

Chamber Choir - MP 131/231

General Information

Instructor Information and Availability

Instructor name: Raymund Ocampo
Phone number: 541-917-4550
E-mail address: ocampor@linnbenton.edu
Office hours: MW 2pm-3pm and TR 11a-12p.
Office number: SSH-213C

Course Information

Course name: Chamber Choir
Section number: 001
CRN: 30851/30852
Scheduled time/days: MWF 12:00pm - 1:20pm
Number of credits: 2
Classroom(s): SSH-213

Prerequisites:

By audition.

Course Materials

- **There is no book to purchase.** You will check out a numbered music folder with all of the music we will be singing this fall. You are responsible for the whereabouts of your folder and condition of the music. Please keep a pencil (no ink, please) with your folder, to mark rehearsal notes. You should have a pencil with you at EVERY rehearsal! All music must be returned at the end of the term. **You will be charged for any irreparably damaged or lost music.**
- **Concert Attire** for each performance may vary. Depending on the type of performance (caroling, other impromptu performances, etc) attire may change. Formal concerts will require formal attire. More will be discussed during the first two weeks of the term and given to you in writing.

Course-Specific Requirements

Repertoire: Repertoire will be selected throughout musical history and may include: secular, sacred, western classical, folk, non-western, jazz, pop, musical theater, and more. Keep an open mind. We will be performing a variety of music of different genres and in different languages.

Memorization: Music for all performances is expected to be memorized, unless traditional historical performance practice dictates otherwise. The more memorized a piece of music is, the more *musical* we can make it!

Part-Tests: There will be FOUR graded part-tests per term. These will involve the entire class and may be done as sections or as small groups depending on the needs of a particular piece. The purpose of the part-tests are to test how well you know your part, your understanding of your part in relation to others, and memorization. You will receive a calendar with dates that you need to learn a whole piece or portions of a piece. From those dates, four will be selected either ahead of time or on the spot as a part-test. Additionally, a check may take place during a rehearsal at any given time! Those that consistently practice and work on their music will do just fine!

Final Exam: For the final exam, you will be asked to sing in a quartet a four part piece. Both the quartet and song selection will be made by the director. The preparation should occur outside of normal Chamber Choir rehearsal. You are responsible for learning all your notes, rhythms, phrasing, musicality, inflections, and emotional connection. This is an important learning tool for you to become a self-sustaining musician and member of an ensemble.

****Additional Performances Note:** At times, we may be requested to perform within the community or special college functions throughout the term/year. Having a positive presence within our community is vital to continued success and growth of the arts at LBCC and in Albany. Should this arise, the information regarding such a performance will be communicated to you in writing as soon as possible requesting volunteers to participate depending on schedules. Extra-credit will be given for participation in extra-performances.

Course Description

Chamber Choir is a performing group that includes the singing and performing of advanced choral literature, including madrigals, motets, jazz arrangements, and musical theater. Students will develop high-level sight-reading and aural skills. Participation in this course may include a number of off-campus performances, as well as a final concert.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Examine, evaluate, and critique, using music reading skills where appropriate, how the structure and context impact and inform prepared and improvised performances appropriate for an advanced, first/second-year chamber choir member.
2. Collaborate to produce rehearsals and performances of advanced musical achievement.
3. Develop, apply, and refine appropriate rehearsal strategies to address individual and ensemble challenges in a varied repertoire of music appropriate for a first/second-year chamber choir member.

4. Demonstrate advanced vocal production technique as it relates to choral music the self and ensemble aural and visual evaluation in rehearsal and performance appropriate for a first/second-year chamber choir member.

5. Utilize leadership and team-building skills in ensemble and sectional rehearsals.

Class Policies

Behavior and Expectations

Attend rehearsals on time with open ears, open throats, heart beating, breath moving, brain engaged and pencil in hand. If you are ill, please inform me prior to the rehearsal. If you can move, then you are still expected to attend rehearsal! Please contact me as soon as possible by phone or email if you must miss a rehearsal. We must rehearse as a group as much as possible in order to find our ensemble sound.

Skills to work on for optimum choral experience: punctuality, rehearsal decorum, developing singer's posture and breathing, healthy vocal production, intonation, listening, sight-reading, score preparation, counting rhythms, holding your part in 2, 3, 4-part harmony or more, diction, expression, MEMORIZATION, presentation.

Please ask for help if you need it. This is not something you should be worried or embarrassed about, it's all about improving. There will be times when you can help someone this year and there may be times when you need help. We are all here to improve and help one another without ego or any sense pretention. No one should feel lesser than or more than another in this choir. We each have things to offer the choir and are all needed in order to make this group something incredible. If you need help, confidently find it. If you can offer help, humbly share it.

If you are struggling, don't quit. Find someone to help and take steps forward. If the best you can do is to be barely comfortable on day one, then that's where you'll start. But, again, that's only if that's the best you can do. If the best you can do is to be very comfortable with everything, then get to that point. Give your best, always, and at every moment of rehearsal.

You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](#), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

Guidelines for communication

Please use email or [Slack](#) to get a hold of me.

Use of cell phones

Cell phones are not to be used in class unless otherwise asked. If you have a concern that requires you to have your phone that day, speak to me before class and we will figure something out.

Attendance/Tardiness Policy

Ensemble and Attendance Commitment/Responsibility:

Singing in an ensemble is like joining a team: your active presence at every rehearsal is of utmost importance to the success of the whole group. Please keep your commitments to the ensemble to share the responsibility for achieving our goal: singing beautiful and meaningful music for our various audiences with confidence and professionalism. **Missing rehearsals may severely affect your overall grade!**

Testing

Final Exam: Wednesday, March 18 between 1:00pm and 2:50pm in SSH213.

Grading

Music Checks (4 @ 25 points each)	100 points
Sight Reading Performance (4 @ 25 points each)	100 points

We will do a Sight Reading Performance each Friday of term. Only 4 will be graded. However, if you have an unexcused absence for ANY performance, you will lose 25 points for each performance missed.

Sectional and Self Evaluation	100 points
Final Exam Quartet	100 points
Concert Participation	200 points
Rehearsal Attendance/Participation	

Each unexcused absence after 3, drops the grade by one letter grade.

Final Grade Calculation:

- A = 90-100% Excellent Work
- B = 80-89% Good Work
- C = 70-79% Average Work
- D = 60-69% Poor Work
- F = 0-59% Failing Work

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A	90-100%	Excellent Work
B	80-89%	Good Work
C	70-79%	Average Work
D	60-69%	Poor Work
F	0-59%	Failing Work

Late Assignment Policy

There is no make-up for missed rehearsals or performances.

College Policies

LBCC Email and Course Communications

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

Disability and Access Statement

Use one of three approved syllabus statements located on the [Center for Accessibility Resources Faculty Resources](#) webpage.

Statement of Inclusion

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

Title IX Reporting Policy

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](#) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

Public Safety/Campus Security/Emergency Resources:

In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at 541-926-6855 and 541-917-4440.

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a [public safety app](#) available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.

Campus Resources

Learning Center

Resources students may use that pertain to the class

Library

Computers and printing available, other ways the library could help your student with this class

Other

Other campus resources that may assist student to succeed in this class

Tips for Success in This Class

Optional section text here

Changes to the Syllabus

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.

Class Calendar or Schedule

Please see the choral calendar for the year's performance schedule