

Bellarmino University
MUSI 115
Private Studio Voice
Spring 2013

Professor: Cody Medina
Office Location: Vocal Area Office, Norton Fine Arts Complex
Lesson Time: By appointment
Office Hours: By appointment
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This syllabus may be subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Description

Individual instruction. A study of vocal techniques and standard literature.

Learning Objectives and Assessment Strategies

Educational Objective	How this objective will be demonstrated
Students should exhibit proper vocal technique.	Through vocalises, exercises and analyses of in-studio recordings, students will gain the proper tools to be able to correct any potential problems that may arise in their own performance and practice times.
Students should be prepared for a career in music performance, graduate study or teacher certification in music.	The students will become well-rounded, adaptable, "whole" musicians through acquiring a working knowledge of vocal music and its historical impact.
Students should develop an understanding of vocal music from all eras and genres within the academic classical canon.	Lectures, studio discussions, readings, listening examples and external source materials will provide necessary contextual information.
Students will know about the conventions, genres, forms, and contextual information concerning the pieces in the academic canon.	By examining historical performances, primary sources and scholarly publications, students will describe, compare and perform pieces from this canon with authentic, yet individual, success.
Students should be able to view pieces of music and the impetuses behind their compositions from a variety of viewpoints.	When provided with the various approaches, opinions, interpretations and accounts of historical events and their

	contextual surroundings, students will formulate opinions that allow for fresh scholarship and creativity.
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Course Methodology

Through in-depth study of proper technique, historical performance practice, languages and recordings, the student will attain a solid, healthy technique that will allow them to practice and perform very successfully, as well as build a proper awareness of effective and adequate singing through the acquisition of good tonal models. The student will also learn about the relevant advancements and developments, as well as the shortcomings and problems, associated with the field of professional classical singing, allowing them to become well-informed, well-rounded, capable musicians.

Required materials

Binder equipped with:

- Weekly Semester Schedule
- Written Translations (for foreign languages)
- Music with Student/Teacher Notes
- Two (2) Clean Copies of Music
- Note Paper
- Vocalises

Audio Recording device

Thumb Drive for lesson videos (at least 8GB)

Pencils

NOTE: Should these materials be missing, you will not receive a lesson. It is paramount for a musician to be prepared. If you are unprepared, then we cannot work. Period.

Lesson Times

Each student will receive a:

- 50 minute lesson with 10 minutes of review (2 credit hours)
- 25 minute lesson with 5 minutes of review (1 credit hour)

Music Majors with Voice Concentration

All sophomores and upperclassmen are required to perform a recital (time, language, genre and period requirements will be discussed with your instructor). Therefore, it is necessary to learn a sufficient amount of repertoire that will allow the student to present a proper academic program.

Repertoire Requirements

Minors

- Learn and memorize two (2) pieces of music in any language or genre deemed appropriate by your instructor.

Majors

- Freshmen
 - Learn and memorize two (2) pieces of music in any language. The pieces should fall within the traditional academic classical canon.
- Sophomores
 - Learn and memorize three (3) pieces of music in at least two languages. These pieces will comprise all or part of your recital set(s).
- Juniors
 - Learn **at least** four (4) pieces of music (preferably five to seven (5-7)) in different languages, genres (i.e. opera, oratorio, Lied, etc.) and time periods. By this time, the student should show proficiency in the four main languages: English, French, German and Italian.
- Seniors
 - Learn **at least** six (6) pieces of music in different languages, genres (i.e. opera, oratorio, Lied etc.) and time periods. This repertoire will serve for both the student's senior recital and for any upcoming auditions (graduate school, young artist programs, competitions, etc.). The student should have a strong grasp and working knowledge of basic technique that will allow him/her to perform at a solid level. Likewise, the student should be showing full proficiency in the four main languages: English, French, German and Italian.

Rehearsal with Staff Accompanist

As well as working with him during your lesson times, you are expected to rehearse with Timothy Baker **outside of your lesson time**. This should be happening throughout the semester, as the collaboration between vocalist and pianist is a vital component of the vocal arts and must not be neglected. In order to ensure that he is at your lessons, **you must email him your lesson time and ASK him to play for you.**

NOTE: Those students who know a pianist or who would prefer to have someone they know play for them, let me know of your plans.

