



COURSE CATALOG

Standard 7-Week Course: \$275*

Course Cost: Registration includes access to pre-recorded instructional videos, repertoire scores, audio recordings, class forum, instructor assessments, and at least two ½-hour online live practice sessions each week. Students retain access to courses on the website after completion.

Live Practice Sessions: Students should plan to attend 1 - 2 live practice sessions a week after they have done some of the coursework for the week and have questions or are prepared to practice some of the skills learned in the coursework.

Class Transfer Policy: Students have 10 days from the start of each academic term to transfer into a lower or higher-level course, with no charge, at the permission of the instructor(s).

Withdrawal/Refund Policy: The cost of each course includes a \$25 deposit, which consists of a \$5 processing fee and a \$20 evaluation fee. If a student withdraws within 10 days of the beginning of the academic term and they have *not* been administered a placement evaluation by an instructor, they will receive a full refund, minus the \$5 processing fee. If a student *has* had a placement evaluation administered, the cost of that evaluation will also be subtracted. There will be no refunds after 10 days from the start of the academic term.

* You can find our Parish Discount Policy in the About section on the TSBM website.

2024 Academic Program

Term 1: January 15 - March 3

---- Lenten Break ----

Term 2: May 13 - June 30

---- Summer Break ----

Term 3: Sept 23 - Nov 10

----Nativity Break ----

In 2024 there will only be one term offered in the fall.

Course Descriptions

Byzantine Beginnings

ByzB 101: Parallage, Scales and Basic Vocal Technique

Students will study two hymns and learn to chant them on the text of the hymn and on parallagi. Students will learn about the different modes and scales in Byzantine chant and study the intervals of the Diatonic and Hard Chromatic scales. They will also study the basics of good vocal technique. Students should plan to come to at least one half hour regular practice session and one half hour Vocal Technique Session each week.

Prerequisite(s): None.

Offered all terms.

ByzB 102: Introduction to Byzantine Notation

Students study the foundational symbols needed to read syllabic hymns in Byzantine notation and continue their study of modal theory. Students study intervallic symbols, qualitative symbols, rhythmic symbols, and symbols that indicate the mode and scale. Students study Heirmologic hymns on parallagi and melos in the Diatonic Modes: 1st, Plagal 1st, 4th, and Plagal 4th Modes. Students should plan to come to at least one half hour regular practice session and one half hour Vocal Technique Session each week.

Prerequisite(s): ByzB 101 or equivalent.

Offered all terms.

ByzB 103: Byzantine Notation - Basic Reading Fluency

This course focuses on developing reading fluency on parallagi in syllabic hymns and sticheraric hymns and goes much deeper into symbols indicating the mode and scale (martyries and fthores). Students study four Diatonic Sticheraric hymns as well as Heirmologic hymns in the Enharmonic and Chromatic Modes: 2nd, Plagal 2nd, 3rd, and Grave Mode. Students will continue to study vocal technique and should plan to come to at least one half hour regular practice session and one half hour Vocal Technique Session each week.

Prerequisite(s): ByzB 102 or equivalent.

Offered all terms.

Automela (Model Melodies)

These four courses serve as a systematic study of the model melodies (automela) which serve as the musical and metrical basis for other hymns (prosomia). Students will learn one automelon per week, studying the hymns from both musical score and text and then applying those melodies to other texts while taking into account small rhythmic or melodic changes that may be necessary. The automela covered in these classes constitute all of the melodies used for Kathismata, Apolytikia, Stichera, and Exaposteilaria. Thus, upon completion, students will be able to perform the majority of hymns found in the liturgical books of the Orthodox Church without the need for a musical score.

Prerequisite(s): ByzB 101

Cost: All Automela Classes are \$225.

Automela 111: Model Melodies, Part 1

Automela 111 will teach the following melodies:

"O all-lauded Martyrs," 1st Mode; "When he took Thee" and "Upon that mount in Galilee," 2nd Mode; "Thy confession" and "Thou Who as God adornest," 3rd Mode; "As one valiant" and "On this day Thou hast appeared," 4th Mode; "Let us worship the Word," Plagal 1st Mode; "Having laid up all their hope," Plagal 2nd Mode, and "O strange wonder," Plagal 4th Mode

Automela 112: Model Melodies, Part 2

Automela 112 will teach the following melodies:

"While Gabriel was saying," 1st Mode; "O house of Ephratha," 2nd Mode; "Hearken, ye women," 2nd Mode; "Awed by the beauty," 3rd Mode; "While standing in the Temple's courts," 3rd Mode; "Unto them that fear Thee," 4th Mode; "Joseph was amazed," 4th Mode; "Rejoice," Plagal 1st Mode; "As it is written," Plagal 2nd Mode; "What shall we now call you," Plagal 4th Mode; "To thee, the Champion Leader," Plagal 4th Mode

Automela 113: Model Melodies, Part 3

Automela 114: Model Melodies, Part 4

Octoëchos (The 8 Modes)

The eight Octoëchos courses serve as a systematic primer in the theoretical and practical aspects of the eight modes of Byzantine Chant. Each mode is studied within the context of the Anastasimatarion, that is, the Resurrectional hymns of Saturday night Vespers and Sunday morning Orthros. Upon completing all of the Octoëchos courses, a student will be proficient in all eight modes in their heirmologic and sticheraric forms.

Prerequisite(s): All of the Octoëchos courses require ByzB103 (Basic Reading Fluency) or an equivalent course of study. Also, while it may be helpful for a student to take the Octoëchos courses sequentially, one Octoëchos course is not a prerequisite to another. For example, a student may study Plagal of the 1st Mode before 1st Mode.

