

# University of Washington Recital Choir

Autumn 2019

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-5:20pm

Music Building, Room 213

## Instructor of Record:

Dr. Geoffrey Boers - boersg@uw.edu

## Graduate Conductors:

Richard Carrick - rcarr@uw.edu

Tiffany Walker - tfwalker@uw.edu

\*Office Hours available upon request by emailing the graduate conductors above.

## Welcome

Congratulations on joining (or returning to) the University of Washington Recital Choir. The Recital Choir performs diverse literature directed by choral conducting graduate students. Over five weeks, the choir prepares a one-hour concert program presented at a performance venue in Seattle as a part of the graduate conductor's MM or DMA degree requirement. This fast-paced group of auditioned students, faculty, staff, and community members contains capable sight-singers with a high degree of musicianship. This quarter we will perform one concert that is a joint "Preview" recital featuring 5 conductors and one DMA recital.

## Recital Choir Website: Use Canvas

All relevant information will be posted on Canvas. This may include, but is not limited to the following items: copy of this syllabus and rehearsal schedule, some pieces of music that you can download and print, and sample recordings. We will also use Canvas to send out reminders and other items of importance, so please check frequently.

## Expectations

Below is a list of expectations that will help this ensemble to achieve optimum success and fulfillment.

- 1) **Practice your music outside of class**, which will allow us to tend to vocal/technical details, building ensemble, and honing our interpretation. For TIPS about learning music, go here:  
<https://musingswordpresscom.wordpress.com/2015/09/14/practicing-choral-music-ten-ideas-for-the-singer-who-doesnt-think-they-can-practice-on-their-own/>
- 2) **Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals, and performances.**
  - *Questions about attendance need to be fielded to Tiffany Walker or Richard Carrick.* If you have a conflict with one of the dates scheduled, see Tiffany Walker this week or next week so that a solution can be found. Conflicts mentioned later in the quarter may not be excusable. If you have more than one major conflict, plan to join another

choir, since a major element in Recital Choir's success relies on the full contribution of each member of the group.

- An excused absence can only be obtained directly from the director *prior* to rehearsal via phone or email. If you are unable to sing but are well enough to come to school come to class, for much can be learned by observing, listening, and taking notes. If you are contagious (in the first 24 hours of illness and/or running a fever) please stay home and rest. In the case of multiple unexcused absences (or frequent absences of any kind), you will be dismissed from the ensemble.
- **Missing a performance** (except in the case of death in the family, illness or unforeseen emergency) **will result in failing the class.**

3) **Arrive on time and ready to sing.**

4) **Have and use a PENCIL.**

5) **Warm up before rehearsal, and vocalize every day**, as part of basic vocal hygiene.

Warm-ups introduced in class will help, but every singer's vocal needs are different and choral warm-ups alone cannot sustain the technique. If you are "marking" due to vocal fatigue or illness, please let the conductor know before rehearsal.

6) Unnecessary Distractions: **Texting in class is not allowed.** You cannot fully participate in choir while simultaneously reading or sending texts—EVEN when another section is working on something- you can be learning from their process. Please note that Room 213 has slanted floors and no place to set drinks. Please come hydrated or bring a closed container for water.

7) **Avoid talking in rehearsal, be professional.** Talking in rehearsal erodes the choir's ability to achieve a "flow state," where we can all let our daily cares and concerns go and focus on the music. It also makes it impossible for people around you to hear what is going on.

### **Grading**

UW Recital Choir is graded on a Pass/No Pass system.

*Pass:* You will pass the class if you know your music (as demonstrated in every rehearsal) and participate fully (with focus and energy) in all choir events (rehearsals and performances).

*No Pass:* You will not pass the class if you miss more than one rehearsal without documentation, or any dress rehearsal or performance, and/or if you consistently fall behind in learning your music. If you are sick for more than three class periods a doctor's note will be necessary. If you are concerned about learning your music, see one of the directors immediately for help.

### **Course Materials**

1) Pencil. Have a pencil ready, out of your bag or backpack, at the start of every rehearsal.

2) Music. Look on the white-board to discover which pieces to have out and ready to rehearse.

3) **Black folder for performance** (please no shiny covers). Music must be arranged in folders in concert order ONE WEEK before the concert. If you are missing music, get a copy from a friend or see the conductor.

## **Concert Dress, Music**

**Concert Dress: All black** – black dress or black skirt or black pants, black dress shirt, or top. Tenors and Basses need a black jacket. No tie required, but if so it must be black. Sleeves should be at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  length. Skirt or dress should be at least knee length. Black socks, or leggings, or tights. Black shoes. You will be standing during much of the concert. We recommend flat shoes.

**Music:** Most of the music you'll need this year is being purchased through the School of Music. In the case of the music we provide, there will be a replacement charge for lost music. Failure to pay the replacement charge may result in your grades being held.

## **DATES TO RESERVE**

- Fri, Oct. 25, Cohort and Recital Choir Preview Concert [UPC confirmed, 7:30pm], call at 5pm, concert at 7:30pm
- Fri, Dec. 6, 7:30pm, Richard Carrick, recital, University Congregational United Church of Christ, call TBD

## **FUTURE DATES: RESERVE NOW!**

- Fri, Feb 7, Simon Hill, recital
- Saturday, March 14, Luke Duroc-Danner, recital
- Fri, May 1, Joslyn Thomas, recital
- Fri, June 5, Tiffany Walker, recital

## **Religious Accommodation Statement:**

“Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW’s policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at [Religious Accommodations Policy](https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/)

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>).

Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the [Religious Accommodations Request form](https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/)

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>).”

## **Access and Accommodations Statement**

Your experience in this class is important to me. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please communicate your approved accommodations to me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924 or [uwdrs@uw.edu](mailto:uwdrs@uw.edu) or [disability.uw.edu](https://disability.uw.edu). DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and DRS. It is the policy and practice of the University of

Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law.

### **Safety Statement**

Call SafeCampus at 206-685-7233 anytime – no matter where you work or study – to anonymously discuss safety and well-being concerns for yourself or others. SafeCampus's team of caring professionals will provide individualized support, while discussing short- and long-term solutions and connecting you with additional resources when requested.

**Wellness Resources** UW Counseling Center [401 Schmitz Hall](#), Box 355830 Phone: 206-543-1240

The UW Counseling Center provides a safe environment to help students explore the challenges of life and learning through counseling, outreach, preventive programming, advocacy, and consultation. The Counseling Center strives to create a diverse, inclusive, and multicultural learning community. As both a service and training site, the staff is committed to excellence within the college mental health profession.

We provide personal counseling, career counseling, and other services to currently-enrolled UW students. The Counseling Center also provides consultation to faculty, staff, and parents who have concerns about a student.

If you are experiencing a psychological crisis outside our working hours and cannot wait until the UW Counseling center is open, please call the [Crisis Clinic](#) at **866-427-4747**

### **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UW community must uphold the UW mission and contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment must be reported immediately. For assistance, definitions, and the full University policy, see <https://www.washington.edu/sexualassault/reporting/policies/>.