Juries

Every student who is a music major with a voice concentration is responsible for performing a jury at the end of the semester. The requirements are as follows:

- Three (3) pieces of your and your instructor's choice, memorized.
- All music must be provided to the staff accompanist, Timothy Baker, **no later than** three weeks prior to your jury.

Grading Scale

A (94-100%)	A- (90-93%)	B+ (87-89%)	B (83-86%)	B- (80-82%)
C+ (77-79%)	C (70-76%)	D (60-69%)	F (0-59%)	

Attendance Policy

Unless you are in the studio doing the work, you will neither learn nor progress. Furthermore, as I am over 2 hours away from Louisville, I MUST have adequate advance notice. Therefore, any absence of which you notify me 24 hours or more before the lesson you will miss can be made up at a later date. However, anything less than 24 hours WILL NOT be made up. However, as long as you let me know that you will not be at your appointed lesson time, your grade will not be docked. In the event that you do not notify that you will not be at your lesson time, your absence will be considered unexcused. **For every unexcused absence, your grade will be lowered 10%.** Please see the following for further information concerning absences:

Excused absences

These must be cleared through me no less than one week before your anticipated absence. Please see the student handbook (which is excerpted below) concerning the protocol for school-related absences, as I will follow this strictly. Medical emergencies also fall under this category, but must be accompanied by a physician's note.

2 excused absences are allowed, free of charge, as life happens.

The third excused absence will result in the lowering of your grade by 10%.

Each subsequent absence will result in a lowering of an additional 10%.

3 instances of tardiness will be counted as 1 excused absence.

Unexcused absences

These are absences that are not cleared through me. Effective communication is the key to successful relationships in business, academia, and everyday life. Therefore, should you choose to not communicate with me, I will lower your grade. For each unexcused absence, your grade will be lowered 10%.

In addition to the above attendance and tardiness policy, the University policy concerning University-sponsored absences is as follows (approved by the Faculty Council in May 2006):

The University requires students who will be absent from class while representing the University to inform their instructors in two steps. During the first week of the course, students must meet with each instructor to discuss the attendance policy and arrangements for absences related to University-sponsored events. Second, students must provide the instructor with a signed Student Absentee Notification Form, available via the student portal on the University intranet, at the earliest possible opportunity, but not later than the week prior to the anticipated absence. The Student Absentee Notification Form does not serve as an excused absence from class. Your instructor has the final say about excused and unexcused absences and it is the student's responsibility to know and abide by the instructor's policy.

Academic Honesty

Please read the following concerning the integrity of your work within this class:

*I strongly endorse and will follow the academic honesty policy as published in the 2009-11 Course Catalog and in the 2009-10 Student Handbook. Both documents are available online via mybellarmine.edu. Students and faculty must be fully aware of what constitutes academic dishonesty; claims of ignorance cannot be used to justify or rationalize dishonest acts. Academic dishonesty can take a number of forms, including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, aiding and abetting, multiple submissions, obtaining unfair advantage, and unauthorized access to academic or administrative systems. Definitions of each of these forms of academic dishonesty are provided in the academic honesty section of the Student Handbook. All confirmed incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and sanctions will be imposed as dictated by the policy. Penalties range from failing an assignment or course to dismissal from the University, depending, in part, on the student's previous record of academic dishonesty. On the second offense during a student's academic career, the student will be immediately suspended for the semester in which the most recent offense took place. On the third offense, the student will be dismissed from the University. **It is generally assumed that graduate students fully understand what accounts for academic dishonesty. Thus, no leniency of penalty will be applied in cases involving graduate students.***

Academic Resource Center (ARC)

Bellarmino University is committed to providing services and programs that assist all students in further developing their learning and study skills and in reaching their academic goals. Students needing or wanting additional and/or specialized assistance related to study techniques, writing, time management, tutoring, test-taking strategies, etc., should seek out the resources of the ARC, located on the A-level of the W.L. Lyons Brown Library. Call 452-8071 for more information.

Disability Services

Please refer to the student handbook for information on this subject. The following is excerpted from it:

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Disability Services Coordinator. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor. The Disability Services Coordinator is located in the Counseling Center, phone 452-8480.

Cell Phones, Handheld Devices

The use of cellular telephones during lesson times is expressly forbidden, unless you are using it to record your lesson. Should you have a special situation where you are waiting for a call involving medical or family emergencies, please talk to me and we will discuss an arrangement.