



Studio Policies and Syllabus for Applied Voice - Fall 2026

**MUS 1111, 3111 MUS 1211, 3211
MUS 5112**

Credit: 1

Credit: 2

Lesson Time/Place: FAB 200A / TBD
Studio Time/Place: FAB 200 / F 4:00PM

Instructor:

Dr. Andrew Alegria
Office: FAB 200A
Phone: (432) 837-8216
Email: andrew.alegria@sulross.edu

Accompanist:

Ms. Beth Kerzee
Office: FAB 206C
Phone: 432-295-1947
Email: bethzee@gmail.com

Office Hours:

M/W/F 9:00 AM — 10:00 AM
or by appointment

Course Description: The individual study of applied voice, vocal literature, musical styles, and performance. Each vocal student is expected to perform publicly at least twice during the semester.

Required Materials:

Bring to each lesson –

- * Three-ring binder (1 1/2 inch – 2 inches)
- * Music - as assigned
- * Pencil and eraser
- * Water in a closed container
- * Method of recording oneself, i.e. personal digital recorder, computer
- * Homework – as assigned
- * A music dictionary – online or book

Blackboard access and internet access (*these services are provided on campus*)

Music Scores:

Music Majors (Performance, Education, and Business) must have:

- * *Twenty-Four Italian Songs and Arias*. New York, G. Schirmer, Inc., 1948.
- * Wall, Joan, Robert Caldwell, Tracy Gavilanes, and Sheila Allen. *Diction for Singers*. 2nd ed. Columbia: Redmond, WA, 2009.

Musical Theatre students must have:

- * TBD – based on each student's individual needs

All students are encouraged to become a member of <https://www.musicnotes.com/>

Course Learning Objectives

1. The student will understand the 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.

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 for recitals and performance pieces.
- * SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

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 *

General Remarks:

Because singing is a whole-body experience, sometimes ‘hands-on’ work or physical contact between the instructor and student is beneficial. My 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, 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 directly. If you are uncomfortable speaking with Dr. Alegría directly, please contact the Visual and Performing Arts Chair, Marjie Scott, to schedule a meeting.

Assignments and Attendance:

1. ***Repertoire History Sheets*** are due by **Friday, October 23, on Blackboard**. This is one page per song. Each page should have a minimum of two paragraphs. The first paragraph provides information on the composer. The second paragraph is information about this song. Each sheet will list the song title, composer, composer’s dates, date when the music was composed, and any additional information essential to the song (why the song was composed and/or for whom). For arias and musical theater songs, the sheet must also include the title of the opera/show, the character’s name, and a synopsis of the story where the music is sung.
2. ***Translations*** are due by **Friday, October 23**, to be **incorporated into your music**. Any texts in a foreign language need to be suitably translated so that you understand what you are singing about and why! Translations found in scores are often not word-for-word and hence lack validity when transferring meaning from the page to the body. There are excellent resources in the music library and online. (See Dr. Alegría for more information.) Copies of translations from a book must be written into the music for it to be helpful.
3. ***Practice Journal*** is an indication of your practice. Schedule solo practice times for **one to two hours each day**. Remember that practicing is not always about singing. Singing involves kinesthetic awareness and motor memory; therefore, it is essential to develop a vocal technique and schedule regular practice times throughout the week. While beneficial, vocalizing in choir will not always engage the same skills necessary for solo performance, and what we are developing in the applied lesson. However, it is encouraged that the student musician practices the choral repertoire within their personal rehearsal time to apply the techniques learned in the vocal lesson to the music.

4. **Listening Log:** You must have 30 Listening Logs within your primary vocal style. Each log must contain the following information: Song with source Information, Composer/Dates, Performer(s), and Comments. Comments are expected for all the entries. Comments may be a personal reflection or reaction to the music. All must be vocal performances. Examples must be from reputable singers in the industry who excel in their particular vocal style.
5. **Original Music** is required for each vocalist. Building a library of vocal repertoire materials is crucial for becoming a professional musician or music teacher. Copyright infringement is vigorously discouraged. Students are expected to purchase music. A photocopy of all the music must be given to the accompanist as soon as possible. It is respectful of the accompanist's professionalism to present the music for an upcoming lesson several days before that lesson so that they may practice it.
6. **Absence Policy** — If you must cancel a lesson, 24-hour notice is required for both your instructor and accompanist. Given 24-hour notice, all efforts will be made to provide a make-up lesson (your accompanist's schedule will be considered). If you give less than 24-hour notice, a make-up lesson is at the instructor's discretion. The instructor will determine how many lessons may be re-scheduled. If too many lessons are postponed, the student may be asked to withdraw from the class.
7. **Studio Hour & Recital Hour Performances** — In this voice studio, you are required to attend the **Studio Hour and Recital Hour each week (Friday at 4:00 in FAB 200)**. If you are scheduled to perform, you must dress professionally, as if for an audition or performance. Music for your accompanist must be turned in by Wednesday of your performance week, or you will not be allowed to perform. You must participate in the end-of-semester studio recital as part of your final exam.
 1. **Non-music and non-theatre majors** will have to perform a soloist in Studio Hour and/or participate in the final Studio Vocal Recital at the end of the semester.
 2. **Theater Majors** must perform as soloists twice in Studio Hour, once in a Recital Hour, Studio Vocal Recital, and Music Jury.
 3. **Music Majors** must perform as soloists twice in Studio Hour, twice in a Recital Hour, Studio Vocal Recital, and Music Jury.

