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STUDIO VOICE SYLLABUS
September 3, 2019

Course Objectives

To develop a personalized regimen of vocal exercises for warm ups and technical mastery which, in turn, fosters a superior vocal technique; to cultivate independence, confidence, and personal initiative in vocal repertoire selection; to develop musicality and personal stylistic intuition; to raise an awareness of proper vocal hygiene; and to foster a genuine enjoyment of singing.

Course Content

Lessons:

Students registered in any of the following applied courses receive 24 lessons of 50 minutes each, normally 12 per term: 1920, 1925, 2920, 2921, 2925, 3920, 3921, 3925, 4920, 4921, and 4925. Students registered in 3924y or 4934y receive 12 hours of lessons, spread throughout the year.

Performance majors and Artist Diploma students registered in one of the following courses also receive 12 lessons of 50 minutes each, oriented toward recital requirements: 3926, 4923, and 4926. These lessons might be scheduled concurrently with the regular weekly lesson for a total of 75 minutes per week.

For those taking one hour lessons weekly, the first portion of the lesson is a technique lesson, which means it will be devoted to the development of a personalized regimen of vocal exercises for warm ups and technical mastery. Time will be focused on the establishment and reinforcement of positive and healthy singing reflexes through a series of short and intensive exercises. The remainder of the lesson will be devoted to repertoire. Technical and musical mastery will be achieved through singing of vocal repertoire suited to the level and voice type of each student.
Third and fourth year undergraduate performance majors will have half an hour of technique lesson every week, plus an hour of repertoire lesson.

Students taking half an hour lessons will have a technical lesson every four weeks or so. The remaining of your lessons will be repertoire lessons.

**Course Requirements**

Students are expected to record their assigned exercises and repertoire in a *notebook*, which they must bring to each lesson. In addition, it is strongly recommended that each lesson should be recorded. Students are required to practice daily. “In preparing for juries or recitals, students should pace their practicing carefully, doing regular amounts every day. Practicing, like any other physical activity, requires fitness and a daily routine; students who cram in many hours of practice in panic preparation for a coming examination and who have not been practicing regularly throughout the year, run the risk of physical injury, and possible serious interruption of their Applied courses” – MPS Handbook

Students are responsible for obtaining any assigned music by the following lesson, as well as completing a translation and an IPA transcription. **Students must run their repertoire with their accompanist prior to their lesson.**

**Repertoire expectations:**

**Non-Studio Repertoire**

As a matter of courtesy and good pedagogy, all students should inform their studio teachers as early as possible of non-studio repertoire that they have been asked or assigned to do in addition to their studio course load.

**First Year Undergraduates**

- 14-16 songs fully prepared and memorized
  - One post 1960 Canadian composition

**Undergraduate Non-Performance Majors**

**Second Year**

- 18-20 songs fully prepared and memorized
  - One post 1960 Canadian composition
Third Year

- 18 songs +
- 3 arias (Opera/Oratorio)
  - One post 1960 Canadian composition

Fourth Year

- 20 songs +
- 3 arias (Opera/Oratorio)
  - One post 1960 Canadian composition

Undergraduate Performance Majors

Second Year

- 20-22 songs
  - One post 1960 Canadian composition

Third Year

- Short recital +
- 5 songs/arias including
  - One post 1960 Canadian composition
- Oratorio jury in December

Fourth Year

- Full recital +
- 5 opera arias/3 oratorio arias /One post 1960 Canadian composition/
- Opera/Art Song jury in December (note that in the 4th year jury requirement, an oratorio aria can replace an opera aria)

Students are expected to check e-mail regularly and respond in a timely manner.

Masterclasses

All Music undergraduate students registered for individual instruction, excluding 1925, 2925, 3925, 3929, 4925, 3924y, 4924y and 4929, are required to participate in performance classes as part of their Applied Music course and final mark. A schedule will be provided at the beginning of each semester. **Performance Class will take place in MB 254 from 12:30-1:30 each Monday during the semester unless otherwise noted.** Unless discussed with the professor, students are required to sing on their assigned dates. **All repertoire**
to be performed for the class must be memorized. Your attendance is mandatory for the full duration of our studio Performance Class each week — even if you are not performing for the class that week.

A Studio Recital will be given during each semester. Students are expected to participate. Be aware that all students’ participation is mandatory. Dates and location TBD.

Accompanists

It is extremely important to make the best of the time with your collaborative pianist. Be as prepared as you possibly can for each of your coachings. This year, the accompanists for our studio are Olena Bratishko (elenabratishko83@gmail.com) and Carol McFadden (mcfaddenc86@gmail.com). Please make arrangements with either of them ASAP. Both of them are very talented and experienced coaches. You will want to prepare your repertoire and diction with them and work with them as extensively as is financially feasible. Please note that the common practice here is that you are responsible for all financial arrangements and commitments with pianists throughout the year.

Also, please note:

1. The student is responsible for retaining the services of an accompanist.
2. Accompanists should come to the agreed repertoire portion of the lesson.
3. Students are responsible for communicating master class performance dates and studio recital dates to their accompanist.

Recital Card

MPS Recital Card will be handed out at the beginning of the term. Students registered in 1920, 2920, 2921, 3920, 3921, 4920, and 4921 will be expected to attend 12 concerts throughout the year. For our studio, these concerts should include at least 8 vocal concerts. Note that our own Performance classes may not be counted.

