

Accompanied Repertoire for Shabbat

CANTR 595 Fall 2010 – 3 credits --- 11:15-1:15 Thursdays

Cantor Jeff Klepper & Cantor Louise Treitman

Cantor Treitman - Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday by appointment

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Cantor Klepper - Office Hours: 1:15 – 2:15 Thursdays (following class) or by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students learn cantorial and congregational repertoire for Shabbat services involving instrumental accompaniment – including piano, organ, guitar, drum, and band. The repertoire spans nineteenth-century European classics to twentieth/twenty-first century American composers and songwriters. The class will also cover other contemporary service styles, such as Carlebach, Renewal, and New York's B'nai Jeshurun synagogue.

Prerequisites: MUSIC 302 (Musicianship Skills II) and LITGY 590 (Liturgy of the Synagogue Service) or permission of the instructors.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Attendance: Students are expected to attend each class session and to participate fully in the music and discussion. Problems affecting attendance should be brought to the instructors' attention immediately.
- Learning Repertoire: Students are expected to go over the music from class, and to learn other pieces as required.
- In-class performances will take place on a regular basis, schedule permitting. Before the end of the semester each student will plan a sample Shabbat service and perform selections for the class.
- If you are submitting papers after the due date, please contact the instructors.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments will be submitted in "Buzzword", a product of Adobe Acrobat, using 12 point font and double spacing. More details will be available at the first class session.

- 1) A Musical Autobiography (1-2 pages): *Due at the second class session - October 7th.* Begin by thinking back over your life, recalling your earliest memories of being deeply affected by music. Spend some time remembering the places, people, and experiences that most influenced you as a musician or singer. Write about one (or two) of these recollections and its meaning for you today.

2) First Book Review (1-2 pages): *Due at the fourth class session - October 21st*

Read the complete book, and then choose one chapter of *The Lord's Song in a Strange Land* that you find most compelling. Write a reaction to the reading, focusing on whatever is most interesting or relevant for you. Or, you may use these questions to get you started.

- A) What is the main point the author is making?
- B) Do you agree or disagree with the opinions expressed by those quoted in the chapter?
- C) How might you apply what you have learned from this chapter to your own life experience or your future as a cantor?

3) Second Book Review (1-2 pages): *Due at the ninth class session - December 2nd*

The purpose of this assignment is to allow you to follow your own interests relating to your cantorate. Choose one of the following books, and write a reaction to the reading. You may use the questions from Assignment #2 to guide you, if you wish.

- *Chosen Voices* by Mark Slobin (University of Illinois Press) Slobin, a renowned ethnomusicologist, traces the history of the cantorate in American Judaism.
- *Rise and Be Seated* by Joseph A. Levine (Jason Aronson, Inc). Cantor Levine, a scholar of Jewish music, has written an analysis of the role of music in contemporary Jewish worship. He examines the role of the prayer leaders and that of the congregants.
- *Music, The Brain, And Ecstasy: How Music Captures Our Imagination* by Robert Jourdain (Harper Perennial) If you are interested in the crossroads of musical esthetics and brain science, this book is fascinating and thorough.
- We are open to other suggestions, both books and extended articles. Please check with us.

4) Final Project (4-6 pages total): *Due at the twelfth class session - December 23rd - (a one-paragraph proposal for Outline # 2 is due by Thanksgiving break.)*

Annotated Shabbat Service Outlines - Each student will create annotated outlines for two different accompanied Shabbat evening services. We suggest using siddur *Mishkan T'filah*, but other siddurim may be used. Your annotations (a sentence or two on each piece) should explain why you chose that composition. Please include page numbers and other relevant information, such as performance notes, choreography, connecting readings or meditations.

Outline #1 - Create a complete outline for a "regular" Shabbat service in your own congregation (or one that you attend, or know well). *Your final class presentation will consist of selections from Outline # 1.*

Outline #2 - Create a special musical service using instrumentation of your choice, anything from organ/choir, to rock band, and in between.

EVALUATION:

The final grade will be based on:

- 1) Attendance, participation, preparation and performance of assigned music (60%)
- 2) Written Assignments (40%): Your written assignments will be graded, based on such factors as quality of writing, clarity of expression, and care taken in editing (especially grammar). Please follow guidelines concerning the number of pages required.

MATERIALS:

Required:

The Lord's Song in a Strange Land, Jeffrey Summit (Oxford University Press). Used copies are available and affordable from various on-line sellers.

The Complete Jewish Songbook: Shireinu (Paperback version of *Complete Shireinu*) published by Transcontinental Publication. You can use either version of this book.

Course Pack for CANTR595 – order from: <http://library.universityreaders.com/order/form/>

This will be available no later than September 20th - an email will be sent to notify you.

Optional:

Mishkan T'filah (for Shabbat) ed. Elyse Frishman (some copies will be available for use in class if you choose not to purchase your own copy)

Available in class:

Gates of Song/Shi-arei Shirah, Transcontinental Music

Mishkan T'filah, ed. Elyse Frishman, CCAR Press

CLASS SCHEDULE:

CLASS 1: TUESDAY, September 28th (please note Tuesday adjusted schedule)

Repertoire: Opening songs for evening and morning services

Discussion: How music relates to worship, prayer, and liturgy.

CLASS 2: October 7th

First written assignment due.

Repertoire: Kabbalat Shabbat

Discussion: Styles of worship; genres of music used in worship; Performance and Participation

CLASS 3: October 14th

Repertoire: Kabbalat Shabbat, continued; Prepare to perform & teach your favorite L'cha Dodi
Discussion: Continuation of above discussion

CLASS 4: October 21st

Second written assignment due (First book report)
Maariv L'Shabbat (Sh'ma U'virchoteha)

CLASS 5: October 28th

Maariv L'Shabbat (G'ulah - Amidah)
Discussion of Summit book.

CLASS 6: November 4th

Shacharit L'Shabbat (Through P'sukei D'zimra)
Student performances as assigned.

CLASS 7: November 11th

Shacharit L'Shabbat (Sh'ma U'virchoteha-G'ulah)
Student performances as assigned.

CLASS 8: November 18th

Second Book Report due.
Shacharit L'Shabbat (Amidah)
Student performances as assigned.

THANKSGIVING BREAK - No Class - November 25th

CLASS 9: December 2nd

Using siddur *Mishkan T'filah*

Hallel melodies and liturgical additions during Shabbat services

CLASS 10: December 9th

Anthems and songs for special occasions

Students will select, prepare and perform two pieces arranged for voice and keyboard:

1. Liturgical selection such as V'sham'ru, R'tzei, Hashkiveinu, etc.
2. A special piece (an "anthem," commonly sung after the sermon)

CLASS 11: December 16th

Seder K'riat Hatorah, Mi Shebeirach

Additional selections as needed

CLASS 12: December 23rd

Written portion of Final Project is due.

Aleinu, Closing Songs and Havdalah

Additional selections as needed

CLASS 13: January 6th

*Student Presentations - accompanist will be joining us

CLASS 14: January 13th

*Student Presentations - accompanist will be joining us

*If, for any reason, you are unable to be on campus for the two January classes, we will try to arrange for you to present in December (accompanist will have to be discussed)