

Music 109V-Beginning Voice (2nd Semester)

Fall 2016 Mon/Wed 2:00-2:50 PM Room #109

Dr. Elisabeth Harrington

Office: Music Building #211 (707) 826-5437 elisabeth.harrington@humboldt.edu

Office hours: Mon 9:30-10:30; Thurs 1:00-2:00 & by appt.

Class Objectives for Music 109 Courses

1. Students will demonstrate healthy, fundamental technique beyond the beginning level (including proper posture) on one or more instruments or voice.

Learning fundamental and healthy vocal technique includes a working knowledge of the physical instrument and how the different parts function interdependently. Specific topics will include breath control, posture, phonation, resonance and articulation.

2. Students will demonstrate performance skills beyond the beginning level including (as relevant) aspects such as good tone, accurate pitch accurate, rhythm, dynamics and appropriate tempo.

We will apply the above-mentioned technique to specific vocal literature, including literature in languages other than English.

3. Students will demonstrate understanding of the qualities that make a performance excellent.

We will explore and experience the art of performing, including topics such as complete preparation, stage etiquette, expression & dramatic presentation, nerves, collaboration, and other related issues. We will discuss how to integrate these qualities to cultivate musical excellence.

4. Students will demonstrate the ability listen critically and give constructive feedback, both to themselves and others.

We will discuss how to give and receive feedback effectively in the context of in-class performances.

Class Activities

- A. Vocal and physical warm-up exercises (10-15 minutes per class)
- B. Presentation and discussion of vocal topics listed in (5-10 minutes per class)
- C. Development of Musicianship skills (approx. 10 minutes per class)
- D. Group and solo singing (15-20 minutes per class)

Resource Materials

Required Texts (2):

- A. *The Singing Book, third ed.* by Meribeth Dayme and Cynthia Vaughn, with CD's
- B. *Successful Sight Singing, Book 1* by Nancy Telfer

Course Requirements

- Attend all class sessions and participate fully in all class activities, including **final exam**, and one **HSU Music Department** sponsored performance that features singing
- Stay current with all class assignments, including readings, and learning notes and rhythms for new repertoire
- Learn, memorize and perform **three “new to you”** songs from *The Singing Book, 3rd ed* in class on the scheduled days, one of which must be in a language other than your first language. (Note: You may choose any songs from our book, including those we do together as a group. You may also choose songs not from *The Singing Book, 3rd ed* for additional performances with instructor approval *after* you have completed the 3-song requirement.)
- Attend one Vocal performance sponsored by the HSU Music Dept. this semester. Dates include: October 9, October 21, December 4, December 9 & December 11. (See HSU Music performance calendar for full details.)
- Final exam: Attend one day of the Music Dept. Vocal Showcase program during final exam week on either Tuesday or Wednesday (your choice of day) between 4:00-7:00 PM (Exact time TBA as soon as the schedule is finalized)

In addition: You will be expected to read brief chapters from your book and participate in class discussions. We will learn and sing many songs as a group, work on vocalises (voice strengthening exercises) and practice sight-singing weekly in class. There are no written assignments for these activities but you are expected to participate fully, and work on building your skills. Regular practice is the key to improvement! 😊

Attendance

Since this is a skills and participation-based class, attendance is **required**.

Beginning on **Wednesday, September 7**, you are allowed **three** unexcused absences without affecting your grade. More than three unexcused absences will result in your grade for attendance and participation being lowered by one letter grade (such as A to B). If you miss class for an excused absence (one that you have discussed with me **prior** to the date of the absence), it is your responsibility to demonstrate that you have assimilated the relevant material prior to your absence. This may include singing songs and/or sight-singing exercises from our class texts. Note: Students missing **more than six** classes cannot earn a passing grade, **no exceptions**. *Also, you may not miss the scheduled performance days. (See above under Class Requirements.)*

Please note: Vocal warm-ups are an extremely important part of the process and will happen at the beginning of each class. If you arrive to class more than 10 minutes late, you will miss the warm up. Therefore you will be counted absent for the day. Plan ahead!

Grading Criteria

40%: *Attendance (punctuality counts!) & full participation in class, including final exam*

30%: *Complete preparation & performance of 3 songs from memory, in class**

30%: *Written work:*

- o Includes Questionnaire (original and revised) (10%) one performance review (10%) and a brief vocal performance analysis essay (10%)

Schedule of topics, in-class performances and due dates

Week 1: 8/22 & 8/26 Introduction; Posture and Breath

Week 2: 8/29 & 8/31 Posture and Breath Continued

Week 3: 9/7 The Singing Book; "Let us sing together," "Four Partner Songs," "Cherokee Morning Song," "O le le la," ; Sight singing pp. 1-2

Week 4: 9/12 & 9/14 Posture & Breathing Review; "Day-O," "Babylon," "Alleluia Round," "Dona Nobis Pacem," Intro to IPA; Sight singing pp. 3-5

