

George Washington University-Spring 2013
Prof. Millicent Scarlett-Smith, millies@gwu.edu
Department of Music – Voice Syllabus 1513/1514
B129/ 202-994-0310(studio)/ main office 202-994-6245

Course Objectives

Performance study in Voice includes individual instruction in technique, performance preparation and basic musicianship skills that will foster independent and self-motivated learners. Lesson content is individually determined, with repertoire selected to achieve development of technical and musical skills in each student. Technical and musical issues will be identified from the repertoire studied, and possible solutions, and strategies for finding solutions, will be devised. Students will be expected to make choices and decisions of both technical and interpretive import and to actively participate in their lessons by singing and discussing various options and their merits

Expected Learning Outcomes

Upon completing study at the 1500 level in this area, students will be able to:

Musicianship

-Display and use practical musicianship skills in learning vocal pieces and/or vocal sight-reading

Technique

-Basic understanding of how the voice works. You should be able to use the practices of technical knowledge to solve any vocal problems that may occur during performance of repertoire.

Repertoire

-1513 minimum 3pieces, 1514 minimum of 5 pieces.

-Sing in a variety of vocal genres, with emphasis on developing stylistic awareness.

-Perform repertoire from at least 2 styles/periods

Research/Writing

-Evaluate performances as assigned and write responses that relate to your performance study.

-Be able to synthesize information through writing and conversation supporting their understanding of performance and it's reception.

Performance

-Demonstrate an emerging understanding of vocal technique, and an ability to perform using the technique, as well as style, musical affect and performance practice.

Critical Understanding

-Articulate performance choices that demonstrate a understanding of historical context.

-Speak with a perceivable argument.

Department of Music Attendance Policy

13 lessons per semester

The dept of music is not obligated to schedule make-up lessons for those missed lessons due to student's non-attendance (including illness, vacation, etc,)

- Excused absences can include religious holidays, poor health, (a note from the health center or other medical professional). In the event of a teacher cancellation, a make-up date will be scheduled. It is your responsibility to attend the made up lesson that will be determined between teacher and student.
- If you are unable to attend your lesson, please notify me. Sooner is better than later! Cancellations made by email will not be excused unless made 24 hours in advance. When there are last minute issues, call me at the studio (202)994-0310, or on my cell 301-675-1267 or text me.

If a student registers after the first, or second scheduled lesson, that lesson will NOT be taught, nor count against the student's grade or attendance.

Required Attendance at Performances

Dido and Aeneas (Jack Morton Auditorium)	March 2 and 3	3pm
All Voice Recital	Tuesday April 9, 2013	7:30pm B120
All voice Recital #2	Friday April 26, 2013	7:30 pm B120
Scarlett Studio Recital	Date and Time, TBA	

Other voice performances happening this semester (you must attend 1 of them)

USingers and Chamber Choir: Sing of spring Western Presbyterian 24 th and Virginia ave.	Sunday April 20, 2013	3pm
Numerous Voice Recitals	Dates and Times TBA	

And

A Professional Music Performance, preferably voice, but if you can't make it to a voice performance, here are two that will take place this semester, on campus as part of the Music Dept's Visting Artists.

Rocha-Pittenger, percussion-cello duo **Date & Time:** January 27 at 3:00 pm Jack Morton Auditorium

Vijay Iyer, jazz piano **Date & Time:** April 16 at 7:30 pm **Location:** Lisner Auditorium

Grading

You will be graded on lesson attendance, preparation and completion of assignments, listed above.

Your Midterm is the week of March 25-28, 2013

1513- 2pieces for memory (one will be foreign)
YouTube paper on 1 of your songs
Sight-reading

1514 3pieces for memory (one will be foreign)
YouTube paper on 2 of your songs
Sight- reading

1513/1514- You will need to know the translations of your foreign language piece, and something about the work. We will discuss this during the mid-term instead of a paper. You will need to tell me something about the composer, the librettist and something about the work. NO PAPER.

******IF you are 1514 and doing an exam, you will be required to write a paper on your foreign piece(s), and your other pieces that you will present for your exam.**** If you have taken three credits of voice, you will be taking an exam. You will be told if this pertains to you.**

You will perform on the Studio Recital, date and time TBD. It will be in April/May

Your Final Paper will be due on Tuesday April.30, 2013. The paper will be on the three performances that you attended this semester. I am not interested in any performance that you saw prior to Jan.14, 2013.

At each lesson you will be graded. It will be based upon your technical work and repertoire. At each lesson you will be told what to have prepared for the next lesson, this will also factor into your weekly grade. You will also be graded on listening/reading/studio assignments/class recital etc... Students are expected to attend every lesson with music and materials in a 3-ring binder and a pencil. Be on time and well-prepared. Only students who have made truly excellent progress will be given an A. To earn an A in this studio you must engage in the study of both the technical and the intellectual. Your lessons will be successful in direct relationship to the amount and quality of time spent practicing and preparing for your lesson each week. Each lesson is graded and the lowest grade of the semester is discarded. Midterm and Final Repertoire Evaluations will be reflected in that lesson's grade.

Unexcused absences will effect a semester grade in the following manner:

One unexcused absence- the impact of the final grade will be at the discretion of the instructor

Two unexcused absences- the grade will be lowered by one full grade (ex. from A to B)

_ Each subsequent absence- lowers the grade one incremental step (ex. from B to B-)

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

1. Students should notify faculty during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance;
2. Faculty should extend to these students the courtesy of absence without penalty on such occasions, including permission to make up examinations;
3. Faculty who intend to observe a religious holiday should arrange at the beginning of the semester to reschedule missed classes or to make other provisions for their course-related activities

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

I personally support the GW Code of Academic Integrity. It states: “Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information.” For the remainder of the code, see: <http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html>

Support for Students Outside the Classroom

Any students who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact the Disability Support Services office at 202-994-8250, Marvin Center Suite 424, to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. For additional information refer to <http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/>

The University Counseling Center (UCC) offers 24/7 assistance and referral to address students' personal, social, career and study skills problems. Services for students include crisis and emergency mental health consultations and confidential assessment, counseling services (individual and small group), and referrals. <http://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/CounselingServices/AcademicSupportServices>