Grade Weighting

Grading Categories	Weighting
Preparation for each lesson*	35%
Performances (Studio Hour(s) and Recital Hour)	20%
Music Jury or Senior Recital	20%
Historical Sheets	10%
Practice Log	5%
Listening Journal	5%
Attendance**	5%

- * 35% of the semester grade is based on preparation for each lesson. At the end of each lesson, a grade is assigned in the following areas:
- Lesson Preparation 15%– General Improvement
 - Music Preparation 10%– Notes, Rhythms, Intervals exercises
 - Musical learning and skills (general musicianship)
 - Understanding of vocal technique
 - Performance Preparation 10% – Acting Exercise, Mono Ex., Translations,
 - Attitude toward performance and aesthetic presentations

** 5% of the semester grade is based upon attendance: weekly attendance in lessons, performing the required times per semester, and attending the concert choir performance (if not in the concert choir or university chorus), plus any vocal solo recitals (student or faculty).

Professional Communication Policy

- * All communication with me should be done by **SRSU Email**. Although I may remember our conversations, it is best for you to email me to remind me of what we discussed. I also understand that text messages are a valid way of communication, but SRSU only accepts emails as a legitimate form of communication.
- * You are expected to check your SRSU Email regularly.

Required by Americans with Disability Act Statement (ADA)

SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the 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. To help protect confidentiality, students seeking accessibility/accommodation(s) services must submit the Accommodation Request Form located on our website. Students are welcome to call the Office of Accessibility Services at 432-837-8203 or stop by Ferguson Hall Room 112 if they have any additional questions regarding the process. Our mailing address is PO Box C-122; Alpine, TX; 79832.

Required Student Responsibilities Statement

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements of such laws.

SRSU Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

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## Dr. Alegria's Vocal Studio Fall 2026

### August

|                 |                |                                  |                |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 24, Mon.        | n/a            | First Day of Classes             | n/a            |
| 27, Thurs.      | n/a            | Last Day to Drop Classes         | n/a            |
| <b>28, Fri.</b> | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Music Major/Minor Meeting</b> | <b>FAB 200</b> |

### September

|                 |                |                                     |                       |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 04, Fri.        | 4:00 PM        | Vocal Studio Hour & Syllabus        | FAB 200               |
| 11, Fri.        | 4:00 PM        | Vocal Studio Hour - <u>IPA Time</u> | FAB 200               |
| 18, Fri.        | 4:00 PM        | Vocal Studio Hour - <u>Singing</u>  | FAB 200               |
| <b>25, Fri.</b> | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Music Recital Hour</b>           | <b>Studio Theatre</b> |
| <b>30, Wed.</b> | <b>TBD</b>     | <b>Guest Vocal Master Class</b>     | <b>Studio Theatre</b> |
| <b>30, Wed.</b> | <b>TBD</b>     | <b>Guest Vocal Recital</b>          | <b>Studio Theatre</b> |

### October

|                   |                |                                     |                       |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 02, Fri.          | n/a            | Vocal Studio Hour Canceled          | n/a                   |
| 09, Fri.          | n/a            | Vocal Studio Hour Canceled          | n/a                   |
| 16, Fri.          | 4:00 PM        | Vocal Studio Hour - <u>IPA Time</u> | FAB 200               |
| <b>23, Fri.</b>   | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Music Recital Hour</b>           | <b>Studio Theatre</b> |
| <b>29, Thurs.</b> | <b>TBD</b>     | <b>Día de los Muertos Festival</b>  | <b>UC-Mall</b>        |
| 30, Fri.          | n/a            | Vocal Studio Hour Canceled          | n/a                   |

### November

|                 |                |                                |                       |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 06, Fri.        | 4:00 PM        | Vocal Studio Hour              | FAB 200               |
| 12, Thurs.      | 7:30 PM        | Cham. Ens./Banda Lobos Concert | Studio Theatre        |
| 13, Fri.        | 4:00 PM        | Vocal Studio Hour              | FAB 200               |
| 19, Thurs.      | 7:30 PM        | Chamber Singers Performance    | FUMC                  |
| <b>20, Fri.</b> | <b>4:00 PM</b> | <b>Music Recital Hour</b>      | <b>Studio Theatre</b> |
| 27, Fri.        | n/a            | Vocal Studio Hour Canceled     | n/a                   |

### December

|                 |            |                                |                       |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>09, Wed.</b> | <b>TBD</b> | <b>Vocal Music Jury Finals</b> | <b>Studio Theatre</b> |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|

### Disclaimer

Due to weather or an egregious situation, scheduled dates for dress rehearsals and/or concerts may change.

### Events that may happen this semester:

\* Presidio High School Visit or Choir Tour to Midland/Odessa Schools

### Performances to be Scheduled

\* Vocal Studio Recital