

Music 385V-Vocal Performance Seminar  
Fall 2017

Thursdays 3:00-3:50 PM

Music A #131 (and #109)

<u>Instructors</u>	<u>e-mail</u>	<u>room</u>	<u>extension (dial 826-)</u>
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### **Course Description and Format**

This course is offered in conjunction with Studio Voice lessons, Music 221/421, and is designed as a forum in which students will hone performance and listening skills by singing for one another. In addition, the instructors will lead discussions and class activities related to the art of vocal performance.

### **Student Learning Outcome**

Students will demonstrate refinement of performance skills including singing from memory, stage deportment, musical expressiveness and communication, prevention of vocal injury, and managing nervous energy.

**Important Dates and list of topics for Fall 2017** (subject to revision as appropriate) The topics are organized in sequential order on specific dates, but may be rearranged depending on the length of the in-class performances on a given day. Additional topics for discussion will be determined by students' questions and other components of vocal performance that arise in class.

### **Week #      Date      Class Activities, Discussion Topics, and Assignment Due Dates**

*We will spend available class time discussing topics relevant to Vocal Performance, such as: Choosing Appropriate Repertoire, Vocal Health, Genres of Vocal Music (Italian Art Song, French Mélodie, German Lieder, Opera Musical Theater, Jazz, etc.), Expressive Singing, Imagination and Creativity, and Developing a successful Practice Routine.*

1	8/24	Syllabus; Introductions; <i>Focusing and Centering; Working with an Accompanist</i>
2	8/31	<i>What are we looking for?; Creativity and Taking Risks</i>
3	9/7	Returning students sing introductory Song #1
4	9/14	New students sing introductory Song #1
5	9/21	
6	9/28	
7	10/5	
8	10/12	
9	10/19	
10	10/26	
11	11/2	
12	11/9	
13	11/16	

Thanksgiving Break 11/20-24

14            11/30  
15            12/7    Review; Wrap up discussion

**\*Exam Week 12/12 &13    Vocal Showcase Program Tuesday & Wednesday of exam week,  
Dec. 12 & 13 Exact time TBA, but between the hours of 3:00-6:30 PM  
(Students will participate on the day of their choice.)**

### **Diversity Statement**

We consider this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect, and welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability – and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming and inclusive environment for every other member of the class.

Open communication is encouraged at all times.

### **Class Requirements and Grading**

#### **1. Participate in scheduled class performances and all class activities and discussions**

In this class students will have opportunities to develop and explore the art of live vocal performance in a safe and supportive environment.

Students may repeat songs multiple times throughout the semester. All repertoire (except selections from oratorio and possibly some ensemble numbers, such as madrigals) must be memorized for in-class performance.

A note about performance preparation: An accompanist will be available several hours each week to rehearse with voice students. Students are responsible for creating and maintaining a notebook of music for the accompanist. (This will be printed, legible sheet music--separate from the music that students use—and available for the first rehearsal with the accompanist.) Priority for rehearsal times (in 10-minute increments) will be given to students who **do not** already have an accompanist playing for their private studio lesson. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule and attend rehearsal times promptly. Students who fail to do so risk losing the privilege of working with an accompanist outside of Vocal Performance Seminar class time.

#### **2. Create and maintain a Vocal Notebook.**

Each student will create a binder containing:

- Semester “Voice” information page completely filled out with all requested information

- A **cumulative Repertoire List** (for all semesters of vocal study), updated to reflect the current semester's work, and created using the guidelines distributed in class
- Vocal practice logs for the current semester-complete and accurate, and in a legible format; instructor will check-in with individual students on a weekly basis to ensure students are benefitting from this part of the learning process. Practice logs should reflect a minimum of 2-hours of weekly practice as well as central concepts explored in each lesson.
- A list detailing your concert attendance. **Music Majors** must attend **minimum 6 Music Dept.** concerts per semester, and may count two HSU concerts in which they are a performer. **Non Music Majors** will attend **3**, and may be a participant in one.
- *Songsheets*-one for each song included in your semester repertoire list (Note: *Songsheets* must be completed before the song is performed in class.)
- Handouts received in repertoire class and your studio lessons
- Translations for all foreign songs included in your semester repertoire list
- A written introduction (approx. one minute) for one of the pieces performed during the semester (This will be presented orally both in class when the song is performed, and at the **Vocal Showcase** during finals week.)

The notebook should reflect one semester's work as an HSU Voice student (with the exception of the cumulative repertoire list).

The notebook will be due to the individual studio teacher before the Vocal Showcase performance on an agreed-upon date. *Students must turn in a notebook on this day to receive full credit.* The voice faculty will review the notebook and return it in a timely manner before the Vocal Showcase program with comments and/or suggestions for improvement. Students will then bring the notebook to the Vocal Showcase program to receive credit.

It is not permissible to "recycle" memorized material from previous semesters to count toward your repertoire requirements of 4 memorized "new to you" selections. This does not apply to the first Introductory song.

In order to receive full credit for the semester's work, you must complete the repertoire requirements each semester. In other words, students may only list repertoire in the current semester notebook that you have not been listed as "memorized" in previous semesters.

### **3. Participate in the Studio Voice Recital**

The Voice area will have two Studio Recitals toward the end of the semester. The dates and times for Fall 2017 will announced as soon as they are finalized by the music Dept. It is expected that students will attend both recitals, although they are required to perform in only one.

### **4. Perform selections from your repertoire at the Vocal Showcase during exam week.**

This performance will count as part of your grade and is required. The format is similar to our weekly class, but with more audience members present. Voice faculty will provide written feedback for the performances and share it with students.

