

University of North Texas – College of Music

MUAG 1224: Voice Class for Music-Majors

Semester: Spring 2026

Instructor: Francisco Bedoy (Mr. Bedoy)

Email: francisco.bedloysolorzano@unt.edu

(instructor only responds to emails, not CANVAS)

Office: Bain Hall Room 220

Office Hours: By appointment

Class Meetings: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Music Building Room #320

Credits: 1

Course Information:

MUAG 1224 is an introductory class to the fundamentals of singing for Music Majors.

Topics include body alignment, vocal health, technique, and expression. The course combines practical exercises, solo, and ensemble singing. We will begin with the basics of vocals (posture and breathing). We will not only develop skills in singing, but also in explaining and applying our learning in performances and workshops. **We aim for excellence, not perfection.**

I. Learning Objectives

General Course Objectives

After completing this course, students are expected:

- To gain an understanding of the basics of singing through breathing exercises, voice building exercises, studying anatomy, and song performance.
- To gain a greater appreciation and understanding of vocal music.
- To explore vocal music as a medium of communication and self-expression.

Specific Learning Outcomes

You'll find that our goals aren't just about singing better—they're about helping you connect with your voice and your body, build confidence, and enjoy making music with others. By the end of the semester, you'll be able to:

- **Knowledge/Understanding:**
Clearly explain the basic principles behind healthy singing—like how to breathe correctly, what your larynx does, and how your body helps produce and shape sound. Rather than just memorizing facts, you'll understand how these parts work together to help you sing with confidence and ease.
- **Application:**
Systematically apply various voice-building exercises and vocal techniques to enhance tone production, expand vocal range, improve resonance, and refine articulation across diverse musical styles.
- **Analysis:**
Develop analytical skills by evaluating your own and your peers' vocal performances using established vocal techniques. Set clear goals and targeted practice tasks for each session, keep a journal to track progress, and reflect on your growth.
- **Evaluation:** Thoughtfully evaluate live vocal performances, including concerts and recitals, discussing elements of vocal technique, musicality, and communicative effectiveness.
- **Creation/Performance:** Students will demonstrate increasing musicality, interpretive depth, and technical control in preparing and performing assigned repertoire in both group and individual settings.

II. Required Materials

Primary Textbook:

[The Singing Book by Vaughn, C., Dayme, M., & Hoch, M. 4th Edition, ISBN: 9781538180280](#)

Other Materials:

- Pencil
- Notebook
- Access to Canvas
- [Conversation Tracker](#) (online or paper)

III. Grading:

Component	Percentage	Description
Participation	30%	Active engagement in discussions, warm-ups, and exercises; includes preparation of Canvas materials and professional, respectful behavior.
Solo & Ensemble Singing in Class	27%	Application of singing concepts to assigned songs; grade based on preparation and in-class performance.
Vocal Pedagogy Classes	27%	In-class workshops using the conversation tracker; graded on participation, preparedness of readings, and may include quizzes/reflections.
Final Performance	16%	Grade based on the semester's growth, preparation, effort, and progress in technique, musicality, and interpretation.

The standard UNT grading scale will be applied for this course:

A: 90% - 100%

B: 80% - 89.9%

C: 70% - 79.9%

D: 60% - 69.9%

F: 59.9% or less

Description of Graded Components

Participation (30%): This part of your grade is all about showing up, getting involved, and making the most of our time together. That means joining in class discussions, warm-ups, and group activities—basically, being present and engaged. Make sure you come to class prepared by checking out any readings or music in advance. Being respectful and encouraging to your classmates also counts here, because a positive and supportive atmosphere helps everyone learn and grow. Consistent participation is key to getting the most out of this course and succeeding in vocal performance.

Solo & Ensemble Singing in Class (27%): In these classes, you'll have the chance to put your vocal skills into practice as part of an ensemble. I'll be looking not just at your preparation of the assigned music—posted ahead of time on Canvas—but also at how you contribute to the musical group. Your collaborative spirit, attention to musical detail, and ability to apply vocal technique in an ensemble setting are all important. Think of these sessions as opportunities to grow together, support one another, and develop both your ensemble skills and musical expression in a nurturing yet rigorous environment.

Vocal Pedagogy Classes (27%): In these workshops, you'll explore the basics of vocal technique and vocal health. Come ready to discuss the readings. Participation is key and may include short quizzes or reflections to help you apply what you've learned.

Final Performance (16%): Each student will perform from memory a song of their choice in the final in-class performance. Students will be graded based on individual growth, performance presentation, diction, interpretation, and application of breathing and vocal technique to a selected song.

