

Syllabus

Course title: Beginning Voice Techniques
Course number: MUS 130.1
Term: Spring semester 2016
Time: M-W 3rd period (10:20a – 11:10a)

Location: Room 203, Single Brethren House (Music Center), P. Payne-Hurd (South) 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 beginning techniques of singing and song preparation, as well as concepts of anatomy and physiology of the vocal instrument, 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, readings and outlines, in-class performances, written assessments, one final project, 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.

Grade distribution

Performance I	5%	90-100	A
Performance II	5%	80-89	B
Performance III	5%	70-79	C
Midterm performance	5%	60-69	D
Final performance	10%	0-59	F
Performance critiques	10%		
Written assessment 1	15%		
Written assessment 2	15%		
Final project	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, midterm and final), Written Assessment (1 and 2) and the date when the student is scheduled for a final project presentation. 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 final project presentations WILL NOT be rescheduled and written assessments may not be taken at a later date. Missing a scheduled performance, written assessment or final project presentation may 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.

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 Academic Support Center 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 the Academic Support Center, located in the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

Disclosure

This syllabus is subject to change without the need for 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.

Class Schedule (Schedule subject to change)

Bold face indicates mandatory attendance - *Indicates reading and outline is due

Underline indicates Song Choice is due - *Italics indicate NO CLASS*

Mon 1/18	Intro to course - Body prep exercises.
Wed 1/20	Body prep exercises - Guide to choose a song
Mon 1/25	McCoy Chapter 6: Anatomy* - Body prep exercises - Mock song choice - Tools to learn a song
Wed 1/27	Breathing exercises - <u>Song I choice due</u> (English) - Song fragment presentation
Mon 2/1	McCoy Chapter 7: Respiration* - Breathing exercises
Wed 2/3	Respiration continuation - Breathing exercises
Mon 2/8	Performance I (English) - Breathing exercises
Wed 2/10	McCoy Chapter 8: Phonation* - Voice prep exercises/warm-ups
Mon 2/15	Phonation continuation - Voice prep exercises/warm-ups
Wed 2/17	Flex day/catch up/review - Voice prep exercises/warm-ups
Mon 2/22	Written assessment 1
Wed 2/24	Midterm Performance (Songs I from memory)
	- MID TERM -
Mon 2/29	McCoy Chapter 2: Sound*
Wed 3/2	Sound continuation - <u>Song II choice due</u> (English)
<i>Mon 3/7</i>	<i>NO CLASS – Spring Recess</i>
<i>Wed 3/9</i>	<i>NO CLASS – Spring Recess</i>
Mon 3/14	McCoy Chapter 3: Resonance*
Wed 3/16	Resonance continuation - Tools to teach a song
Mon 3/21	Performance II (English)
Wed 3/23	McCoy Chapter 4: Formants* - Mock teach of a song fragment
Mon 3/28	Formants continuation - <u>Song III choice due</u> (Foreign language)
Wed 3/30	McCoy Chapter 10: Registration* - Start prep for final projects
Mon 4/4	McCoy Chapter 11: Articulation* - Continue prep for final projects
Wed 4/6	Performance III (Foreign language)
Mon 4/11	McCoy Chapter 9: Health* - Flex day/catch up/review
Wed 4/13	Written assessment 2
Mon 4/18	Final Performance (Songs II and III from memory)
Wed 4/20	Final projects
Mon 4/25	Final projects
Wed 4/27	Final projects