



POINT LOMA SINGERS

Fall 2013

Meeting days: MWF 12:30-1:20	Instructor: Dr. Keith Pedersen
TTH 1:30-1:20	Phone: 2202
Meeting location: Crill	E-mail: kpederse@pointloma.edu
Additional info: cell 858.353.3615	Office hours: M-F 8:45-9:45
Schedule: See attached	Additional info:

PLNU Mission
To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The *Point Loma Singers* is a highly select, 18-22 voice chamber choir focusing on sacred and secular concert literature of varying styles, from chant to part-songs, madrigals to masses, and anthems to folk music. The *PLS* performs unaccompanied and with keyboard and orchestra. It sings in churches and in the community and presents an annual Madrigal Dinner. It seeks to perform, to the glory of God, choral music at the highest standards.

Consequently, the ideal singer in *PLS* will be

1. passionate about artistic, meaningful performance of great choral music of various styles
2. excited by the challenge of independent musicianship within a choral ensemble
3. committed to group success through positive attitude, faithful attendance and self-improvement
4. motivated by the desire to glorify God through development of bestowed talents.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR POINT LOMA SINGERS

Students in *PLS* will:

1. Demonstrate professional levels of individual responsibility and commitment to the group success of *PLS* (PLO#2)
2. Learn repertoire assigned as demonstrated by performances and part checks (PLO#2)
3. Apply musicianship skills as demonstrated by musical performance of discussed concepts (PLO#2).
4. Utilize applied music skills as demonstrated by improving vocal technique (tone, range, intonation) (PLO#2).
5. Understand differences between historical styles and apply them to appropriate performance repertoire (PLO#3).
6. Experience and contribute to an understanding of the role of music as a way to add meaning to life and a demonstration of God's grace and blessing in the lives of both performers and audiences. (PLO#2)

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

- 1. ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Please be honest in all your work. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense. Plagiarism will earn you an "F" for the written work in question, and may be grounds for failure in the course. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergrad student catalog.
- 2. ATTENDANCE:** Please read the [Class Attendance](#) section of your *PLNU Catalog*, carefully (see link above). It indicates that if students miss more than 10 percent of class meetings (approx. 4 for a MWF course and 3 classes for a TTH course), faculty members may file a written report which may result in de-enrollment from the course. If students miss more than 20 percent of class meetings (approx. 8 for a MWF course and 6 classes for a TTH course), students may be de-enrolled without notice. De-enrollment may have serious consequences on residence, athletic, and scholarship requirements; it may also necessitate a reduction or loss in a student's financial aid.

Attendance Policy for Point Loma Nazarene University Music Department

Students will be advised each term of the schedule of specific ensemble performance obligations they are expected to meet; missing a scheduled performance will result in 1-3 full grades lower (see Attendance/Participation Policy below). It is expected that the ensemble performances will take precedence over outside commitments. Students may only petition an absence penalty for circumstances that are beyond their control such as sickness and personal family matters.

Both scholarship students and music majors in PLS must participate in Choral Union. All 1st time PLS singers must participate in Choral Union—Freshmen may choose Vocal Jazz Ensemble in lieu of CU requirement. Rehearsing for CU Monday evenings 7-9:30 instead of T-Th is an option. Students who do not meet this requirement will have their final grade lowered two letter grades and/or scholarship affected.

1. Ensemble grades are based on attendance, attitude, and achievement. Students are required and expected to perform to the utmost of their ability, displaying a professional attitude in rehearsals and concerts.
2. Absences due to illness or of a personal nature should be cleared with the conductor of your assigned ensemble. Requests due to personal injury must be accompanied by medical documentation. Timely reporting will help students to avoid penalties due to absence from rehearsals or concerts.
3. At their discretion, conductors may excuse students from rehearsals or concerts for PLNU activities.
4. At their discretion, conductors will have a choice of lowering up to three full grades for missing a performance event. For example, a missed performance for service club may only be docked by one grade while a spring concert would bring a grade down by three full letter grades.
5. Failure to meet the basic guidelines above may result in a student forfeiting their scholarship.

This policy above, instituted by the PLNU Music Department, states the minimum requirement for all courses. Individual professors **do not** have the option of establishing a more lenient policy; they may, however, establish a more rigorous policy, which is to be described in their course syllabus.

