable clothing to allow for deep breathing and stretches during warm-up. Outdoor jackets and hats are removed to facilitate healthy singing, mobility, and sight lines.

Check your email daily for announcements, rehearsal schedules, and seating plans.

Choir Executive: plans social events to build friendships and community; assists with concert preparations, stage set up, attendance, etc. The executive is chosen by election or open to volunteers. Positions are: Choir President, Committee members.

STATEMENT ON USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices are not allowed during in person rehearsals, unless approved by the instructor.

All cell phones, Ipad, Ipods, earphones, etc. must be out of sight, placed in your bag locker.
UNIVERSITY POLICIES
ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

i) Course Prerequisites: (Music 1912, 2912, 3912, 4912 - St. Cecilia Singers) 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.

ii) Grading scale: Pass/Fail

iii) Academic Consideration for Student Absence & Missing Work (≥10%):

Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate policy on accommodation for medical illness at the following website for further details regarding requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

iv) Academic Consideration for Missing Work: (<10%): In cases where students miss work that is worth less than 10% of the total course grade (ie. two or fewer assignments) due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean’s office and the Associate Dean grants an accommodation, then the missed assignment(s) or quiz(zes) will be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not voluntarily submitted, then the missed assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean’s office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.

v) Academic Offences: Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. 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
vi) 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.**

vii) 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

viii) 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=c-univwo

ix) Contingency Plan: Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered 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 assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

x) Gender-Based and Sexual Violence: Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence, either recently or in the past, you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca or call 519 661-3568.

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices
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.

Statement on Academic Offences
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

Notes Specifically to Address Covid-19-related Issues for 2022-23

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.
Recording of Online Activities: Remote learning sessions for this course may be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings. Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

Online Etiquette: Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- Use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- “Arrive” to class on time
- Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- Unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting
- Be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:
- If you wish to speak, select the blue “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question.
- Kindly remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking.
- Self-identify when speaking.
- Kindly remember to select the “raise hand” function again to lower your hand, mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise).

General considerations of “netiquette”:
- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of “Zoom-bombing” a class, or of other serious online offenses, may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

III. Additional Statements
i) This course has received an exemption from the requirement in the Senate Policy on Evaluation of Undergraduate Academic Performance that stipulates “At least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a 1000- or 2000-level course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade.”

ii) 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.

NOTE: Choir concerts are considered "exams".