

Toronto School of Theology Choir
EMP 2875HY L0101

Course Schedule

Wednesdays: **September 13, 2017- April 4, 2018**
Time: **16:30 – 18:00 hr**
Location: **Chapel (Room 319)**

Instructor: Becca Whitla/Swee Hong Lim
Office: Becca: TBD/Swee Hong Lim: Rm. 116 EM
Office Hours: by appointment
Voice Mail: Swee Hong Lim: 416-585-4543
Email: b.whitla@mail.utoronto.ca sweehong.lim@utoronto.ca
Research Fellow Peter Merrick
Email: peter.merrick@mail.utoronto.ca

Course Description

The Toronto School of Theology Choir, an ecumenical choir based at Emmanuel College, serves as the learning platform for this course that seeks to introduce a wide variety of choral music from various Christian traditions. Particular emphasis will be on works by living composers and those from non-Western art music traditions.

Course Outcomes

At the end of this course, students should:

1. Develop an awareness of the diversity of the Christian heritage as found in sacred music making.
2. Demonstrate a critical understanding for music performances as it relates to faith practices, and cultural contexts.

Individual Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Sing in at least two different vocal styles and languages as member of the ensemble in non-jury public performances. (e.g. Bel Canto, Cathedral straight tone, Black Gospel, First Nation throat style, Folk song style, etc.)
2. Evaluate two choral works in terms of their theological content, liturgical function and musical style for suitable use in a worship occasion.
3. Demonstrate an informed theological opinion regarding the role and place of performative music (e.g. sacred anthems) in public worship setting.

Course Requirements

1. **Attendance** (50% of total grade):
Academic credit for a course requires regular class attendance, unless otherwise indicated in the course syllabus. Attendance means being present in the class for the entire scheduled class meeting, not just part of it. In the event of absence for any reason, including sickness, students are responsible for any information or

class content missed. Students are expected to inform the professor prior to class. The professor may require additional work to make up for an absence.

The professor will be required to inform the Basic Degree Committee if students miss two classes. For students who miss three regular classes, or 25% of an intensive course, this may result in a lower grade or even a failing grade for the course. If attendance is poor due to extenuating circumstances, students may petition the Basic Degree Committee to drop a course without academic or financial penalty. (Emmanuel Handbook, 57)

2. Anthems Evaluation (25% of total grade):

Submit **one** essay (maximum of 1500 words, about 4 - 5 pages) appraising **two** anthems featured in the repertoire of the TST choir this academic year, commenting on the anthems’ theological content, liturgical function and musical style in the context of their planned use for corporate worship setting.

Writing guidelines:

The paper needs to include brief contextual information about the work: its creation, biographical account of the composer and/or lyricist. Thereafter assess the work’s suitability for use in worship by looking at its theological content and meaning making potential for the congregation by its musical style. For its liturgical efficacy, suggest a suitable placement in the worship service.

Writing hints:

1. Describe aspects of the narrative background of this composition, its lyricist and/or composer that might resonate with present day congregation?
2. How might this anthem contribute to the nurturing and/or ministerial work of the Church?
3. When might be a suitable occasion (e.g. Easter, Mother’s Day, etc.) to have this anthem presented?

Submission instruction:

1. Craft your document in either MS Word (DOCX) or Rich Text Format (RTF) with 12-point size Times New Roman or equivalent font in double line space.
2. Ensure that your assignment bears your U of T registered name.
3. Submit assignment via email to the professor with an email message header entitled: EMP2875 - Anthems Evaluation

Due Date: March 28, 2017

	Unsatisfactory (0 – 69 marks)	Good (70 – 79 marks)	Excellent (80 – 100 marks)
Writing Quality	Minimal research in background as gleaned from the score;	-Adequate research in background beyond the score; -Appropriate critical	-Rigorous research in background beyond the score; -Distinctive critical

	-Superficial or lack of critical reflection on theological themes and socio-cultural settings of present day church; -Opinion based on clichés or personal values with minimal support in citation and bibliography.	reflection on theological themes and socio-cultural settings of present day church; -Modest attempt at a learned opinion with scholarly support as evident by citation and bibliography.	reflection on theological themes and socio-cultural settings of present day church; -Excellent effort at forming a learned opinion with creativity and scholarly support as evident by citation and bibliography.
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2. Reflection Paper (25% of total grade)

Submit **two** critical theological reflection papers (maximum of 900 words or 2-3 pages per paper) drawn from two self-select assigned texts (see below). The student is to develop an informed theological opinion regarding the role and place of performative music (e.g. sacred anthems) in public worship setting formulated through the reflection of two self-selected texts.