Week 5: 9/19 & 9/2 Resonance, Articulation & Phonation; Reading the whole musical score; "Shenandoah," "Nino Precioso," "My Lord, What a Mornin'!" "Sing!"; Sight singing pp. 6-7

Week 6: 9/26 & 9/28 Positive self talk; Giving Constructive Feedback-to yourself and others; Choose 1st song; "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'," "Blue Skies," "House of the Rising Sun"; Sight singing pp. 8-10

Week 7: 10/3 & 10/5 Performance Etiquette; Creativity & Imagination; **1st in-class memorized performances on Wednesday 10/5**; Sight singing pp. 10-11

Week 8: 10/10 & 10/12 "Santa Lucia," "Flor, blanca flor," "Hine ma tov," "Star vicino"; IPA in more detail; Sight singing pp. 12-13

Week 9: 10/17 & 10/29 "El majo timido," Wiegeliend," "Adieu"; Sight singing pp. 15

Week 10: 10/24 & 10/26 Review all foreign language songs; Different styles of vocal production for different genres of music; Sight singing pp. 17

Week 11: 10/31 & 11/2 **2nd in-class memorized performances**

Week 12: 11/7 & 11/9 Choose 2nd songs (Everyone suggests 2 songs for the class to read through-1 each class); Interpretation and communication; Sight singing pp. 18-19

Week 13: 11/14 & 11/16 **3rd in-class memorized performances on Wednesday**

Thanksgiving Break

Week 14: 11/28 & 11/30 Common vocal faults and solutions; Voice types; Extra performances (optional); Sight Singing pp. 22-23

Week 15: 12/5 & 12/7 Wrap-up; Revisiting topics of interest; Sight Singing pp. 28

Exam Week: Attend the Vocal Showcase in the late afternoon on either Tuesday, December 13 or Wednesday, December 14 (Choose one day; exact time TBA asap!)

In addition:

You will be expected to read chapters from your book and participate in class discussions. We will also learn and sing many songs as a group, vocalises (voice strengthening exercises) and work on sight-singing weekly in class. There are no written assignments for these activities but you are expected to participate fully, and work on building your skills. Regular practice is the key to improvement!

Area C Goals

The Arts and Humanities seeks to integrate intellect, imagination, sensibility and receptivity in reflection upon human experience. Courses in Area C should assist and inspire students to cultivate and refine their affective and cognitive responses so they can consciously recognize and embody their experiences and their expressions of human existence. Through studying and responding to the great works of human imagination, and through experiencing individual aesthetic and creative processes, students can gain balance through integration of their intellectual, emotional, and creative responses, thereby, enhancing their understanding and appreciation of human life.

Area C Objectives

All courses shall accomplish the following in a discipline-specific manner.

1. To understand human experience through the development of the ability to recognize and test relationships between particular instances and facts, and general principles and concepts.
2. To develop and/or increase one's subjective responses to humanistic and/or artistic works, including analysis of disciplinary standards of judgment (contemporary and/or historically) in humanistic and artistic areas.
3. To highlight varied factors in the personal nature of human beings' production and response to artistic and humanistic works including (but not limited to) gender, culture or ethnicity.
4. To provide an understanding of the nature and scope of perspectives and scholarship within the arts/humanities and to appreciate the importance of these perspectives and scholarship toward understanding of human experience

Area C Measurable Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of and ability to apply discipline-specific vocabulary. Written, tangible, or presentational assignments will demonstrate application of concepts and principles to a specific instance. (Objective 1)
2. Through written, tangible, or presentational assignments, students will demonstrate an integrated response of affective subjectivity and collective standards of judgment in relation to an artistic or humanistic work. (Objective 2)
3. Through written, tangible or presentational assignments, students will demonstrate their ability to critically evaluate the production of humanistic or artistic works through the lenses of (but not limited to) gender, culture, or ethnicity. (Objective 3)
4. Students will articulate in written, tangible, or presentational assignments the particular contribution(s) that a discipline within the Arts and Humanities can bring to understanding human experience. (Objective 4)

HSU Learning Outcomes

This course explicitly contributes to your acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to these HSU Learning Outcomes:

HSU graduates will have demonstrated:

Effective communication through written and oral modes.

Critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues.

Competence in a major area of study.

HSU graduates will be prepared to:

- Succeed in their chosen careers.
- Take responsibility for identifying personal goals and practicing lifelong learning.

Music Department Learning Outcomes

In addition, this course will contribute to your acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to these Music Department (and National Association of Schools of Music) learning Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the elements of music – rhythm, melody, harmony, and structure.

Students will demonstrate familiarity with, and an ability to perform a wide selection of musical literature representing principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.

Students will demonstrate ability in performing areas appropriate to the student's needs, interests, and degree path.

Students will demonstrate improvement in their performing skills – both in the quality of their performance and the difficulty of the repertoire that they can perform.