Units: 1 Credit
Mondays and Wednesdays, 5-6:50pm
Location: Music 1145

Instructor: Daniel Newman-Lessler
Email: dmnlessler@gmail.com (UCSB email TBD)
Cell: (805) 407-5855
Office Hours: Music 1222, Wednesdays 10am-3pm (please make an appointment)

Course Registration:
1) Undergrad students:
Heidi Dinnogen
hdinnogen@music.ucsb.edu
(805) 893-5672

2) Grad students:
Carly Yartz
cyartz@music.ucsb.edu
(805) 893-4603

Course Description:
Development of singing skills, music literacy, and performance of vocal chamber music and choral masterworks from the thirteenth century to the present.

Learning Objectives:
• To foster an appreciation for the human voice and love for the art of singing
• To instill a sense of awareness, confidence, and appreciation of one’s self
• demonstrate an understanding of ensemble skills and musical interpretations and to instill a sense of musical flexibility in diverse musical situations.
• To display an understanding of fine details regarding various styles, historical performance practices, voicing, and languages.
• To demonstrate an ability to operate at an accelerated pace in rehearsals and concert preparation.
• To practice professional standards and technique that promotes individual responsibility for vocal health.
Supplies and Resources:
• Black music folder (available at the UCSB Bookstore for $25 or online)
• Professional all-black performance attire
• A sharpened pencil with eraser to every rehearsal for marking music
• Water bottle recommended.
• Music scores of assigned repertoire (provided at start of course)
• Because this is a performance class, you are entitled to a practice room key. See Patrick Chose in Music 1251, and he will assign you a key. A $40 deposit is required.
• GauchoSpace: Practice recordings and performances of the repertoire will be uploaded to the course GauchoSpace page. Students should login and practice as often as possible, at least once a week outside rehearsal.

Course Notes:
• No food or drink, other than water in a closed container, is allowed in the rehearsal room
• No use of phones, laptops, or other electronic devices is allowed. Participation Grade will be affected.

Grading Breakdown:
Attendance: 30%
Participation and Preparation: 50%
Final Performance and Dress Rehearsal: 20%

Membership Responsibilities:
• Membership in this ensemble is granted for the entire academic year.
• Members are responsible for learning assigned portions of music outside of class.
• Members must bring the required music to EVERY rehearsal
• Members must bring a sharpened pencil to EVERY rehearsal for score marking.
• Members are responsible for numbering the measures in each piece of music, as they will be referred to for rehearsal purposes.
• Some of the selections for concert performance will be performed memorized. Each member should be prepared for periodic “memory checks.”

Participation Policy:
In keeping with the professional objectives of the program, the Music Department at the University of California Santa Barbara enforces a strict policy on participation and punctuality.
• Participation is required at ALL rehearsals and performances
Singers are expected to be in the rehearsal room at least 5 minutes prior to the beginning of the rehearsal period, with the music to be rehearsed out and organized according to the day’s plan posted on the board. Failure to be ready to rehearse at the beginning of the rehearsal will result in a tardy and will affect the participation portion of the grade as follows: **2 tardies** results in **1 unexcused absence**.

Choral faculty and section leaders keep daily records.

Do not schedule voice lessons, meetings with faculty members or other organizations, make-up classes or exams, UCSB registration, doctor/dental appointments, job interviews, or any personal obligations during rehearsal times.

**FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE** in a dress rehearsal without the prior approval of the instructor will result in a loss of two full letter grades.

**FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE** in performances or recording sessions without the prior approval of the instructor will result in a loss of three full letter grades (resulting in a failing grade).

**FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE** during the week of a performance will result in a lowered grade.

**FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE** in rehearsals without prior written approval of the instructor will result in loss of one letter grade according to the following:

- **1 unexcused absence** results in an **A grade**
- **2 unexcused absences** results in a **B grade**
- **3 unexcused absences** results in a **C grade**
- **4 unexcused absences** results in a **D grade (Failing grade)**

Absences for the following reasons are considered **EXCUSED**:

- Unavoidable excuses given five days in advance
- Extended illness with doctor’s verification
- Death in the immediate family
- Religious holidays - See below

Unavoidable emergencies will be handled on an individual basis. If an emergency occurs (including acute, but brief, illness) the student must contact the director in a timely manner, followed with written notification in three days. The instructor will determine whether the emergency is excused.

If a student cannot sing due to an illness, but feels well enough to be present for a rehearsal, the instructor requests that the student observe the rehearsal from the sideline, marking their score and making additional comments to be given to the instructor at the end of rehearsal.

Demeanor Policy

1. Assessment of work ethic while in class
• Do you follow instructions by marking your score?
• Is your participation conducive or disruptive to the rehearsal process?
• Do you respond favorably to constructive criticism?
• Do you bring your scores and a pencil to every rehearsal?
• If you are unable to phonate, do you follow along in your music, mark your score, and submit written comments to the conductor at the end of the rehearsal?

2. **Assessment of preparation outside of class:**
   • If assignments are given, are you prepared by the announced deadline?

3. **Assessment of professionalism:**
   • Do you show respect for the conductor and your fellow students?
   • Do you adhere to the participation policy of the ensemble?
   • Do you participate in choral performances with clean, proper concert attire, and in a professional manner?
   • Do you participate in rehearsals in respectful attire? Shoes and shirts are required during rehearsals, even on a beach campus. Remember that singing is a full-body activity and that it is important to be able to stand for long periods.

**Schedule:**
All rehearsals take place in Music 1145
Mondays and Wednesdays from 5-6:50pm
Dress rehearsal: times TBD, Monday, November 26, Trinity Episcopal Church
Final Concert: 7:30pm (6:30pm call time) Tuesday, November 27, Trinity Episcopal Church

*Transportation will NOT be provided to the dress rehearsal/concert venue.
**Chamber Choir will not rehearse after the completion of the concert. There will be no obligations during UCSB Finals Week.