



Studio Policies and Syllabus for Vocal Technique - Fall 2022

MUS 1114 - 001

Credit: 1

Place: FAB 200

Time: M/W/F @ 11:00am - 11:50am

Instructor:

Dr. Andrew Alegría

Office: FAB 200A

Phone: (432) 837-8216

Email: andrew.alegria@sulross.edu

Office Hours:

M/W/F 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment

Course Description: This course covers three areas: basic theory of singing, including the relationship of the body to singing; lyric diction for choral ensembles and soloists; and vocal/choral rehearsal techniques.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- * SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.
- * SLO 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes.
- * SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

Objectives

1. The student will understand basic anatomy of singing.
2. The student will scan the body for singing difficulties using body mapping.
3. The student will apply and demonstrate specific vocal exercises.
4. The student will integrate body mapping and voice to improve singing function.
5. The student will understand and analyze components of music using appropriate terminology.
6. The student will synthesize information about music and singing.
7. The student will sing in an expressive manner consistent with healthy use of the voice.
8. The student will assess singing of other singers as well as own singing.

Marketable Skills:

The music student graduating with a BM in music (instrumental or vocal performance; instrumental or vocal education; or music business) should have the following Marketable Skills:

1. Ability to collaborate and network with others to achieve a shared goal, utilizing problem solving, flexibility and improvisation, and consideration of others' thoughts and creative processes.
2. Proficiency in public speaking and writing about music, especially in teaching basic musical concepts to all ages and incorporating technology for presentation and production.*
3. Ability to prepare and perform a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and diverse repertoire, as an individual or part of an ensemble, to an audience, advocating for the arts through engaging with and serving the community.
4. Experience using problem solving skills and abstract thinking to analyze compositions and examine their aesthetic through musical and extra-musical concepts, such as historical context and text setting.
5. Ability to create and disseminate basic marketing and public relations materials, as well as resumes, websites, and digital portfolios.

Marketable Skills specifically addressed by this course indicated with *

Required Materials

- Blackboard access
- Notebook and pencil/pen

Required Text Book:

Bickel, Jan E.. *Vocal Technique: A Physiologic Approach*. 2nd ed. San Diego: Plural Publishing, Inc., 2017.

General Remarks:

Because singing is a full body experience, there may be times when 'hands on' work or physical contact between the instructor and student is beneficial. Instruction is often streamlined with this teaching tool, and students often find it helpful in comprehending singing concepts. 'Physical contact' typically deals with elements of alignment, breathing, and phonation, and the instructor is to ask permission before engaging. The student should respond at the discretion of their comfort level – yes or no. It is important to remember that physical contact is one tool among many, to be used judiciously as needed, and intended solely to hasten the singer's technical progress. It is not, however, a required part of voice instruction. If there are any concerns, please address them with the instructor directly. If you are uncomfortable speaking with your instructor directly, you should speak with the Fine Arts Chair, Marjie Scott, to set up a meeting between the three parties.

Class Attendance and Participation

- * Absences will be excused for medical emergencies or serious personal conflicts, **but prior approval or documentation is required.**
- * Every three tardies will equal one absence.
- * A tardy of more than 10 minutes will be recorded as an absence. (I still encourage you to come to class if you are late. You will be less likely to miss information that way.)
- * Please email prior to the start of class if you are going to be absent or tardy.
- * Paying attention, asking relevant questions, giving constructive feedback when called upon will all be considered when determining the class participation grade.
- * You are responsible for notes, handouts, and all assignments from missed classes. Dr. Alegría will not repeat classes nor provide his lecture notes.
- * Six absences result in you being dropped from the course with a grade of “F” as per university policy. Upon the 3rd unexcused absence you will be dropped one letter grade. Upon the 4th unexcused absence you will be dropped another letter grade. And upon the 5th unexcused absence you will be dropped yet another letter grade.
- * DO NOT schedule doctor’s appointments, trips, etc. which conflict with class time.
- * DO NOT take off early for or return late from scheduled college vacations.

Grade Weighting

Grading Categories	Weighting
Exams	
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Final Exam:	15%
Homework	20%
Quizzes	10%
Active Participation and Attendance at Choir Concert	10%

Grade Scale

Letter Grades and Percentage Equivalent			
A	90 - 100	D	60 - 69.9
B	80 - 89.9	F	0 - 59.9
C	70 - 79.9		

Professional Communication Policy

- * All communication with Dr. Alegría should be done either in person, cell phone, or through email.
- * You are expected to check your SRSU email on a regular basis.