Two Song Research Assignments (Integrated): These assignments are designed to help you thoughtfully prepare a song for performance, offering a practical framework that can be applied both in your individual lessons and for your final presentation. You'll be encouraged to explore the background, stylistic features, and interpretive choices of your selected pieces, supporting a more efficient and meaningful learning process. Completion of these assignments will contribute to your overall grades in Vocal Pedagogy and Participation, as they demonstrate active engagement and initiative throughout your performance journey.

Choral Project (Integrated): You will participate in a group choral project, performing selected pieces to develop ensemble skills. Assessment will focus on tone, blend, and accuracy. Rehearsals occur during class, with some outside practice recommended. This project emphasizes teamwork and musical collaboration.

Singing Performance Final (Integrated): At the end of the semester, you'll have the opportunity to showcase everything you've accomplished in our Final Singing Performance. Each student will present their selected piece from memory, either with a live pianist or an accompaniment track. This final performance is designed to highlight your growth in vocal technique, musicality, and expressive communication, reflecting the progress you've made with dedication and hard work.

- Use of electronic devices is allowed only when required for scheduled activities, such as taking notes or accessing course materials. All personal electronic devices, including phones, smartwatches, tablets, and laptops, must be set to “do not disturb” mode.

Assignments & Professional Responsibility

1. *Timeliness as a Professional Standard*

You are responsible for submitting all assignments by the date and time specified in the course calendar/Canvas.

2. *Late Work Protocol*

Unless you have received prior approval from the instructor or have a documented University-Approved excuse:

- **Late Penalty:** Assignments submitted after the deadline will incur a deduction of **10% or one letter grade** per day.
- **Cut-off:** Assignments will **not be accepted** more than 3 days past the original due date and will result in a grade of zero.
- **Feedback:** Late assignments may not receive the same level of detailed feedback as on-time submissions, as the grading cycle for the class will have concluded.

3. *Technology & Submission Format*

- **Canvas:** All written assignments must be submitted via Canvas in PDF or Word. **Links to Google Docs are not accepted.**
- **Technology Failures:** Computer malfunctions, wi-fi issues, or Canvas outages are not valid excuses for late work. As a professional standard, you should aim to submit assignments at least 12 hours before the deadline to account for potential technical difficulties.

4. *Extensions & Accommodations*

- **University-Approved Absences:** Students with university-excused absence (see Attendance Policy) will be granted a reasonable extension equivalent to the number of days missed, provided they contact the instructor immediately upon their return.
- **ODA Accommodations:** Students registered with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) who have accommodations regarding deadlines must meet with the

instructor during the first week of classes to agree upon a specific protocol for utilizing this accommodation.

Attendance Policy

1. *The "Professional Standard" (Course Policy)*

Consistent with the *Division of Music Education Student Handbook*, attendance is expected at all scheduled class meetings.

- **Unexcused Absences:** You are allowed a maximum of **three (3)** unexcused absences during the semester.
- **Consequences:**
 - **4th Unexcused Absence:** Your final letter grade will be lowered by one full letter (e.g., A becomes B).
 - **5th Unexcused Absence:** You may be administratively dropped from the course or receive a failing grade (F) for the semester.
- **Tardiness:** Arriving late or leaving early disrupts the learning environment. Two tardies count as one unexcused absence. Leaving class two times without notifying instructor counts as an absence as well.

2. *Communication Protocol*

- **Advance Notice:** If you know you will be absent (e.g., for a TMEA conference, ensemble tour, or medical appointment), you must email the instructor **at least 24 hours in advance and provide documentation.**
- **Emergency Notice:** In the event of a sudden illness or emergency, email the instructor as soon as it is safe to do so. **Lack of communication will result in absence being marked as unexcused.**

4. *University-Approved Absences (UNT Policy 06.039)*

Absences for the following reasons are **excused** and do not count toward your "three free absences" limit, provided you supply appropriate documentation:

- **Religious Holy Days:** In accordance with UNT policy, you must notify the instructor designated for the course of your absence to observe a religious holy day.

- **Active Military Service:** Absence for active military service (including travel) is excused. (with proper documentation)
- **Official University Functions:** Participation in official university activities (e.g., scheduled ensemble tours, athletic events) is excused with documentation from the sponsor/director.
- **Dean of Students Notification:** For absences exceeding 5 days (due to illness, family emergency, etc.), students should contact the **Dean of Students Office** to obtain a formal verification notice to share with instructors.

