

# University of North Texas

## College of Music

**MUAG 1224 Section 502:** Voice Class for Music Majors

**FALL 2024** Course Syllabus

**COM Rm. 321** Tuesdays, Thursdays 12:30-1:50 pm

**Instructor:** Genevieve Cardos

**Office:** Bain Hall Rm 309

**Office Hours:** Mondays 10:00-12:00 pm by Appointment

**Contact:** Genevievecardos@my.UNT.edu

### **Course Objective**

- To gain understanding of the basics of singing through various techniques including vocal exercises and warm ups, breathing, studying aspects of the human anatomy relevant to singing, understanding the interconnection between the mental, physical and emotional being and how they enhance or affect vocal production.
- To gain a greater appreciation for and understanding of vocal performance
- To explore vocal performance as a medium of communication and self-expression

### **Course Materials**

Cantabile Voice Class: A Manual about Beautiful, Lyrical Singing for Voice Classes and Choral Singers. By Katherine Rundus, available at Pavane Publishing, distributed by Hal Leonard

### **Grading**

- Attendance to class times is mandatory. You are allowed three unexcused absences. After three unexcused absences your final grade will be lowered by 2 points for each additional unexcused absence.
- Excused absences may be granted for university-sponsored commitments, religious observations, or serious emergencies. In order to receive an excused absence, you must document your absence with your instructor in advance.

### **Grading Evaluation**

Class participation 15%

Song performance 35%

Recital attendance/Reviews 20%

Assignments/Quizzes 10%%

Final learning paper 20%

### **Class Participation**

When presenting in class, you are expected to create a positive and safe environment for your classmates by supporting their work and being an active member of the group.

Below are ways you will be expected to participate:

- Be an active listener and be open to discussing topics covered in class
- Sing on assigned singing days (exceptions given in emergency situations only)
- Try new and sometimes challenging exercises with your classmates
- Maintain positive and supportive atmosphere for vocal discovery and growth.

### **First Performance Ruberic**

- You will inform the class the title, composer, year of composition and what the song is about.
- 5 minutes to sing, five minutes for compliments and comments
- Genre: Classical, Musical Theatre, Jazz/Blues

### **Second Performance**

- You will inform the class the title, composer, year of composition and what the song is about.
- You will tell the class how you have prepared this piece, what you worked on that we should expect to hear to some extent, especially with respect to singing techniques that have been discussed and mentioned in class.

### **Third Performance**

- You will inform the class the title, composer, year of composition and what the song is about before performing
- You will inform the class of the source of the poetry or text of the song. Who is it by? You will recite the text in class before singing the song and use necessary speech inflections and lyrical/dramatic nuances to express the heart and intent of the song
- Finally, you will sing the song taking into consideration, the dramatic text recitation and singing techniques previously discussed in class

### **Song Performance**

This class is not about perfection; it is about progress. Everyone's experience and

progress will be unique to them. If a student demonstrates that he/she has been actively working on the assigned piece and is making progress in the areas outlined in the grading rubric, the student will receive a sufficient grade.

- Thursdays will be our lab performances. Each student will have at least two opportunities to perform a piece you'll prepare and perform for the class.
- Performance #1 can be any selection of your choosing.
- You will select, prepare and perform 2 additional solo pieces this semester and will perform these pieces for Performance #2 and Performance #3.
- You may select both pieces from a list of options provided by the professor or from standard Classical, Art Song or Musical Theatre repertoire.
- Missed performance days will only be "made up" under emergency circumstances. All other reasons for missing your assigned singing day will result in 0% for the assignment.
- The instructor will provide guidance and support to students throughout the learning and performing process by offering vocal technique, performance, diction, and style instruction in both group and individual learning environments.
- Songs will be sung on the assigned performance days. Memorization of the music is preferred but not required.

### Class Readings and Performance Schedule

WEEK	DATE (TUES)	READINGS/ DISCUSSION	WEEK	DATE (THURS)	APPLIED THEORY AND PERFORMANCE LAB
WEEK 1	8/20	Introduction and course overview	WEEK 1	8/22	Vocal Production, expression, perceptions of singing
WEEK 2	8/27	Anchor 1 TENSION AND RELEASE Continued Article Excerpt and Group Discussion:	WEEK 2	8/29	Vocal Production: The Vibrating Larynx. Documentary Excerpt: TSB Ch. 11

		Muscle Tension Dysphonia			
WEEK 3	9/3	Anchor 2 ALIGNING YOUR INSTRUMENT Excerpt: TSB CH. 7 Excerpts from Your Voice pg 76-79, The Voice, Alexander or Feldenkrais by S. Hansen	WEEK 3	9/5	Anchor 2 ALIGNING YOUR INSTRUMENT Audio Visual Media on Alexander & Feldenkrais Techniques, Diaphragm functionality
WEEK 4	9/10	Anchor 3 OPENING THE VOCAL TRACT Excerpt: TSB CH.9	WEEK 4	9/12	1st Class Performance (4 Students)
WEEK 5	9/17	Anchor 4 BREATHING FOR SINGING Excerpt: The Singing Book (TSB) CH. 8 <a href="https://youtube.com/shorts/WRirI2O8AfQ?si=lvliwAU1V5Z4MZcJ">https://youtube.co m/shorts/WRirI2O 8AfQ?si=lvliwAU1 V5Z4MZcJ</a>	WEEK 5	9/19	2nd Class Performance (4Students)
WEEK 6	9/24	Anchor 5 STARTING AND STOPPING THE TONE Except: TSB CH. 9	WEEK 6	9/26	3rd Class Performance (5 Students)

WEEK 7	10/1	Anchor 6 RESONANCE IN SINGING Except: TSB CH. 10	WEEK 7	10/3	TBD
WEEK 8	10/8	Anchor 7 VOCAL REGISTERS Excerpt:	WEEK 8	10/10	4th Class Performance (4 Students)
WEEK 9	10/15	Anchor 8 VOICE CLASSIFICATION S	WEEK 9	10/17	5th Class Performance (4 Students)
WEEK 10	10/22	Anchor 9. ARTICULATION AND DICTION	WEEK 10	10/24	6th Class Performance (5 Students)
WEEK 11	10/29	Anchor 10. MUSICAL EXPRESSION: TELLING THE STORY	WEEK 11	10/31	TBD
WEEK 12	11/5	Anchor 11. ATTENTIVE AND DELIBERATE PRACTICE Excerpt: From the Studio to the Stage. Ch.4	WEEK 12	11/7	TBD
WEEK 13	11/12	Anchor 12. VOCAL HEALTH	WEEK 13	11/17	TBD

WEEK 14	11/19	Anchor 13	WEEK 14	11/21	TBD
WEEK 15	12/3	Last Day of Class / Class Cookout	WEEK 15	12/5	TBD
WEEK 16	12/10	FINALS	WEEK 16	12/12	FINALS