

## Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** Vocal Techniques  
**Course Number:** MUS 130.1A & 130.1B  
**Semester:** Fall Semester, 2009  
**Instructor:** Dr. Yvonne Robinson  
**Office (phone):** Music Center- Vocal Division (ext. 1658)  
**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**REQUIRED TEXT** Ware, Clifton. *Adventures in Singing: A Process for Exploring, Discovering, and Developing Vocal Potential.* 3rd<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York; McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1998

**COURSE SUMMARY** This course is designed to introduce the fundamental techniques and pedagogy of singing. Topics will include anatomy of the voice, breathing, posture, resonance, vocal production, expression, interpretation, performance and diction. The complex art of singing will be addressed through lecture, exercise, and application in the learning of song repertoire.

**GRADING** Grades will be based on daily assignments, in-class performances (both formal and informal), attendance, class participation, written exams and quizzes, and overall improvement. Emphasis will be on preparation, participation, and performance. *Therefore, it is essential that everyone come prepared each day with the current assignment. Anyone who is not prepared will be given an "F" for the day.* Because of the experiential nature of the class, daily attendance is required. Two unexcused absences will result in dropping a full letter grade (ex. A to B). Further absences may result in failing the course.

### **GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

|                               |     |        |   |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------|---|
| Performance 1                 | 5%  | 90-100 | A |
| Performance 2                 | 5%  | 80-89  | B |
| Midterm Written Exam          | 5%  | 70-79  | C |
| Midterm Performance           | 15% | 60-69  | D |
| Performance 3                 | 5%  | 0-59   | F |
| Performance 4                 | 5%  |        |   |
| Final Written Exam            | 10% |        |   |
| Final Performance             | 20% |        |   |
| Daily Assignments/Preparation | 20% |        |   |
| Attendance/Participation      | 10% |        |   |

Notes:

1. During the semester each student will sing 5 times by memory. Three performances will include 2 songs in English and 1 song in Italian. The midterm performance will be 2 songs: 1 English and 1 foreign language. The final performance will consist of 3 songs: 2 English and 1 foreign language. Both the midterm and final will include written exams as well.
2. Students are expected to work three hours per week outside class preparing the various assignments.