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

Students registered in any of the following Applied courses receive 24 lessons of 50 minutes each, normally 12 per term. Students registered in undergraduate credit recitals will receive an additional 12 hours of lessons, spread throughout the year. These lessons might be scheduled concurrently with the regular weekly lesson for a total of 75 minutes per week.

The first portion of the lesson will be devoted to the development of a personalized regimen of vocal exercises for warm ups and technical mastery. The focus will lay 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 instruction will be achieved through the singing of vocal repertoire suited to the level and voice type of each student in order to obtain optimal vocal, musical, and personal development.

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.

Students are required to attend and participate in the weekly Performance Class. A schedule will be provided at the beginning of each semester. Unless discussed with the professor, students are required to sing on their assigned dates. A sign-up sheet will be posted outside the professor’s studio on which students must indicate which selections they will perform. This must be completed the Friday prior to the class. **All repertoire to be performed for the class must be memorized.** Students are also expected to introduce their pieces to the class (background information on composers and poets, etc). Finally, students are responsible for obtaining an accompanist for their respective dates.

In addition to attending Faculty and colleague recitals, students are expected to review three (3) vocal concerts per semester: 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.¹


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. The links to both documents can be found at http://www.music.uwo.ca/. Look under “Departments,” then “Performance.”

**Lesson Times**

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

**Cancellations**

¹ “Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnote or citation. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.” – University of Western Ontario Senate (2004).
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 awakes with a sore throat that affects her/his ability to perform, the professor will accept cancellations between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.
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.
5. Lessons cancelled by the professor will be made up at mutually convenient time.

Tardiness

1. The student is expected to arrive on time for each lesson, as 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 and e-mail for instructions.

Accompanists

1. The student is responsible for retaining the services of an accompanist.

Notes for UG students:

i) **Grading scale for all aspects of the course** is
   A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

ii) **Academic Consideration for Student Absence**: Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. **Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus.** Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:
   a. for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
   b. absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
   c. assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
d. if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. **Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.**

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office. For the Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

iii) **Academic Consideration for Missing Work:** In cases where students are unable to submit work due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if an online self-reported absence is submitted, or if appropriate supporting documentation is submitted to the Associate Dean’s office, and the accommodation is granted, then the missed assessments may be rescheduled or discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course, at the discretion of the instructor. If neither a self-reported absence nor an appropriate supporting document is submitted to the appropriate office, then the missed assignments will receive a grade of zero.

iv) **Mental Health & Wellness:**
Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (https://www.uwo.ca/health/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students**
in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.

v) Religious Accommodation:
Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo

vi) Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:
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

vii) Academic Offences:
Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic 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://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

viii) Recording of Online Activities:
All the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings. Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.
ix) **Contingency Plan:**
In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor.

x) **Online Etiquette:**
Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- Use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- “Arrive” to class on time
- Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- Unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting
- Be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants.

To participate please consider the following:

- If you wish to speak, select the blue “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question.
• Kindly remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking.

• Self-identify when speaking.

• Kindly remember to select the "raise hand" function again to lower your hand, mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise).

General considerations of “netiquette”:

• Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.

• Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.

• Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of “Zoom-bombing” a class, or of other serious online offenses, may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.