3. **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:** While all students are expected to meet the minimum academic standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University, students requesting academic accommodations must file documentation with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. Once the student files documentation, the Disability Resource Center will contact the student's instructors and provide written recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations to meet the individual learning needs of the student. This policy assists the University in its commitment to full compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act of 1990, and ADA Amendments Act of 2008, all of which prohibit discrimination against students with disabilities and guarantee all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergrad student catalog.
4. **FERPA:** In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publically posted grades or returned sets of assignments without student written permission. This class will meet the federal requirements by (each faculty member choose one strategy to use: distributing all grades and papers individually; requesting and filing written student permission; or assigning each student a unique class ID number not identifiable on the alphabetic roster.). Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the "Information Release" section of the student portal. See [Policy Statements](#) in the undergrad student catalog.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, POLICIES & GUIDELINES

1. *Rehearsals:*

1st Quad: MWF—Crill Hall; T-Th—CM128

2nd Quad: MWF—Crill Hall: T-Th—CM115

2. *Concert Dress (see following as well):*

Women: black choir dress and pearls (\$110; used may be available), black dress shoes and hose.

Men: black tuxedo, white wing-tip shirt, black bow tie and vest (\$155-\$265), black dress shoes and black socks.

Suggestions for purchase are available.

All singers will also purchase T-shirts (around \$20). You will be fitted by Betsy Northam by Friday, Sept. 1, and pay her by Sept. 15. Any concerns about outfits and/or payment should be brought up with the director at once.

3. *Calendar:*

Point Loma Singers must have priority in your calendar for all rehearsals and performances.

You are responsible for resolving conflicts well in advance of the event. *PLS* members are responsible for obtaining a *Point Loma Singers* calendar and living by it. Additional concerts may be added with one month's notice; choir approval will be sought if lead time is less than one month.

4. *Membership:*

PLS members will commit to the choir for the entire year. Their class and work schedules should be clear for both semesters. Schedule conflicts must be resolved with director prior to admittance.

5. *Music:*

Each member of *PLS* will be assigned their own folder with music. This music is provided at no charge, but it is the responsibility of each singer. All music and folders **MUST** be returned at the end of the year. Grades may be affected if music is not returned. If you are missing your music or folder, please let the librarian know ASAP.

6. *University Responsibility:*

PLS members must commit to making acceptable progress in their other classes. They should assume perfect attendance in all classes even the day after concerts or tours. You are responsible for class work even during absence for concerts.

7. *Department Participation:*

PLS and *CC* members provide leadership for Choral Union and VJE as in I. See following for concert schedule.

8. *Classroom Decorum:*

Please manage your electronic devices appropriately and with consideration for others. All electronic devices should be turned off for rehearsals and stored for performances. Please dress in appropriate academic attire out of consideration for others in our class. I do reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom if I believe your attire to be offensive and/or an obstacle to a positive learning and teaching environment.

9. *Email & Eclass:*

You are responsible for checking your PLNU email account and Eclass regularly for electronic messages from me (and sometimes from your classmates). You are fully accountable for all course material, announcements, communications that are distributed via email; and I will send messages only to this site. Please let me know if you encounter any technical problems with email.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Grading is based on attendance, attitude and participation. The grade may be lowered one level per absence after three. An unexcused absence from a concert is unacceptable. Your grade will be based on the quality of your work in these areas:

- Attendance 70%
- Contribution 10%
- Assignments/quizzes 20%

Your work will not be graded on a curve. A traditional US scale will be used.

- A** indicates exceptional commitment and/or contribution (most students achieve this)
- B** indicates good commitment and/or contribution (a few students may achieve this)
- C** indicates satisfactory/average commitment and/or contribution (students achieving this may not be asked to return to PLS)
- D** poor commitment and/or contribution (any student achieving this will not be asked to return to PLS)
- F** indicates unsatisfactory and/or contribution (any student achieving this will not be asked to return to PLS)

PERCENT	GRADE
93-100	A
90-92	A-
88-89	B+
83-87	B
80-82	B-
78-79	C+
73-77	C
70-72	C-
68-69	D+
63-67	D
60-62	D-
0-59	F

2014-15 PLS Schedule

The *POINT LOMA SINGERS* maintains an active performing schedule. As it is a chamber ensemble, often with 1-2 on a part, each singer is important. Please clear the following schedule, remembering that one or two dates may be changed and others added.

