The objective of this course is to introduce the pianist/aspiring vocal coach to as many of the issues arising in this career path as possible. Each issue is explored through a practical examination of the subject matter presented by the students in weekly assignments. As a result of the course, a student will have an extensive overview of the matters concerning all areas relating to vocal coaching. Topics covered will include: recitative, orchestral reduction, language issues, conducting, ornamentation and cadenzas, issues of coaching, score reduction for piano and significant arias and art song.

Fall Semester

Sept. 11 Introduction, Coaching roles, responsibilities and talking to singers
Sept. 18 Tables turned. Pianists sing a song in a foreign language from memory
Sept. 25 Pianists sing and play
Oct. 2 Pianists sing and play
Oct. 16 Recitativo secco Händel
Oct. 23 Recitativo secco continued Mozart, Rossini
Oct. 30 Recitativo accompagnato
Nov. 6 Recitativo accompagnato
Nov. 13 Händel Arias orchestral reduction and ornamentation
Nov. 20 Händel continued
Nov. 27  Purcell and the English Baroque
Dec. 4  Make-up for any missed assignments

Winter Semester

Jan 8  Orchestral reduction.
Jan 15  Orchestral reduction
Jan 22  The Steinway symphony
Jan. 29  The Steinway symphony
Feb. 5  Coaching: What’s included and where do you draw the line?
Feb 12  Coaching observation
Feb. 26  Coaching observation
March 5  Coaching observation
March 12  Opera Scene
March 19  Opera Scene
March 26  Opera Scene
April 2  Wrap

_You may find the book by Martin Katz to be of particular help in the units on Inflection and the Steinway Symphony._

Katz, Martin. The complete Collaborator Oxford University Press, 2009

There are no textbook requirements. Attendance is mandatory. Any incomplete work due to absence as a result of illness will be presented in the last week of the appropriate semester.