



VOICE CLASS FOR NON-MUSIC MAJORS

MUAG 1124.501 - FALL 2023 - MWF 12:00-12:50 - ROOM: MUSI 320

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name: Kori Miller (She/Her/Hers)

Title: Teaching Fellow, Division of Vocal Studies, UNT College of Music

Email: korimiller@my.unt.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment (Bain Hall 315)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

MUAG 1124 is a class for non music majors to learn the fundamentals of singing and the science behind the artform. This includes breathing, tone production, basic vocal pedagogy, and anatomy.

In addition to learning the basics of singing, you will also be required to make sound from time to time. You are expected to be on time and participate fully in each class. Occasionally, you will sing as part of a group or alone. When you are present, I expect you to be engaged, willing to try new things, respectful of your colleagues, and maintain a supportive and encouraging attitude. Everyone's vocal journey will be different and it will not serve you to compare your progress to the progress of your peers.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Required reading materials will be made available via CANVAS

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Understand the voice as an instrument
2. Identify basic vocal anatomical structures and explain their role in vocal production
3. Demonstrate knowledge of their individual vocal apparatus in their own singing, speaking, and performing
4. Demonstrate methods to incorporate a healthier, more well-balanced approach to phonation and vocal expression in their daily lives
5. Demonstrate greater confidence in vocal performance

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory. You are allowed THREE unexcused absences. After that, missing class will count against your attendance and participation grade.

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 Ms. Miller in advance of class missed via email (korimiller@my.unt.edu)

GRADING AND ASSESSMENTS

Course grade will be based on the following scale:

Grade	Percentages	Points
A	90%-100%	900-1000
B	80%-89.9%	800-899
C	70%-79.9%	700-799
D	60%-69.9%	600-699
F	59.9% and below	0-599

Class participation and attendance: 200 points

***you will receive a daily participation grade. If you are not in attendance, you cannot participate**

Quizzes: 50 points

Song Information Sheet: 100 points

Mid-Term: 150 points

Masterclass Participation: 200 points

Final: 150 points

SOLO PERFORMANCE & MASTERCLASS

As with all things, your vocal development will be contingent upon your understanding and application of the discussed information in class. *Not everyone's progress will look or sound the same and it is pivotal that we acknowledge this.* I am not expecting perfection. I AM expecting you to persist through the tough times and have patience with yourself.

Typically, we would have a final class performance at the end of the semester. Because this class is for non-majors, we will only be doing masterclasses. You will sing an art song of your choice (memorized) as approved by Ms. Miller.

To practice, I encourage you to hire a pianist to record the accompaniment for you or procure a recording of the accompaniment via other means such as Appcompanionist or YouTube. YouTube and Spotify have many recordings for you to listen to as well. Prior to your presentation of your song in class, all notes and rhythms must be learned. This happens on your own time. Diction and text should be presented to the best of your ability. A pianist will be provided for you the day of your performance.

QUIZZES

We will have several quizzes throughout the semester during class time. Some of which will be of the “pop” variety.

SONG INFORMATION SHEET

A very important part of a singer's work is the song study. This includes and is not limited to the study of the poetry, the poet, the music, the composer, the time period and performance practices of the time period. You must come to performances prepared with a word for word translation. If not in your own language, a poetic translation (this does NOT include the English translation used by the publisher), your own subtext, as well as an overarching take on what the song means to you. These elements will be due at the time of your performance. Details will be posted under "assignments" on Canvas.

MIDTERM

This will be a glorified quiz of material (more or less) covered thus far.

FINAL EXAM

This will only cover the information from the mid-term on.

IMPORTANT DATES

all song information sheets should be uploaded to Canvas by the start of class on your performance date

November 29: Masterclass 1

December 1: Masterclass 2

December 4: Masterclass 3

December 11: Final Exam

Dates subject to change as per class schedule.

EXTRA-CREDIT

Extra credit will be available for students who attend UNT Opera productions. Performances are currently scheduled for November 3, 5, 10, and 11th. You can find information on times etc. at opera.music.unt.edu/season

CELL PHONES & LAPTOPS/IPADS

Unless otherwise arranged with the instructor, do not use class time to check cell phones. This is a participatory class and points will be deducted from your daily participation grade. Laptops and iPads should only be used to take notes during class time.

ILLNESS

As a general rule, you should not sing if you are ill. This is one of the frustrating parts about being a singer. It is up to you to take care of yourself as best as possible to prevent this from happening. Sometimes illness happens at very inopportune times. If you are ill and unable to complete assignments such as the recordings/masterclasses you **MUST** communicate your illness to Ms. Miller **BEFORE** the deadline/date in question. It is not acceptable to show up to class and claim illness—an email must be sent to Ms. Miller by 11:00am the day of an in class performance.

COVID-19

As per university policy you must report COVID-19 exposure, any COVID-19 symptoms and/or a positive COVID-19 test result to the COVID Task Force. I will be lenient in deadlines for those who test positive for COVID and/or those who must self-isolate during this time. Please follow CDC guidelines.

Classes may be held on Zoom if I am or need to be in quarantine. If such a need arises, I will create Zoom meetings and send the link. If you are mandated to quarantine due to COVID-19 please be in contact with me and I will record the in person classes and make them available for distribution to those who are unable to attend in person due to COVID-19.

LINKS TO UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

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

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT (Office for disability accommodation)

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

UNT POLICY STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY

https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/04.018_PolicyStateOnDiversity.pub8.18.pdf

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/Fall_2022_Academic_Calendar.pdf

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

<https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

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

COUNSELING AND TESTING

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

The counselor for music students is:

Myriam Reynolds

Chestnut Hall, Suite 311

(940) 565-2741

Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu

ADD/DROP POLICY

<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/dropping-class>

STUDENT RESOURCES

https://www.unt.edu/sites/default/files/resource_sheet.pdf

CARE TEAM

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

*This syllabus is subject to change