## **Additional Course Information**

This course will be “team taught” by two members of the HSU Music Department Voice faculty. The instructors share the responsibility for the preparation and the grading of the course with the following exception: *Students’ individual studio teacher will assign a grade for the performance component of the Vocal Showcase program at the end of the semester.* (Similarly, students’ individual studio teachers will assign the grade for the private studio experience in MUS 221 or 421.)

This course fulfills music major requirements within the Vocal Performance Concentration. Additionally, it is **required** that students participate in this course each semester during which they are registered for studio lessons, though it is not required that students register for the unit of credit during every semester

### **Attendance**

Attendance is required, and will be taken each class period using a sign-in sheet. *Important note: Each student is responsible for signing in at the beginning of each class meeting.* Students are allowed **2** unexcused absences with no grade penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will lower the final grade for attendance and participation by ten percent (example: 90% for attendance to 80%) Attendance and Participation count for **one fourth** of the total semester grade for Vocal Performance Seminar.

### **Concert Attendance**

Music Majors are required to attend **six** HSU Music Department sponsored performances during the semester. Non-music majors enrolled in studio lessons are required to attend **three** performances. Music majors may count **two** concerts in they are participating toward this total; Non-majors may count **one**.

### **Vocal Showcase during finals week**

To be held in the late afternoon/early evening Tuesday and Wednesday of final exam week, in **Fulkerson Recital Hall** or other designated location within the Music buildings. Student sings selection of their choice from their semester list, and student sings second selection chosen from semester list by voice faculty. Students may not choose both selections, or make a request to any voice teacher regarding their second selection. Students auditioning for the Vocal Performance or Music Education Concentration this semester will sing one song of their choice with spoken introduction.

### **Grading rubric for 385V**

- 1/4 Class attendance and participation
- 1/4 In-class performances and Studio Recitals
- 1/4 Vocal Notebook (graded on both quality and completeness)
- 1/4 Vocal Showcase performance

**Note:** The individual studio teacher will assign the entirety of the student’s grade for Studio voice lessons (MUS 221 or 421). For students who are participating in Vocal Performance Seminar but

who are unable to register, the grade for Performance Seminar will be averaged in to their Studio Lesson.

### **Vocal Health Resources**

The following websites provide information about Vocal Health. Please visit them as often as necessary whenever you suspect your voice might not be completely healthy. In addition, please talk with your studio teacher and/or choral director immediately if you ever experience unexplained pain or stress in your throat, mouth or jaw area.

<http://www.bostonsingersresource.com/resources/vocal-health/links-resources/>

<https://www.berklee.edu/bt/123/winter.html>

<http://www.yorku.ca/earmstro/journey/care.html>

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/voice/pages/takingcare.aspx>

### **Referral to relevant policies and resources**

Students may not be aware of their rights and responsibilities and students and the many campus resources available to help them succeed. The Syllabus Addendum website (current URL listed below) has been created to house information about campus policies and procedures and resources for students centrally in one place. The site includes links such as Add/Drop Policy, Resources for Students with Disabilities, Academic Honesty Policy, Attendance and Disruptive Behavior Policy, Financial Aid, Emergency Procedures, and Counseling and Psychological Services. Faculty are required to include a link to the website in their syllabi, and are encouraged to list what is found there and describe why it might be useful.

<http://www2.humboldt.edu/academicprograms/syllabus-addendum-campus-resources-policies>

### **Learning Objectives and Outcomes**

#### **HSU Learning Outcomes**

This course explicitly contributes to students' acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to HSU Learning Outcomes.

HSU graduates will have demonstrated:

- Effective communication through written and oral modes.
- 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.*

Course objectives leading to the acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to music department learning outcomes:

*To provide performance opportunities for students enrolled in vocal study*

*To become acquainted with the body of vocal literature that is available.*

*To refine performance skills including singing from memory, stage deportment, musical expressiveness and communication, and managing nervous energy.*

*To discuss areas of mutual concern and benefit for voice students such as: auditioning, performance etiquette and practice, communication with the audience, selection and preparation of repertoire, scholarship applications, technique for learning repertoire.*

### **Area C Outcomes**

Music courses are in Area C-Arts and Humanities. Below are the Student Learning Outcomes for Area C:

*Upon completing this requirement, students will:*

1. apply discipline-specific vocabulary and central discipline-specific concepts and principles to a specific instance, literary work or artistic creation.
2. respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic experiences and will differentiate between emotional and intellectual responses.
3. explain the nature and scope of the perspectives and contributions found in a particular discipline within the Arts and Humanities as related to the human experience, both individually (theirs) and collectively.

Arts-specific SLO:

4. demonstrate an understanding of the intellectual, imaginative, and cultural elements involved in the creative arts through their (or, “as a result of their”) participation in and study of drama, music, studio art and/or creative writing.

### **Relevant HSU Policies and Resources**

Students may not be aware of their rights and responsibilities and students and the many campus resources available to help them succeed. The Syllabus Addendum website (current URL listed below) has been created to house information about campus policies and procedures and resources for students centrally in one place. The site includes links such as Add/Drop Policy, Resources for Students with Disabilities, Academic Honesty Policy, Attendance and Disruptive Behavior Policy, Financial Aid, Emergency Procedures, and Counseling and Psychological Services.

<https://academicprograms.humboldt.edu/content/syllabus-addendum>

### **Emergency Procedures**

The evacuation plan and emergency procedures for the classroom are posted on the wall near the door of #131.