

## Syllabus

**Course title:** Beginning Voice Techniques  
**Course number:** MUS 130.1  
**Term:** Spring semester 2015  
**Time:** M-W 3<sup>rd</sup> period (10:20a – 11.10a)  
**Location:** Room 203, Single Brethren House, 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 beginning techniques of singing and song preparation, as well as concepts of anatomy and physiology of the vocal instrument as it pertains to breathing, phonation, resonance and articulation as well as aspects of vocal health. Concepts of acoustics and the physics behind the vocal sound will be covered. Students will be able to analyze and recognize different types of vocal sounds, develop a proper scientific terminology as it applies to the different parts of the vocal instrument and an understanding of how the voice works. Students will also have the opportunity to lead the class in vocal exercises and to teach a fragment of a song as well as to prepare and perform songs both in English and foreign languages.

### **Required texts**

Ware, Clifton. *Adventures in Singing*. Fourth Edition. New York, NY; McGraw-Hill, Inc., 2008.

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, a mid-term performance and a final performance and three brief group-leading assignments labeled A, B and C.

### **Grade distribution**

|                                      |     |        |   |
|--------------------------------------|-----|--------|---|
| Performance I                        | 5%  | 90-100 | A |
| Performance II                       | 5%  | 80-89  | B |
| Written assessment 1                 | 15% | 70-79  | C |
| Midterm performance                  | 10% | 60-69  | D |
| Performance III                      | 5%  | 0-59   | F |
| Performance IV                       | 5%  |        |   |
| Written assessment 2                 | 15% |        |   |
| Final performance                    | 10% |        |   |
| Group-leading assignments            | 10% |        |   |
| Reading assignments/written outlines | 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 absolutely 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 eventuality 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, 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.

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 available at [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/was not able to attend class must accompany the “Statement of Absence 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 will be 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.

### **Readings, practice, class preparation**

The student is expected to come to class fully prepared, for which reading, studying, writing and practicing will be required.

### **Class etiquette**

Students are expected to behave during class in a way that is respectful to peers and instructor.

Students are expected to respect others’ opinions and their right to express their views openly and freely.

Students are expected to behave in a way that facilitates the learning process and that assures everyone’s right to learn.

Students are expected to contribute to create a class environment that make it comfortable for everyone to perform in class.

If a critique of a student’s performance is requested of the other students acting as audience, it is expected that such critique 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 mode) all electronics, unless they are being used for class.

### **Academic honesty**

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

### **Special accommodations**

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall (extension 1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic & Disability Support office.

### **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.