SRSU Disability Services:

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartze Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email mschwartze@sulross.edu Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, SUI Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

COURSE CALENDAR

While reading each chapter, you should take notes to prepare for class discussion. Your active participation in class will demonstrate to me that you have read the text.

Week 1

Mon., Aug. 22 - Syllabus
Homework: Discussion Page

Wed., Aug. 24 - Discussion about Vocal Music
Due: Discussion Page
Homework: Read Chapter I and Homework I

Week 2

Mon., Aug. 29 - Chapter I: Some Answers to Questions Before We
Begin Developing a Vocal Technique
Due: Homework I

Wed., Aug. 31 - Chapter I: Some Answers to Questions Before We
Begin Developing a Vocal Technique
Homework: Read Chapter II and Homework II

Week 3

Mon., Sep. 5 - No Class [Labor Day]

Wed., Sep. 7 - Chapter II: Anatomy of the Singer's Instrument: Design and Function
Due: Homework II

Week 4

Mon., Sep. 12 - Chapter II: Anatomy of the Singer's Instrument: Design and Function

Wed., Sep. 14 - Chapter II: Anatomy of the Singer's Instrument: Design and Function
Homework: Study for Exam I

Week 5

Mon., Sep. 19 - Exam I (Chapters I - II)

Homework: Read Chapter III

Wed., Sep. 21 - Chapter III: Establishing Correct Posture for Singing

Homework: Prepare Warm-Up Exercises and Correct Posture for Singing

Week 6

Mon., Sep. 26 - Chapter III: Establishing Correct Posture for Singing

Due: Student Demonstration of Exercises and/or Posture

Homework: Read Chapter IV and Homework IV

Wed., Sep. 28 - Chapter IV: Breath Management for Singing

Due: Homework IV

Week 7

Mon., Oct. 3 - Chapter IV: Breath Management for Singing

Homework: Read Supplement 5-A

Wed., Oct. 5 - Chapter V: The Physiology of Vocal Tone Production

Homework: Read Chapter V and Homework V

Week 8

Mon., Oct. 10 - Chapter V: The Physiology of Vocal Tone Production

Due: Homework V

Wed., Oct. 12 - Chapter V: The Physiology of Vocal Tone Production

Homework: Study for Exam II

Week 9 - [Midterms]

Mon., Oct. 17 - Exam II (Chapters III - V)

Homework: Study Figure 6-1A; 6-1B; 6-2A; and 6-2B

Wed., Oct. 19 - Chapter VI: An Introduction to Articulation and Lyric Diction for Singers

Homework: Read Chapter VI and Homework VI

Week 10

Mon., Oct. 24 - Chapter VI: An Introduction to Articulation and Lyric Diction for Singers
Due: Homework VI

Wed., Oct. 26 - Chapter VI: An Introduction to Articulation and Lyric Diction for Singers
Homework: Read Chapter VII and Homework VII

Week 11

Mon., Oct. 31 - Chapter VII: Developing Beautiful Tone Quality, Resonance, & Freedom
Due: Homework VII

Wed., Nov. 2 - Chapter VII: Developing Beautiful Tone Quality, Resonance, & Freedom
Homework: Study for Exam III

Week 12

Mon., Nov. 7 - Exam III (Chapters VI - VII)
Homework: Read Chapter VIII and Homework VIII

Wed., Nov. 9 - Chapter VIII: Keeping Your Voice Healthy
Due: Homework VIII

Week 13

Mon., Nov. 14 - Chapter VIII: Keeping Your Voice Healthy
Homework: Read Chapter IX and Homework IX

Wed., Nov. 16 - Chapter IX: Beyond Vocal Technique: Becoming an Artistic Performer
Due: Homework IX

Week 14

Mon., Nov. 21 - Chapter IX: Beyond Vocal Technique: Becoming an Artistic Performer
Homework: Read Chapter X and Homework X

Wed., Nov. 23 - No Class (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Week 15

Mon., Nov. 28 - Chapter X: Science and Technology in the Voice Studio

Due: Homework X

Wed., Nov. 30 - Chapter X: Science and Technology in the Voice Studio

Homework: Study for Final Exam

Final Exam (Chapters VIII - X)

Tues. Dec. 6

10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m

FAB 200 (Choir Room)

Disclaimer - Dates May Change:

Due to class accommodation scheduled dates for assignments, tests, projects and products may change. Assignments are subject to revision dependent upon the progress of the class.