

Course Information:

Course Numbers: MUAP-1181-01, MUAP-1281-01, MUAP-2281-01

Days: Thursdays or Friday (please circle day) at _____ (your assigned time)

Location: TBD

Instructor Information:

Ms. Abby Powell

abby.powell@brazosport.edu / (646) 338-7175 (phone)

Office hours: by appointment

This syllabus and policy statement is intended to be informative, providing guidelines for Brazosport College voice students. It is subject to change at the professor's discretion. Students will be informed of any changes via email.

Course Description:

This course will include weekly voice lessons during the semester. Both teacher and student will participate in the pursuit of establishing a healthy, efficient, and practical approach to singing. Throughout the course, additional elements of language, stylistic interpretation, and theatrical presentation will be addressed. This course also includes a monthly studio class where students can practice performing for their peers.

Course Materials Required:

Required course materials are available at the Brazosport College bookstore, on campus or online at <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>. A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college bookstore. The same textbook is/may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Recording device (an app on your cell phone is fine--please bring a phone charger!)

3-ring notebook for handouts, notes, music, etc.

Pencil

Water

Singer's mask (if you are having an in-person lesson. You may not necessarily need it, this depends on schedule and what space is available to use).

Course Goals and Outcomes:

Over the course of their vocal study at Brazosport, students will learn:

- Correct posture and alignment for singing
- Elements of healthy vocal production while speaking and singing
- Mastery of the inventions (or vocalises)
- Clear diction and interpretation of text, in English and at least one foreign language
- The International Phonetic Alphabet to aid in pronunciation
- Methods for practicing and learning music
- Interpretation of text in any language and acting techniques for singing

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- Strategies to achieve captivating and unique stage presence as comfort in front of an audience

Expectations:

- Students are expected to learn their musical assignments (i.e. pitches, rhythm) during their own private practice and study, NOT during their lesson time.
- Students are expected to copy text translations and IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) into their scores. Students may request IPA Source materials from Professor Powell.
- Students should allow for personal practice time in their weekly schedules. Six to ten half hour intervals per week are recommended, practicing assigned vocalises and songs.
- Students are expected to sing during each lesson and sing in studio classes, unless they are feeling ill or having vocal health issues.
- Students are expected to prepare and memorize all assigned song repertoire.
- Students are encouraged to record each lesson and are encouraged to keep a journal of notes, observations, and questions about each lesson and practice sessions.
- Students should submit written assignments on time and completed to the best of their ability.
- Students are expected to make their personal and vocal health a priority. Your body is your instrument, and you should take good care of it!

Studio Lessons:

Please knock and enter at your lesson time. Please do not knock and enter early, as you may disturb the lesson before yours. Although we will spend a significant amount of time on technique in the first three sessions, our studio time will be more valuable if you arrive prepared for your session and already warmed-up.

Attendance:

A 48-hour notice for cancellations is requested for both voice lessons and studio class. **Students should NOT come to their lesson or studio class if they have a contagious illness, COVID-19 or otherwise (this includes the common cold).** Should a student become ill within 48 hours before their lesson, they should contact Professor Powell to receive an alternate assignment to make up their lesson. Each student will receive one makeup lesson per semester, only if the student has given at least 48 hours' notice of their absence. Makeup lessons will take place on Fridays immediately preceding or following studio class, on the days listed below. A student may recover the points lost from a missed lesson, studio class, or no-show by completing a written assignment. Each student may recover points with a written assignment for only one missed lesson and one missed studio class per semester, for a total of two writing assignments.

Studio Class:

You are required to attend studio class, which will take place one Friday per month from 10:00am - 11:30am in The Clarion room M120. Music majors are required to stay for the music school-wide luncheon and meeting from 11:30am – 12:30pm You are expected to sing during at least three studio classes per semester. Please put the following dates for Fall 2020 on your calendar:

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- September 25
- October 23
- November 20
- December 4

If you have an academic class or legitimate scheduling conflict with this time slot, please let me know so that we can make arrangements for you to have an alternate assignment.

Studio Recital:

All students taking lessons for two hours of credit (50 minute-long lesson) are required to perform one of their assigned pieces in an online recital the evening of Wednesday, December 9th. Half lesson students may perform if they choose.

Attire:

On the day of your lesson or studio class, you should dress in business casual attire. No shorts, cutoffs, yoga pants, joggers, or flip-flops will be allowed for singers. Nice jeans will be permitted. Please wear closed-toed shoes (if wearing heels, no higher than two inches).

Repertoire:

Students taking lessons worth two credit hours (50 minute lesson) will be assigned up to four songs per semester. At least one foreign language piece is required per semester. Students taking lessons worth one credit hour (25 minute lesson) will be assigned up to two songs per semester. Foreign language study is optional but encouraged for one credit hour students. Repertoire will be assigned according to the student's ability, voice type, and academic interest.

Written Assignments:

Students will be responsible for completing a song information sheet for each song that they are assigned per semester. Professor Powell will provide templates for the song information sheets at the beginning of the semester. Students must also complete occasional diction worksheets and quizzes to aid in their study of the International Phonetic Alphabet. Additional writing exercises may be assigned to cover studio class and lesson absences.

Grading:

Students will be graded on a five-point rubric for each lesson, where 0 indicates a no-show and 5 indicates superb preparation. In addition to voice lesson and studio class participation, students will be assigned several written exercises throughout the semester to supplement their singing.

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| ● Weekly voice lesson: 5 points each (x14) | 70 points |
| ● Attendance at online Studio Recital (December 9 th , 2020) | 2 points |
| ● Studio class attendance: 2 points each (x4) | 8 points |
| ● Written assignments (ex.: diction quizzes and song information sheets) | 10 points |
| ● Final jury: | 10 points |

Total: 100 points

Attendance:

Grades in this course are based on students' attendance and preparation for each lesson; however, if a student misses more than 5 lessons, the student will automatically be assigned a failing grade.

Students with Disabilities:

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. For student to receive any accommodation, documentation must be completed in the Office of Disability Services. Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor at 979-230-3236 for further information.

Academic Honesty:

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>. Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. In this class, any occurrence of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for prompt adjudication, and may, at a minimum, result in a failing grade in this course. Sanctions may be imposed beyond your grade in this course by the Dean of Student Services.

Title IX Statement:

Brazosport College faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and upholding the College District's non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX and Brazosport College's policy FFDA (Local), discrimination based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression is prohibited. If you experience an incident of discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty or staff member at BC, please understand that they are "Responsible Employees" and must report what you tell them to college officials. You can also contact the Title IX Coordinators directly by using the contact information below. Additional information is found on the Sexual Misconduct webpage at www.brazosport.edu/sexualmisconduct. Kelli Forde Spiers, Director, Student Life and Title IX Coordinator, Office J-117D; 979-230-3355; kelli.fordespiers@brazosport.edu

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Acknowledgement:

I have read the syllabus for MUAP-1181-01, MUAP-1281-01, and MUAP-2281-01 for the Fall Semester of 2020. I understand its contents, including the course requirements, lesson make-up policy, and grading policy. I realize that I am responsible for my performance in applied lessons and that I need to talk to the instructor if I am experiencing difficulties. I also understand that this course will require 2-3 hours per week of preparation outside of class, in addition to monthly studio classes.

Student Signature

Student Name (Printed)

Date