Assigned Texts (Choose 2)

1. S T Kimbrough, Jr. *Music and Mission: Toward a Theology and Practice of Global Song* (New York, NY: GBGMUSik, 2006)
2. Don E. Saliers. *Music and Theology* (Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2007)
3. Thomas Troeger. *Music as Prayer: The Theology and Practice of Church Music* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2013)
4. Paul Westermeyer. *Rise, O Church: Reflections on the Church, its Music, and Empire* (Fenton, MO: MorningStar Music Publishers, 2008)

Writing guidelines:

This assignment requires the student to identify and dialog with 1 or 2 issues in the self-selected books that relate to the place of performative music in public worship.

Writing hints:

1. Do not summarize the assigned readings.
2. Select and cite a suitable quotation from the text that speaks about the issue, then articulate its implications as how it relates to public worship.
3. Ensure that your critique draws on the support from other scholarly sources that you have previously or presently read as part of your ministerial formation and/or academic journey.

Submission instruction:

1. Craft your document in either MS Word (DOCX) or Rich Text Format (RTF) with 12-point size Times New Roman or equivalent font in double line space.
2. Ensure that your assignment bears your U of T registered name.
3. Submit assignment via email to the professor with an email message header entitled: EMP2875 – Reflection Paper

Due Date: March 21, 2017

	Unsatisfactory (0 – 69 marks)	Good (70 – 79 marks)	Excellent (80 – 100 marks)
Writing Quality	-Summarizing the article; -Minimal critical engagement with the selected text as exhibited by sparse citation and references from the text itself, focusing on personal experiences and cliché opinions; - Superficial effort in analyzing the issue raised by the author as it relates to the Church.	-Identify one key issue of the article; -Critical reflection on selected text beyond personal opinion; -Scholarly effort at being theological informed evident in analysis of issue as it relates to the Church as attested by some external citation and references.	-Identify one or two key issues of the article; - Illuminate critical reflection and scholarly engagement with the text; -Distinct effort to analyze the issue as it relates to the Church as attested by scholarly external citation and references.

Music Making Accessories

Music folders and scores will be provided. All course materials will need to be returned at the end of the academic year. For copyright reasons, students are not permitted to duplicate, redistribute or retain choral scores.

Grading Scheme Rubric

Within the Grade “A” range of Excellent: Student shows original thinking, analytic and synthetic ability, critical evaluations, broad knowledge base.

A+ Exhibit exceptional (highly significant) creativity and imaginative yet scholarly higher level critical thinking (philosophical, ethical, contextual, and paradigmatic, etc.). Ability to exercise exceptional skilful leadership with much confidence.
Full mastery of content and outstanding ability to offer critique drawn from extensive and diverse (inter-disciplinary) knowledge bases beyond the provided bibliography.

A Exhibit significant creativity and undisputable high level scholarly critical thinking (philosophical, ethical and contextual). Ability to exercise skilful and excellent leadership with minimal prompting.
Mastery of content and significant ability to offer critique draw from a broad knowledge base beyond the provided bibliography.

A- Exhibit strong creativity and significant scholarly critical thinking (philosophical, ethical, or contextual). Ability to exercise excellent leadership with some prompting. Mastery of content and strong ability to offer critique drawn from relatively large knowledge base beyond but guided by the provided bibliography.

Within the Grade “B” range of Good: Student shows critical capacity and analytic ability, understanding of relevant issues, familiarity with the literature.

B+ Exhibit good creativity and strong scholarly critical thinking (ethical and contextual). Ability to exercise significantly strong and good leadership with some prompting. Mastery of content and strong ability to offer critique drawn from a wide knowledge base just beyond but guided by the provided bibliography.

