

## Syllabus

**Course title:** Beginning Voice Techniques  
**Course number:** MUS 130.1  
**Term:** Fall semester 2013  
**Time:** M-W 3<sup>rd</sup> period (10:20a – 11.10a)  
**Location:** Room 203, Music Center, P. Payne-Hurd Campus

**Instructor:** Eduardo Azzati  
**Contact info:** azzati@moravian.edu  
**Office:** 221, Music Center, Payne-Hurd Campus  
**Office hours:** By appointment only

### Course description

This course is designed to introduce the fundamental techniques of singing and song preparation, as well as concepts of anatomy and physiology of the vocal instrument. Students will be able to analyze and recognize proper and improper singing and to develop healthy singing habits of their own. Student will acquire fundamental singing techniques (breathing, sound production, resonance, articulation, etc.) and will be able to prepare and perform beginner level songs.

### Required text

Ware, Clifton. *Adventures in Singing: A Process for Exploring, Discovering, and Developing Vocal Potential*. Fourth Edition. New York, NY; McGraw-Hill, Inc., 2008.

### Recommended text (3 copies on-reserve in the music library for use in the library only)

McCoy, Scott. *Your Voice: An Inside View*. Second Edition. Delaware, OH: Inside View Press, 2012.

### Required materials

Notebook, pen, pencil

### Grading

Grading will be based on daily assignments, in-class performances, written assessments, class preparation and participation (active and full participation in in-class discussions, exercises, etc.) and overall improvement (successfully demonstrating the acquisition of the concepts and techniques taught). There is no final exam for this class. There will be two written assessments, four vocal performances (I, II, III, IV), a mid-term performance (songs I and II from memory) and a final performance (songs III and IV from memory) and three brief group-leading assignments labeled A, B and C. There will also be two opportunities to earn bonus points each one worth 5 additional points (See page 3 of this Syllabus).

### Grade distribution

Performance I	5%	90-100	A
Performance II	5%	80-89	B
Written assessment 1	20%	70-79	C
Midterm performance	10%	60-69	D
Performance III	5%	0-59	F
Performance IV	5%		
Written assessment 2	20%		
Final performance	10%		
Group-leading assignments	10%		
Class preparation and participation	10%		

- It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for assignments and for the course -

### **Attendance/grading policy**

Attendance is mandatory on the dates indicated on the schedule as Performance (I, II, III, IV, midterm and final), Written Assessment (1 and 2) and the dates when the student is scheduled for a group-leading assignment. In the case that a mandatory attendance class gets cancelled the performance, assessment or group-leading assignment will be rescheduled and the new date then becomes a mandatory attendance class. As a general rule, students' performances, and group-leading assignments WILL NOT be rescheduled and written assessments may not be taken at a later date. Missing a scheduled performance, written assessment or group-leading assignment will result in a zero in the particular obligation. Students may swap their group-leading assignment date but only with the instructor's prior consent and approval and no later than one class meeting prior to the scheduled date.

If a student must miss a mandatory attendance class due to severe illness or major personal or family emergency a written petition requesting the rescheduling of the assignment must be submitted together with a filled-out and signed "Statement of Absence from Class" form ([home.moravian.edu/public/stusvc/health/pdfs/statementOfAbsence.pdf](http://home.moravian.edu/public/stusvc/health/pdfs/statementOfAbsence.pdf)). If the absence is due to illness and the student has been treated at the Health Center or an off-campus medical establishment, a copy of a doctor's excuse note stating that the student cannot attend class must accompany the "Statement of Absence from Class" form. If the absence is due to a personal or family situation or emergency the student must contact the Office of Learning Services and request a written communication to the instructor. After reviewing the "Statement of Absence from Class" form and additional documentation the instructor will make a decision as to whether a rescheduling of the assignment is granted and will communicate the decision to the student. Only severe illness or major personal or family situation or emergency will be considered. If the student is unable to sing on the day of a performance due to hoarseness, severe cold, etc. but does attend class, the instructor will consider rescheduling the performance but none of the aforementioned documentation is required. A full letter grade may be dropped from a rescheduled performance or a written assessment taken at a later date.

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and it is certainly in the best interest of the student to attend all class meetings however, attendance per se (except for the mandatory dates as outlined above) has no effect on the grade. If the student misses class he or she is responsible for obtaining all information and material covered. An absent student will lose the credit given for "class preparation and participation" (approx. ½ point per eligible class. Classes devoted to Performance and Written Assessments do not count)

### **Readings**

As part of preparation class and to be able to fully participate in discussions, the student is expected to read the material beforehand.

### **Class etiquette**

Students are expected to behave during class in a way that is respectful to peers and instructor and that respect their difference of opinion and their right to express their views openly and freely. Students are expected to behave in a way that is not disruptive of the learning process and that assures every student's right to learn. Students are expected to contribute to create a class environment and climate that make it comfortable for everyone to perform in front of the class. If a critique of a student performance is requested of the other students acting as audience, it is expected that such critiques be constructive and presented in a caring, respectful and kind manner. The use of cell phones or other distracting electronics devices is NOT PERMITTED during class. Students will be asked to turn off (or to silent setting) and tuck away said electronic devices during class.

### **Academic honesty**

Please refer to "Academic Honesty at Moravian College" in the Student Handbook.

### **Special accommodations**

Students who wish to request accommodations for this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Academic and Disability support. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

### **Disclosure**

This syllabus is subject to change without the need of any advanced notice. Any changes in the grading criteria, grade distribution or any of the policies set forth herein will be communicated in writing in the form of an addendum or revised syllabus.

### **Bonus credit**

The student can earn 10 additional points that will be added directly to the final grade (5 points for each event) by attending two workshops on topics related to the art of singing and performing.

Proof of attendance must be submitted in the form of a program, flyer or note signed by a member of the Moravian faculty or staff in attendance. It is the student's responsibility to seek said signature.

A paper of at least one-page in length with a description of the workshop and the student's impressions on it must be turned in.

#### **Workshop 1:**

Body Mapping with Dr. Heather Buchanan

Saturday, September 7, 2013, 11am to 2:30pm (lunch break from 12:30 to 1)

Peter Hall

For more information contact Dr. Joy Hirokawa ([jhirokawa@moravian.edu](mailto:jhirokawa@moravian.edu))

To learn more about the clinician and the workshop visit:

[www.heatherjbuchanan.com/BodyMapping/AboutBodyMapping.aspx](http://www.heatherjbuchanan.com/BodyMapping/AboutBodyMapping.aspx)

#### **Workshop 2:**

Margaret Baroody, Singing Voice Specialist

Sunday, November 3, 2013, 3pm

Haupt Union Building (HUB – room to be announced)

Event organized by the Lehigh Valley Chapter of NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing)

For more information contact Eduardo Azzati

To learn more about the clinician and the workshop visit:

[www.lvcnats.org/newsletters/5-1.pdf](http://www.lvcnats.org/newsletters/5-1.pdf)