Octoëchos 201: 1st Mode

Octoëchos 205: Plagal of the 1st Mode

Octoëchos 208: Plagal of the 4th Mode

Offered all terms; Students should take this class as their first 200 level class.

Octoëchos 204: 4th Mode

Octoëchos 203: 3rd Mode

Octoëchos 207: Grave Mode

Octoëchos 206: Plagal of the 2nd Mode

Octoëchos 202: 2nd Mode

Festal Menaion

The five Festal Menaion courses constitute a systematic study of the hymnography of Vespers, Orthros, and Divine Liturgy for the major feasts of Christ and the Theotokos.

Prerequisite(s): Octoëchos 201 through 208 or equivalent.

Festal Menaion 301

This course will study the hymnography of the feasts of the Nativity of the Theotokos (September 8th) and the Elevation of the Cross (September 14th).

Festal Menaion 302

This course will study the hymnography of the feasts of the Entry of the Theotokos (November 21st) and the Nativity of Christ (December 25th).

Festal Menaion 303

This course will study the hymnography of the feasts of the Theophany (January 6th) and the Presentation of Christ (February 2nd).

Festal Menaion 304

This course will study the hymnography of the feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos (March 25th) and the Transfiguration of Christ (August 6th).

Festal Menaion 305

This course will study the hymnography of the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15th), as well as the Small and Great Paraklesis services that are chanted from August 1st to August 14th.

The Papadic Genre

The five Papadic courses constitute a systematic study of the slow melismatic (“papadic”) genre of Byzantine Chant repertoire and will focus entirely on Cherubic Hymns and Communion Hymns - the most common and essential representatives of this melodic style.

Papadic 401

This course functions as an introduction to the slow melismatic (“papadic”) genre of Byzantine Chant. Students will study the characteristics of each mode’s papadic form and will focus on one

representative composition of each mode in this genre. Repertoire will be analyzed in terms of modal theory/intervals, melodic structure/morphology, liturgical execution, and other related topics.

Prerequisite(s): Octoëchos 201 through 208 or equivalent.

Papadic 402

This course functions as an in-depth study of papadic repertoire in the 1st and Plagal of the 1st Modes. Students will study one Cherubic Hymn and one Communion Hymn in each of the aforementioned modes, along with one festal Communion hymn, analyzing each selection in terms of modal theory/intervals, melodic structure/morphology, liturgical execution, and other related topics.

Prerequisite(s): Papadic 401 or equivalent.

Papadic 403

This course functions as an in-depth study of papadic repertoire in the 4th and Plagal 4th Modes. Students will study one Cherubic Hymn and one Communion Hymn in each of the aforementioned modes along with a festal Communion hymn, analyzing each selection in terms of modal theory/intervals, melodic structure/morphology, liturgical execution, and other related topics.

Prerequisite(s): Papadic 401 or equivalent.

Papadic 404

This course functions as an in-depth study of papadic repertoire in the 2nd and Plagal 2nd Modes. Students will study one Cherubic Hymn and one Communion Hymn in each of the aforementioned modes along with a festal Communion hymn, analyzing each selection in terms of modal theory/intervals, melodic structure/morphology, liturgical execution, and other related topics.

Prerequisite(s): Papadic 401 or equivalent.

Papadic 405

This course functions as an in-depth study of papadic repertoire in the 3rd and Grave Modes. Students will study one Cherubic Hymn and one Communion Hymn in each of the aforementioned modes, along with one festal Communion hymn, analyzing each selection in terms of modal theory/intervals, melodic structure/morphology, liturgical execution, and other related topics.

Prerequisite(s): Papadic 401 or equivalent.

Typikon (Order of Services)

Typikon 101: The Cycles of Services

In this course, students will learn how to build services for every day using the Great Horologion, Octoëchos, Menaion, and - when appropriate - the Triodion or Pentecostarion, using the Typikon of Protosaltis Georgios Violakis as a guide. Students will also learn the history of various other

Typika (the plural of Typikon) and the differences between these Typika. Typikon 101 will focus on the Sunday and Festal Cycle of services, as those are the most commonly chanted in parishes.

Prerequisite(s): None.

Cost: All Typikon Classes are \$225.

Typikon 201: Daily and Lenten Services

In this course, students will go over the structure of the Daily and Lenten Services throughout the year, using the Typikon of Violakis and others to help. By the end of this course, students will be able to build the following services “from scratch,” using the Liturgical Books of the Orthodox Church: Daily Vespers, Daily Orthros (Matins), Daily Divine Liturgy, Lenten Vespers, Presanctified Liturgy, and Lenten Orthros (Matins). Students will also be able to determine the ranking of each service in the Menaion and be able to differentiate daily services from festal and Sunday services.

Prerequisite: Typikon 101.

Typikon 301: Festal Services

Description coming soon.

Prerequisite: Typikon 101.

Voice Labs

Voice Lab 100

Students focus on the craft of singing in this class. The class will consist of open coaching alongside education about how the voice works and how to maintain vocal health. Students will work to feel, monitor, and control the parts of their larynx and upper body that contribute to vocal quality and volume. The course materials and resources for this class will remain roughly the same term to term (more resources may be added over time) as the main thrust of the class is the open coaching and practice found in the live practice sessions.

Prerequisite(s): None.

Cost: \$150 as Stand Alone Course, \$75 as an Add-On to Another Course (email info@trisagionschool.org to add this course)