

Bergen Community College
Division of Business, Arts, and Social Sciences
Visual and Performing Arts Department

Course Syllabus

MUS-118 Vocal Workshop

Basic Information about Course and Instructor

Semester and year:
Course and Section Number:
Meeting Times and Locations:

Instructor:
Office Location:
Phone:
Departmental Secretary: [optional]
Office Hours:
Email Address:

Course Description

MUS-118 Vocal Workshop is an introduction to the basic principles of vocal production through a series of group and solo singing activities. Students will learn proper breathing techniques to maintain vocal health and develop confidence in vocal performance exploring a variety of musical styles.

2 lecture, 2 laboratory, 3 credits
No prerequisites

Student Learning Objectives: As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate proper breathing techniques to promote vocal health;
2. Demonstrate accurate intonation and a free tone quality in vocal delivery;
3. Perform vocal melodies in harmony and use vocal embellishments
4. Develop proper practice habits for vocal growth and development
5. Describe and understand vocal anatomy
6. Perform music in a variety of styles

Learning Assessment

The Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) in this course are intended to be aligned with the overall Learning Goals of the Music Program. In addition, student progress in reaching the course's SLOs is to be assessed through various means of assessment, such as the "Suggested Means of Assessment" listed below.

Learning Outcome	Means of Assessment
1. Demonstrate proper breathing techniques to promote vocal health;	Examinations In Class Exercises Performances
2. Demonstrate accurate intonation and a free tone quality in vocal delivery;	Examinations In Class Exercises Performances
3. Perform vocal melodies in harmony and use vocal embellishments	Examinations

	In Class Exercises
	Performances
4. Develop proper practice habits for vocal growth and development	Examinations In Class Exercises Performances
5. Describe and understand vocal anatomy	Examinations In Class Exercises Performances
6. Perform music in a variety of styles.	Examinations In Class Exercises Performances

Course Content

E.g., the use of learning technologies in the course (Internet, PowerPoint, web enhancement via a parallel course website, etc.); the inclusion of technological literacy learning in the course; etc.

Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials

Suggested texts:

[The Contemporary Singer: Elements of Vocal Technique](#) (2nd Edition) by Anne Peckham, Berklee Press/Hal Leonard

[Vocal Workouts for the Contemporary Singer](#) by Anne Peckham, Berklee Press/Hal Leonard

Alternative textbooks or resources can be used by individual faculty with permission of the music discipline textbook committee. The Faculty Senate "Policy on the Selection of Texts and Other Instructional Materials," states that "individual faculty members and/or departments should strive to select texts, whenever possible, that are most affordable for students."

Grading Policy

A student's final grade for the course is based primarily on his or her performance on the required work for the course (writing assignments, examinations, class presentations, etc.) and on his or her overall mastery of the material covered in the course. A student's class participation may also be evaluated, and the grade thereon may be used as a factor in determining the student's final grade for the course; but a class participation grade will count for no more than twenty percent (20%) of the final grade. A student's research and writing work will count at least fifty percent (50%) of the final grade.

Attendance and Participation 10%
Weekly Assignments and Performances 20%
In Class Exercises 10%
Midterm Examination 30%
Final Examination. 30%

BCC Attendance Policy

All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

Attendance Policy in this Course

[To be designated by the instructor]

Other College, Divisional, and/or Departmental Policy Statements [optional but recommended]

<p><u>Examples:</u></p> <p>Statement on plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty. ADA statement. Sexual Harassment statement. Statement on acceptable use of BCC technology. Statement on the purpose and value of faculty office hours.</p>

Student and Faculty Support Services:

- The Distance Learning Office – for any problems you may have accessing your online courses
Room C-334 201-612-5581 psimms@bergen.edu
- Smarthinking Tutorial Service On Line at: www.bergen.edu/library/learning/tutor/smart/index.asp
The Tutoring Center Room L-125 201-447-7908
- The Writing Center Room L-125 201-447-7908
- The Online Writing Lab (OWL) On Line at: www.bergen.edu/owl
- The Office of Specialized Services (for Students with Disabilities) Room S-131 201-612-5270
www.bergen.edu/oss
- The Sidney Silverman Library – Reference Desk Room L-226 201-447-7436

Include a Course Outline and Calendar [can be combined in a single syllabus section]

The Course Outline and Calendar must include all of the following elements:

- A daily or (at least) weekly schedule of topics to be covered.
- Dates for exams, quizzes, or other means of assessment. (This does not mean that all evaluation of students must be in groups and at the same time. Exams and other means of assessment can be listed as "to be scheduled individually.")
- Due dates for major assignments – e.g., when is a paper due; if the topic has to be approved, when; if an outline or draft is an interim step, when it is due.
- Any required special events must be included in the outline/calendar, e.g., a lecture by a visiting speaker, a dramatic or musical performance, a field trip.
- Designation of Student Learning Objectives – by number – for each topic (see sample below).
- A note to students stating that the course outline and calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.

Sample Format for Course Outline and Calendar

Note to Students: The following Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.

Topic	Week	Learning Outcomes Addressed
Course Introduction and Expectations	1	

Developing Good Breath Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Focus • Breathing Mirror Check • Making Music Vocal • Health Forum • Environmental Effects 	2	1,2,4,5
Developing Your Vocal Sound <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing Tone Quality with Resonance • Registers • Balanced Tone • Vibrato 	3	1-6
Anatomy/Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocal Anatomy • Vocal Health • Vocal Pathology • Vocal Use, Abuse, and Care • Mirror Check 	4	4, 5
Developing an Effective Practice Routine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building a Balanced Practice Routine • Warming Up • Technique Study • Song Study • Cool Down • Vocal Study Journal • Developing Independence 	5	4,6
Simple Melodic Embellishment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range and Registers • Pitch Bends • Note Embellishments • Mirror Check • Vocal Health Forum 	6	1,3,4,6
Midterm Preparation and Examination	7	
Effective Diction for Singing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Diction and Ease in Singing • Speaking and Singing • Vowels • Consonants • Accents • Extra Vocal Sounds • Microphone Use • Style in Singing 	8	1-6

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocal Health Forum • Mirror Check 		
<p>Singing Harmony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a Harmony Part • The Importance of Listening • Diction Challenge • Style: Vibrato • Simple Interpretation in Complex Music • Mirror Check • Vocal Health Forum 	9	1-6
<p>Advanced Breath Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortness of Breath • Clear Tone • Mirror Check • Facial Expressions • Vocal Health Forum 	10	1-6
<p>Performance Polish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding Dynamics • Mirror Check • Vocal Health Forum • Working Out with Style • Improving Your Connection with the Audience • Moving on Stage • Performance Anxiety Solutions 	11	1-6
<p>Flexibility, Control, Stamina</p> <p>Motivation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Anxiety • Mirror Check • Vocal Health Forum • Muscle Control 	12	1-6
<p>The Building Blocks of Vocal Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice • Patience • Perseverance • Play • Mirror Check • Vocal Health Forum 	13	1-6
<p>Summary and Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression • Posture • Active Breathing 	14	1-6

Final Examination	15	
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