B Exhibit reasonably good creativity and good scholarly critical thinking (ethical or contextual). Ability to exercise good leadership with prompting. Mastery of content and reasonably good ability to offer critique drawn from the knowledge base found mostly in the provided bibliography.

B- Exhibit some creativity and scholarly critical thinking (ethical or contextual). Ability to exercise suitable leadership with prompting. Reasonable mastery of content and some good ability to offer critique drawn from the knowledge base found only in the provided bibliography.

Specification for written assignments

1. **Submit assignments by e-mail.** Craft your document in either MS Word (DOCX) or Rich Text Format (RTF) with 12-point size Times New Roman or equivalent font in double line space. Ensure that your assignment bears your U of T registered name. Submit assignment via email to the professor with an email message header entitled: EMP2875 – <assignment title>
2. **Give reasons for your positions and arguments and support them** with material from required and recommended course readings, and from your own research. For more information, see “Advice on Academic Writing” on the University of Toronto web site at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice>
3. **Include complete documentation (either footnotes or endnotes) for all published material you use.** Cite all sources on which you rely, particularly when they are quoted directly, paraphrased or summarized in your paper. When in doubt please use the system of documentation described in the latest edition of Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (University of Chicago Press). See the “Quick Guide” to this style at http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html
4. **Observe all academic policies and regulations of your college of registration, the Toronto School of Theology, and the University of Toronto** (e.g., academic honesty, use of inclusive language, requests for extensions). It is your responsibility to know and understand these policies and regulations. Ensure you consult the following:
 - a. *Emmanuel College Student Handbook, Policies and Procedures:*
[http://www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/Assets/EmmCollege+Digital+Assets/My+EC/Handbook/\(6\)+Regulations.pdf](http://www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/Assets/EmmCollege+Digital+Assets/My+EC/Handbook/(6)+Regulations.pdf)
 - b. *Knox College Academic Policies*
<http://www.knox.utoronto.ca/life-at-knox/policies/>
 - c. *Toronto School of Theology Basic Degree Handbook*
http://www.tst.edu/webfm_send/277
 - d. *University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*
<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>

Accessibility Services

Students with diverse learning styles are welcome in this course. If you have a disability or health consideration that may require accommodations to facilitate your learning, please feel free to approach me and/or the University of Toronto Accessibility Office as soon as possible. It takes time to put disability related accommodations in place. The sooner you meet with a Disability Counsellor at Accessibility Services, the sooner the counsellor can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course. Please contact Accessibility Services by e-mail at accessibility.services@utoronto.ca, or by visiting either of its two locations on the University of Toronto St. George Campus:

Robarts Library, First Floor
(ground entrance)
130 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5S 3H1
(north-west corner of St. George St. and
Harbord St.)
Voice: (416) 978-8060
Fax: (416) 978-8246
TTY: (416) 978-1902

215 Huron Street
9th Floor, Room 939
Toronto, ON M5S 1A2
(just north of College St.)
Voice: (416) 978-7677
Fax: (416) 978-5729
TTY: (416) 978-1902

For more information, see the Accessibility Services web site at
<http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/>

Course Schedule for 2017-2018

- Sept 13 Introductions, Course Requirements Review, Vocal Parts Allocation
- Oct 11 **Presentation** (Tentative): Emmanuel College Chapel (12:30 – 3.00pm)
- Oct 25 Reading Week: No Class
- Nov 22 **Presentation** (Tentative): Emmanuel College Chapel (12:30 – 3.00pm)
- Spring Dates:**
- Jan 10 First rehearsal
- Fri Feb 9 Dress rehearsal 4pm
- Sun Feb 11 **Presentation:** Old Victoria Chapel (7 pm)
Winter Concert: Program TBD, focus on early music with the Vic Chorale
and special guest David Fallis and the Toronto Consort
- Feb 21 Reading Week: No Class
- March 14 **Presentation** (Tentative): Emmanuel Chapel (6.30 – 8.00pm)
- March 21 Reflection Paper Due
- March 28 Anthem Evaluation Due
- April 4 **Presentation** (Tentative): Emmanuel Chapel (6.30 – 8.00pm)
- May 10 **Presentation (optional):** Isabel Bader Theatre (3.00pm – 4.30pm)
date TBD Emmanuel Convocation

Revised: August 15, 2017