



COURSE OUTLINE			
TERM: Fall 2026		COURSE NO: ENSM 100	
INSTRUCTOR:		COURSE TITLE: Choir Ensemble I	
OFFICE:	LOCAL:	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 2.0
E-MAIL:	@capilanou.ca		
OFFICE HOURS:			
COURSE WEBSITE:			

Capilano University is named after Chief Joe Capilano (1854–1910), an important leader of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation of the Coast Salish Peoples. We respectfully acknowledge that our campuses are located on the unceded territories of the səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh), shíshálh (Sechelt), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

COURSE FORMAT

Minimum instruction of 3 hours per week for 15 weeks as well as additional time requirements as per rehearsal schedule and fourth hour activities for an average of 5 hours of class time in a week.

COURSE PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES

None

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course develops collaborative performance skills through large and small ensembles. Students study repertoire from diverse historical, cultural, and stylistic traditions, gaining technical proficiency and stylistic awareness. Emphasis is placed on producing a cohesive ensemble sound, applying effective rehearsal practices, and communicating musical ideas in performance. Rehearsals, performance opportunities, and written assignments support the development of musicianship, professionalism, and artistic growth.

COURSE NOTE:

An audition is required.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

The Music Department will provide copies of music to all members of the ensemble.

Each member will be responsible for the music and will make markings only in pencil. Members will be required to pay for music and/or folders that are lost or damaged. The cost will be 100% of replacement value plus 50% service charge.

Members failing to return music and/or folders will not be permitted to register for any other University classes until they have paid the fines.

Members are expected to have the following equipment beyond their instrument:

- Pencil with eraser
- Digital metronome
- Digital pitchpipe
- Concert attire

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- Develop and apply healthy vocal techniques to support expressive ensemble singing, including breath management, tone production, diction, and posture.
- Perform collaboratively to produce a cohesive ensemble sound, demonstrating blend, balance, intonation, and stylistic awareness.
- Communicate artistic intention to an audience with musical clarity and expression, using text, dynamics, phrasing, articulation, and interpretive choices.
- Explore and perform repertoire within social, political, cultural and historical contexts including works by contemporary, living, Indigenous, and underrepresented composers.
- Apply professional rehearsal and performance practices by preparing individually, listening critically, problem-solving, collaborating, and reflecting on personal and group performance.
- Develop transferable artistic and leadership skills through collaboration, creative decision making, innovative programming and community engagement.

COURSE CONTENT

Week	Content
1	Introduction to repertoire Discussion of rehearsal schedule and concerts
2-9	Rehearsal of repertoire working on pitch, rhythm, articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and diction
10-12	Preparing and polishing repertoire to performance standard
13	Dress rehearsals and performances
14-15	Final Project

EVALUATION PROFILE

Professional Behaviour	25%
Successful Execution of Material	35%
Written Assignments	20%
Final Project	10%
Attendance	10%
Total	100%

Description of Assessments:

Professional Behaviour

There are many elements that make up professional behaviour in an ensemble situation. The elements outlined below are the key elements to professional behaviour. For each instance of unprofessional behaviour, the student will lose 2 marks of the 25 marks in this category.

Punctuality: Arrive ahead of start time (5 minutes is the professional minimum). This allows for set-up, getting into position and having the music ready.

Rehearsal Tools: Students are expected to arrive with the assigned music along with a pencil with eraser for musical markings.

Openness to Musical Ideas: Students are expected to try music in a variety of ways (for example, articulation, style, phrase shape). The instructor decides the final interpretation of the music. Students can contribute to the musical ideas in a constructive manner.

Participating Actively in Class: This is based on both the quality and energy of the student's use of their instrument and involvement in the ensemble.

Working Collaboratively with Peers in Class: Students are expected to interact with peers in a manner that supports the ensemble and the final performance production. Behaviour that includes poor tuning, poor ensemble or lack of preparation will seriously affect the collaborative nature of the ensemble.

Professional Responsiveness in Rehearsal: The nature of the ensemble requires that students conduct themselves in a professional, safe and effective manner. This can require direction from the instructor and adherence to the directions in a quick manner is essential (for example, moving the ensemble on or off stage quickly).

Wearing Required Performance Attire: Students are expected to dress appropriately for performance as this impacts on the overall ensemble. Attire expectations are stated in the Operational Details section of this course outline.

Midterm review: Students will receive a midterm review to identify their grade in professional behaviour.

Successful Execution of Material

Successfully executing the ensemble material includes preparation of music, working on ensemble, tuning, tone quality, text, pronunciation, diction, musical phrasing, balance, dynamics, rhythm, and articulation. Participating fully in dress rehearsals, performances, recording sessions and tours are also included in the successful execution of material. Performance assessments will be conducted over the course of the term.

Students are advised to practice their ensemble music daily and rehearse with their peers outside of rehearsal twice each week. Students should increase their practice time accordingly if they are unable to keep up with the course material.

Final Project

The final project asks students to reflect on the final concert of the term. Students will review the video recording of the performance and produce a written response that connects preparation, rehearsal process, and performance outcomes. The project is intended to encourage students to think critically about the relationship between rehearsal and performance, and to articulate insights into ensemble sound, musical communication, and artistic growth.

Attendance

Attendance is an essential and graded component of this course. Missing three rehearsals, without a doctor's certificate, may result in receiving a failing grade for the course. Missing dress rehearsals or performances, without a doctor's certificate, may result in a failing grade for the course.

GRADING PROFILE

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

*** Accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices.

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English Usage

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

Electronic Devices

Students may use electronic devices during class for note-taking or other activities, as requested by the instructor.

On-line Communication

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Safe Alert App](#)

Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information:

<https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.