Voice Fridays

Students should take advantage of the Voice Fridays series organized by the voice area. This will occur on Fridays at 1:30pm. Although not officially required, this series offers great insight into many different aspects of singing, and will greatly enhance the studio experience.
Concert reviews

In addition to attending Faculty and colleague recitals, students are expected to review three (3) vocal concerts per term: solo and chamber recitals as well as operas and oratorios are acceptable on and off-campus. Note that Performance classes may not be reviewed. These reports must be one (1) page, single-spaced, and accompanied with a program of the performance. They are due **one (1) week after the reviewed performance date**. Note that plagiarism is unacceptable and consists of a serious Scholastic Offence. The following dates are the maximum deadline for handing in these reports:

**Fall term:**
- October 4
- November 1
- December 6

**Winter term:**
- January 31
- March 6
- April 3

Jury requirements

Students are responsible for acquainting themselves, via the website, with Jury Requirements, as well as information contained in the Music Performance Studies Handbook. These two documents together as well as this syllabus comprise the course outline for the Applied Music Instruction and students must receive the course outline during the first week of class. The Music Performance Studies Handbook and the Jury Requirements for each instrument are posted on the Faculty of Music website. You can find the links to these documents at: [http://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html](http://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html)

Lesson Times

After the lesson times have been arranged, the time will be changed/rescheduled only to mutually convenient times.

Cancellations

*If a teacher cancels a lesson, the lesson must be made up. If a student cancels a lesson for any reason, the teacher is not obligated to make it up.* With that in mind:

1. If the student is unable to attend a scheduled lesson time, the student must contact the professor via e-mail at least 24 hours prior to the lesson time.
2. If the student wakes ill or with a sore throat that affects her/his ability to perform, the professor will accept cancellations between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. by UWO email.

3. Under no circumstance will a note on the professor’s door be accepted as proper cancellation procedure.

4. All lessons that have been cancelled according to one of the proper procedures may be made up at mutually convenient times. To ensure lessons are made-up, students should seek to trade lesson times with their studio peers in a given week where there is an absence.

5. Lessons cancelled by the professor will be made up at a mutually convenient time.

**Tardiness**

1. The student is expected to arrive on time for each lesson, as this directly impacts the productivity of a lesson. No tardiness will be made up at the end of the regular lesson time.

2. If the professor is not present at the beginning of the lesson time, the student is expected to wait for up to 15 minutes. If the professor is still not there after the 15-minute deadline, the student is expected to check voicemail, text, and/or e-mail for instructions.

**Practicing**

In preparing for juries or recitals, students should pace their practicing carefully, doing regular amounts every day. Practicing, like any other physical activity, requires fitness and a daily routine; students who cram in many hours of practice in panic preparation for a coming examination and who have not been practicing regularly throughout the year, run the risk of physical injury, and possible serious interruption of their Applied courses.

**Grading**

The Studio Instruction mark will consist of weekly in-lesson evaluations on the assigned materials (exercises and repertoire – see above Course Requirements), and in-lesson attitude, and completion of the recital card.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Jury Mark</th>
<th>Performance Class</th>
<th>Studio Instructor</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1920, M2920, M2921, M3920, M3922, M4920</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>32.5% Term I 32.5% Term II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M3921, M4921, M4922, M4923</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>35% Term I 35% Term II</td>
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<tr>
<td>M1924, M2925, M3925, M4925, M3924y, M4924y</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>37.5% Term I 37.5% Term II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Information

Pre-requisites

Students should note the following Senate regulation for ensuring that course prerequisites have been completed successfully or special permission from the Dean obtained: “Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

Scholastic Offence

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at:
http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Accommodation for Medical Illness

Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. In order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing more than 30% of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation in the form of a completed and appropriately signed Student Medical Certificate (SMC) indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities, or the equivalent documentation for non-medical or compassionate grounds.

Students seeking academic consideration must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence. Documentation, if required, shall be submitted to the Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210).

Note that the new Self-Reporting Absence Portal may not be used for requesting academic relief for work worth more than 30%, or for Final Exams scheduled during the official examination period. Students are directed to read the full Senate policy on accommodation for medical illness at the following website:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf
A PDF copy of a Senate approved Student Medical Certificate (SMC) may be downloaded here: 
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

In cases where students miss work that is worth 30% or less of the total course grade due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if an online absence report is submitted using the new Self-Reporting Absence Portal, or if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean’s office and the Associate Dean deems that accommodation is warranted, then the missed assignment(s) or quiz(zes) may be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not submitted voluntarily then the missed assignment(s) or quiz(zes) will receive a grade of zero.

**Accommodation for Religious Observance**

Students may be excused to observe a religious holy day of their faith without penalty provided they notify the instructor in advance. Students are responsible for material covered in their absence and each student shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up missed work.

**Accommodation for Disability**

If you require academic accommodations because of a disability, please let the instructor know during the first week of classes, and, if you have not done so already, register as soon as possible with Accessible Education (formerly known as Services for Students with Disabilities). You can learn more about the Student Success Centre’s services for accessible education at http://success.uwo.ca/academics/sas/index.html.

**Mental Health**

Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Other important dates:**
September 5 - classes begin
September 13 - last day to add a first term half-course
October 14 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday (classes excused)
November 4-10 - Fall Reading Week (classes excused)
November 12 - last day to drop a first term half-course
December 5 - classes end
December 6-7 - Study Days (classes excused)
December 8-19 - examination period