

Summer Chant Intensive Syllabus

Instructor: Jennifer Donelson

Summer Semester 2017

Monday, June 26, 12:00 – 5:00pm

Tuesday, June 27 through Thursday June 29, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday, June 30, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

I. Objective of Course To develop the theoretical and practical skills necessary for Gregorian chant performance.

II. Prerequisites none

III. Course Objectives

The student will understand basic Gregorian chant theory according to the Solesmes and other methods, and be able to transfer his or her knowledge from the written page to live performance as a singer or conductor in liturgy.

IV. Procedures

Textbooks include the Gregorian Missal (Solesmes) or Graduale Romanum (Solesmes) and the Parish Book of Chant (CMAA).

Instructors present theoretical concepts and rehearsal techniques geared toward live performance.

Material covered:

1. Reading the four-line staff • Clefs
 - Principles of Solfege • Basic Neumes • More complex neumes • Bar lines
2. Introduction to Chant Rhythm • Solesmes Method history and application • Principles of Arsis and Thesis • The Ictus • Counting • Alternative approaches Semiology overview
3. The Gregorian Modes • Basic Modal structure: Finals, Dominants, Ranges
 - The Major Modes • The Minor Modes
4. Mass Ordinaries • The Kyriale • Mass settings in English
5. Mass Propers • The Gregorian Propers • English and Spanish Alternatives
6. The Art of Psalmody • Antiphonal singing • Pointing the Psalms
7. Chant Hymns • Singing the Divine Office

8. Mass preparation for June 30, 2017 (Duquesne University Chapel, TBD) • Ordinary of the Mass (Mass TBD) • Propers for Memorial Mass of the First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church (TBD)

The student will be responsible for:

1. Demonstration of theoretical knowledge in written exam.
2. Demonstrate ability to read and sing a chant from Gregorian notation.
3. Participate in liturgy on Friday, June 30, 2017, at 1:30 pm in the Duquesne Chapel, in which full Gregorian propers and ordinary of the Mass will be sung.

IV. For more information, contact Ann Labounsky at steele@duq.edu

V. Textbooks Gregorian Missal (Solesmes) or Graduale Romanum (Solesmes), Parish Book of Chant (CMAA) Handouts

Recommended supplemental resources:

The Technique of Gregorian Chironomy by Joseph Robert Carroll
Text Book of Gregorian Chant According to the Solesmes Method by Dom Gregory Suñol

VI. Grade Assessment:

A. (65%) Attendance, preparation of assignments and scores, participation in class activities.

Attendance: It is assumed that students will attend all classroom lectures. Out of courtesy, the professor will expect an explanation of absence or tardiness via e-mail. Students are allowed to miss a total of three hours of instructional time during the week; absences beyond this limit will result in failure of the class. Out of respect for the professor and one's classmates, tardiness is not allowed.

B. (35%) Final Exam.

Students will prepare the following:

- One piece of a Mass Ordinary
- One piece of a Mass Proper
- One text pointed to a Psalm tone

Students will be able to count sing, solfège, and count in their entirety all elements in the list. Additionally, a prepared score will be presented to the professor at the time of the exam. Students will be evaluated on their accuracy and musicianship (intonation, phrasing, etc.). A rubric for the grading of the exam will be given in class.