5. Illness & Wellness

If you are exhibiting symptoms of a contagious illness (flu, COVID-19, etc.), **do not come to class.**

- Please email me immediately.
- While mild, short-term illness is generally counted toward your allowed 3 absences, communication is key. If you have exhausted your allowed absences due to chronic illness, you must meet with the instructor to discuss a continuity plan.

IV. Course Schedule:

- This schedule is subject to change. You will be notified via Canvas when adjustments are made.

Week	Dates	Monday Session (Vocal Pedagogy Class)	Wednesday Session (Group Singing)	Friday Session (Flex/Review/Practice)	Key Assignments/Deadlines
1	Jan 12-16	Introduction, Syllabus Review & Vocal Goals	Introduction to Group Singing, Warm-ups, Vocal Range Evals Pt. 1	Flex Session: Course Expectations & Goal Setting "The Singing Book" Overview: Part I, II & III Intro"	Syllabus contract Due on Wednesday
2	Jan 19-23	No Classes MLK Jr. Day	Vocal Pedagogy #1: Chapter 1: Healthy Singing, Warm-up, and Cooling down.	Group Singing #1: Intro to Classical Sound, Vocal Range Evals Pt. 2	Reading II
3	Jan 26-30	Flex Session: Practice Habits (Chapter 5) Discussion	Vocal Pedagogy #2: Chapter 2: Preparing to Sing, Chapter 7: Muscles and Physical Balance	Flex Session: Music Selection & Learning Strategies (Chapters 3 & 4)	Song Selection Due Friday by 5 pm

4	Feb 2 - 6	Vocal Pedagogy #3: Chapter 4: Learning Music Efficiently, Review for Quiz 1	Group Singing #2: Applying Healthy Singing Concepts	Flex Session: Review & Q&A Quiz 1	Quiz 1
5	Feb 9 - 13	Vocal Pedagogy #4: Chapter 8: Breathing,	Group Singing #3	Flex Session: Breathing Exercises & Application	
6	Feb 16 - 20	Vocal Pedagogy #5: Chapter 9: Making Sound	Group Singing #4: Focus on Breathing Application	Flex Session: Vocalization & Sound Production Practice	
7	Feb 23 - 27	Vocal Pedagogy #6: Chapter 10: Voice Quality and Resonance, Chapter 11: Articulation and Expression	Group Singing #5: Voice Quality & Resonance	Flex Session: Articulation Drills & Expressive Singing	Concert Report #1 Due
8	Mar 2 - 6	Vocal Pedagogy #7: Review for Quiz 2, Vocal Health Pt. 1	Group Singing #6: Observing Singers	Flex Session: Quiz 2 Review & Vocal Health Q&A	Quiz 2
9	Mar 9 - 13	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	

10	Mar 16 - 20	Vocal Pedagogy #8: Chapter 12: Maintaining a Healthy Voice, Intro to IPA	Group Singing #7	Flex Session: IPA Practice & Application	Song Research Assignment Due
11	Mar 23 - 27	Vocal Pedagogy #9: IPA Pt. 2, Concert Report #2 Discussion	Group Singing #8: IPA Application in Songs	Flex Session: Repertoire Exploration & Interpretation	
12	Mar 30 Apr 3	Vocal Pedagogy #10: Group Voice Strategies	Group Singing #9: Choral Performance Concepts Pt. 1	Flex Session: Choral Project Rehearsal	
13	Apr 6 - 10	Vocal Pedagogy #11: Choral Performance Concepts Pt. 2	Group Singing #10 & 1-on-1 Lesson #3	Flex Session: Choral Project Rehearsal	
14	Apr 13 - 17	Vocal Pedagogy #12: Preparing for Performance, Chapter 6: Performing	Group Singing #11: Choral Project Rehearsal	Flex Session: Performance Anxiety & Stage Presence	Concert Report #3 Due
15	Apr 20 - 24	Vocal Pedagogy #13: Continuing Education	Group Singing #12	Flex Session: Final Performance Run-throughs	

		in Voice, Review for Final Performance			
16	Apr 27 - May 1	Performance Group I	Performance Group II	Reading Day	
17	May 4 – 8	Finals	Finals	Finals	

[Academic Integrity UNT Policy Statement on Diversity](#)

[Student Support Services & Policies](#)

[UNT Drop Policy](#)

DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator
- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard
- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at:

<https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students

See: [Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Academic Calendar, Fall 2025

See: [Fall 2025 Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Final Exam Schedule, Fall 2025

See above

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in

addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment, you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to students, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>