



The European Academy of Coptic Heritage (TEACH)

Course Title: Hymnology and Music Notations – Year 1

Level: Certificate

Duration: October 2025 – June 2026

Course Objective

This introductory course offers students a comprehensive understanding of **Coptic Orthodox hymnology and music notations**, focusing on the origins, liturgical functions, and spiritual meanings of the hymns of the Church of Alexandria.

The course introduces the **Coptic musical system**, the use of **notation and oral tradition**, and the theological and historical contexts of selected hymns across the liturgical year.

Students will also gain the ability to read and interpret **Coptic music notations**, identify tones and melodies, and understand how each hymn expresses the theology and worship of the Coptic Church.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognise the spiritual and theological depth of Coptic hymnology as a living expression of Orthodox worship.
2. Understand the historical evolution of Coptic music and its preservation through both oral and notated traditions.
3. Identify and perform key hymns from various seasons and feasts of the liturgical year.
4. Read and interpret basic **Coptic music notations**.
5. Appreciate the connection between hymnology, theology, and the liturgical life of the Church.

Course Structure (Modules)

Module 1 – Hymns of the Liturgy

- مرد الإبركسيس - *Shere Ni Maria (Maria Shere)* — *Response Praxis*
ΧΕΡΕ ΝΕ ΜΑΡΙΑ
- Communion Hymn – *The Bread of Life (Pi-oik)*
ΠΙΩΙΚ ÑΤΕ ÑΩΝᲑ

Module 2 – Hymns of the Midnight Praises

- *Ten Theno* (ΤΕΝΘΗΝΟΥ)
- The First Hoos and its Lobsh
ΠΙΛΩΒΥ ÑΤΕ ΠΙΖΩC ÑΖΟΥΙΤ

Module 3 – Feasts and Seasons Hymns (Part I)

- مرد الإبركسيس - ḲΜΟΥ ἑΠΙΧΛΟΜ – *Nayrouz* (Coptic New Year)
- The Hymn of the Intercessions – ΖΙΤΕΝ ΝΙᲢΡΕCΒΙᲗ (Kiahk Liturgy)

Module 4 – Feasts and Seasons Hymns (Part II)

- *Pi-jen-misi* (ΠΙΧΙΝΜΙCΙ) – Nativity Liturgy
- *Shois Apen* (ᲗΠΕΝᲟCΙᲘCΠᲗC) – Nativity Liturgy
- مرد التوزيع – *Response of Psalm 150*

Module 5 – Fasts and Seasons of Repentance

- *Jonah's Fast* – ΙΩΝᲗ ᲑΕΝ ᲑΝΕΧΙ
- *Great Lent Hymn* – ΝΕᲘCΕᲚᲗ (Nefsenty)

Module 6 – Holy Week Hymns

- Introduction and Conclusion to the Commentary – ᲕΕΝ ᲑᲢᲗΝ ÑᲦᲦᲣᲗC / ΠΙΧΡΙCΤΟC ΠΕΝCΩᲦᲢᲢ

Module 7 – Resurrection Hymns

- *Christ is Risen* (Greek: ἪΡΙCΤΟC ᲗΝΕCᲦᲦ)
- The First Greek Part – *Ton Synanarhon* (ΤΟΝ CΥΝᲗΝᲗᲢᲢᲦᲦᲦᲦᲦᲦ)

Assessment

Two term exams.

Prerequisites

GCSE certificate, high school, or equivalent qualification.

Delivery Method

The course will be delivered **entirely online** through TEACH's **Learning Management System (LMS)**.

All lectures will be conducted live via **Zoom**, with access to recorded sessions, musical notations, and supplementary materials. Students will also participate in discussion forums and hymn performance workshops.

Certificate

Upon successful completion of the course and passing both term exams, participants will receive a **Certificate in Coptic Hymnology and Music Notations – Year 1** from **The European Academy of Coptic Heritage (TEACH)**.