

**Music 108V-Beginning Voice-SPRING 2018**  
**Room #109-MUSIC A**

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**I. Class Objectives for Music 108 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 beginning level performance skills in areas 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 musical terminology.

*We will become familiar with musical notation, and learn the definitions and musical applications of symbols and words relating to dynamics, articulation and tempo.*

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.*

5. 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, collaborating with others, and other related issues. We will discuss how to integrate these qualities to cultivate musical excellence.*

**II. Class Activities**

- A. Vocal and physical warm-up exercises (10-20 minutes per class)
- B. Discussion and exploration of vocal topics (5-10 minutes per class)
- C. Group and/or solo singing (15-25 minutes per class)
- D. Exercises to build musicianship skills (variable)

**III. Resource Materials**

Required Text: ***The Singing Book, 3rd ed.*** by Meribeth Dayme and Cynthia Vaughn. CD's are optional; Recordings will be available electronically as well. **Note:** It is permissible to share a book with **one** other student enrolled in this class. You will be asked to identify your "book partner" and

to make an agreement about who will bring the book to class each day. There must be at least one book available for every two singers at all times beginning Thursday, January 25. No exceptions!

#### IV. Course Requirements

A. Attend all class sessions and participate fully in all class activities

B. Stay current with all class assignments, including readings, and learning notes and rhythms for new repertoire

C. Learn, memorize and perform two "new to you" songs from **The Singing Book, 3rd ed.** In class on your scheduled days. At least one of these must be solo. The first song will be one that we study as a group. The second may be **any song** from the book.

D. Attend one Vocal performance sponsored by the HSU Music Dept. this semester. Dates will be announced in class prior to the performances, and include the following (More dates may be added later in the semester): March 23-25; March 30; April 5 & 6; April 29; May 4  
*See the HSU Music Dept. performance calendar for full details.*

E. 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 3:00-6:00 PM (Exact time TBA as soon as it is finalized by Music Dept.)

Additional Expectations & Information:

All students are expected to read chapters from the class book and participate in class discussions.

We will learn and sing many songs as a group, sing vocalises (voice strengthening exercises) and work on sight-singing weekly in class. There are no written assignments for these activities but students are expected to participate fully and work on building vocal skills.

Regular and consistent practice is the key to improvement! Key cards for practice rooms are available to all students, and may be obtained by completing a request form from the Music Office.

#### V. Attendance

Since 108V-Voice is primarily a skills and participation-based class, **regular attendance is required.** Beginning on Tuesday, January 23, students are allowed 2 unexcused absences with no grading penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will lower the grade for Attendance and Participation by 20%. Attendance and Participation counts for 40% of the entire course grade.

Important to note: Students **missing 7 or more classes** cannot receive higher than a "D" in the course- no exceptions! Also, students may not miss a scheduled performance day for one of the two required memorized songs without prior arrangement with the instructor. Falling to show up on a performance day will result in 0% credit for that performance.

(See above under Class Requirements.)

Please note: An excused absence is one that meets **all** of the following criteria:

A serious and compelling medical reason with valid written documentation **or** HSU sponsored Event with documentation (such as a class field trip or out-of-town conference with another instructor), **and** advance notification to the instructor of **this course** of the absence. Missing class because you are slightly "under the weather" and e-mailing your instructor afterward does

**not count** as an excused absence. Leaving early for or returning late from Spring Break does **not count** as an excused absence.

Plan ahead and choose your days to be absent carefully. Arrange with a classmate to record the class and meet with the instructor during office hours to make sure you have all of the important information for the missed class.

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 and you will be counted absent for the day.

**Plan ahead, arrive on time, and remember to sign yourself in for each class period.**

## **VI. Grading Criteria**

40%: Attendance (Remember that punctuality counts!); full participation in class, including final exam;

1 Music Dept. sponsored Vocal Performance before the end of the fall semester

30%: Complete preparation and performance of 2 songs from our book, from memory, in class\*

30%: Written work

Includes initial & revised Questionnaire (10%), Quiz on Musical Terms (10%), and a written reaction after you attend an HSU vocal concert (10%)

## **VII. Schedule of topics, assignments and performances**

(Note: The order of topics may change according to class need):

Week 1: 1/16 & 18 Introduction; Posture and Breath; Reading Music; Introduction to Vowel "Postures"

Week 2: 1/23 & 1/25 "Let us sing together," "Four Partner Songs"; "Day-O"

Week 3: 1/30 & 2/1 "Babylon," "O le le la," "Cherokee Morning Song"

Week 4: 2/6 & 2/8 **Questionnaires due electronically by 9:00 AM Monday 2/5**; Posture & Breathing Review; "Shenandoah," "Nino Precioso," "

Week 5: 2/13 & 2/15 Resonance, Articulation & Phonation; Reading the whole musical score; Intro. to IPA; "My Lord, What a Mornin'!"

Week 6: 2/20 & 2/22 Positive self talk; Giving Constructive Feedback-to yourself and others; "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'," "Blue Skies," "Sing!" **Choose 1st by Thursday (from in-class songs)**

Week 7: 2/27 & 3/1 Performance Etiquette; Creativity & Imagination; Practice for in-class performances;

Week 8: 3/6 & 3/8 **1st in-class memorized performances**

*Spring Break---No classes March 12-16*

Week 9: 3/20 & 3/22 **Individual appointments only** (schedule to be distributed via e-mail)  
"Somewhere out there," "Puttin' on the Ritz," "Somewhere Over the Rainbow"

Week 10: 3/27 & 3/29 Different styles of vocal production for different genres of music; IPA; "Donzelle fuggite," "Hine ma tov," "La paloma blanca," "The House of the Rising Sun"

Week 11: 4/3 & 4/5 Review for Quiz; **Musical Terms Quiz on Thursday, 4/5**; "When I Fall in Love," "Skylark," "Summertime"

Week 12: 4/10 & 4/12 **Choose 2nd song by Tuesday (anything from class book)**; Interpretation and communication

Week 13: 4/17 & 4/19 Practice for in-class performances; Voice types,

Week 14: 4/24 & 4/26 **2nd in-class memorized performances**; Extra performances (optional)

Week 15: 12/4 & 12/6 Wrap-up; Revisiting topics of interest; Extra performances (optional)

Exam Week: Attend the Vocal Showcase on either **Tuesday, May 8 or Wednesday, May 9** (Choose one day.) Written response to an HSU Vocal concert and revised questionnaire due no later than **Wednesday, May 9 at 2:00 PM.**

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

### 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.

### Diversity Statement

This classroom is a place where everyone will be treated with respect. 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 are welcomed here. 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.

### **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 #109.