- Sept. 27** Singing Saturday (9AM-6:00 PM; 115 then OC)
Sept. 28 Point Loma Presbyterian (7:40AM-11:15AM)
Oct. 13 Choreography Rehearsal (7:00PM-10:00; Crill)
Oct. 29 Dress rehearsal: PLS *Cantate* concert (6:00PM-10:00; Crill)
Nov. 1 (Sat.) PLS *Cantate* Concert (6:15PM call; 7:30 concert; Crill)
Nov. 2 PLS/VJE Concert (2:00PM-7:00; 4:00 concert OC: Foothills UMC)
Dec. 1 CU rehearsal: Crill Hall (7:00PM-9:00)
Dec. 6 CU rehearsal: Brown Chapel (9:30AM-12:45PM)
Dec. 7 CU *Messiah* concert: PLNU Brown Chapel (1:45PM call; 3:00 concert)
Dec. 9 Frederica Manor (5:25PM-8:30; 6:45 concert)
Dec. 12 PLS Christmas Chapel (9:00AM call; Brown)
Dec. 13 Progressive Dinner (Party!) (5:00PM-9:30PM)
Dec. ? Christmas concerts: TBA (1-2 each; choir splits up)
 12/11 Dana Hotel: Union Bank Retirees (12:00-1:15, 2:30 performance)
 12/18 Mission Bay Yacht Club (12:10PM-1:45)

Jan. 30-31 Retreat: Location TBA (4:00PM Fri-6:00PM-Sat; OC)
Feb. 11? Haiti Tour Meeting (7:30PM-9:30)
Feb. 15 La Jolla Presbyterian Church (7:30AM-12:45PM)
March 1 PLS/VJE Concert (1:15 PM-6:00; 3:00 Nestor UM Church: South Bay)
March 6-16 Haiti Tour? (Details to come; decision by Nov.1)
March 20 PLS Homecoming concert (6:15PM-9:00, 7:30 concert; Crill)
March 21 Balboa Park 100th Anniversary Concert (Balboa Park: Time TBD)?
April 8-9 Madrigal Dinner Rehearsals (7:00PM-11:00; Nicholson)
April 10-11 Madrigal Dinner (6:30PM call; Crill, 7:30 concert; Nicholson)
April 19 PLS Concert (2:00PM-7:00; 4:00 concert OC- TBD)
April 20 CU rehearsal: Crill Hall (7:00PM-9:00)
April 25 Choral Union dress rehearsal: Crill (9:30AM-12:45PM)
April 26 Choral Union Concert: Crill (1:45PM Call; 3:00PM concert)
May 4 (Mon) Recording (10:30AM-12:30 PM; Crill)
May 7 PLS Appreciation Day (1:30PM-4:00; 116)
May 8 Spring Music Festival (7:00-9:00 P. M.; Crill)
May 9 Baccalaureate Service (stay on campus until 1:00 P. M.)

OC=off campus

PLS SINGING CONCEPTS

- WEEK One: Energy (I talk like this/but I sing like this)**
Breathing: push air out
Pulsing
Cresc. to cut-offs
Project consonants on the beat
Word stress in music
- WEEK Two: Energy**
Breathing (in low and slow)
Vowels (Neuen): dark/bright; round/vertical
On/off the beat
Cresc. to cut offs
Pulsing
Placement
Chords
- WEEK Three: Energy**
Breathing (longer)
Pulsing
Forward motion
Sol fege
H.S
- WEEK Four:**
Dynamics
Articulations
- WEEK Five:**
Stagger breathing

PLS OUTFITS

Women:

Riviera dress, pearls, and polo shirt: \$130

The dress should be ordered a little on the large size and hemmed to 1 inch off the floor, counting shoe heel size.

You will provide black, close toed shoes (no high heels) and black hose.

(You will replace lost pearls.)

PLS Polos

Men:

Tuxedo, vest and PLS polo shirt: \$175-\$285

Matching black tuxedo jacket and pants and bow tie with white shirt with wing-tipped collar, and special red brocade vest. You may choose polyester (\$175) or wool (\$285).

You will provide white undershirt, black, dress shoes (not running shoes) and black socks.

PLS Polos

You will be fitted by and pay Betsy Northam with cash/check/credit card. She'll have a form for you to fill out.

How we look makes a huge first impression on audiences; we want to strive for excellence in this area as well.