

MUS A119: POPULAR VOCAL TECHNIQUES 2

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	02/26/2025
Top Code	100400 - Music
Units	1.5 Total Units
Hours	45 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 18; Lab Hours 27)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Open Entry/Open Exit	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S), • Pass/No Pass (B)

Course Description

This course is designed to enhance artistic performance skills for the study, rehearsal, and public performance of literature appropriate to jazz and pop vocal ensembles, with an emphasis on the on-going development of skills needed to perform within an ensemble, as well as soloist. Different literature will be studied in jazz, rock, country, folk, and easy listening dependent on student's artistic aptitude. Also covered are healthy vocal techniques, approach to vocal styles, song interpretation, and microphone technique. ADVISORY: MUS A118. Transfer Credit: CSU.

Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Analyze, critique and formulate improvements for a live vocal performance.
2. Rehearse and perform a minimum of three songs in public with a live rhythm section.

Course Objectives

- 1. Demonstrate the methods used for singing in popular vocal styles, in an ensemble and soloist capacity.
- 2. Distinguish and differentiate between the techniques necessary for performing in the professional music market: Rock, Jazz, Blues, RB, Country, Folk
- 3. Demonstrate proper breathing techniques.
- 4. Play or sing in time with section and ensemble as directed by the conductor.
- 5. Play or sing the correct pitches as indicated with accurate intonation.
- 6. Play or sing with the articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and expression as directed.
- 7. Play or sing appropriately to the ensemble.
- 8. Play or sing stylistically appropriately to the period/style of the composition.
- 9. Perform improvised solos as applicable.
- 10. Demonstrate appropriate blend and balance within the ensemble and/ or section

Lecture Content

Vocal Health and Development Relaxation Body alignment and use Breathing Vocalizing, vocal registers, ranges, and qualities Correct song selection Performance Anxiety Description, causes, and self-study Meditation Relaxation response Visualization and Focus Controlled breathing Alexander Technique of body use Musical Accuracy and Rhythm Precise reading of rhythm Correct readings of markings Intonation and Pitch Accuracy Correct reading and production of pitches Tuning of pitches and harmonies as an ensemble "Popular" Voice Techniques Resonance Tremolo Vibrato Interpretive Devices, Articulation, and Expression Rubato Beat variation Phrasing Professional Ensemble Etiquette Following the conductor's gestures as applicable Singing together as a section Singing together as an ensemble Blend and Balance Correct tone, volume, and timbre as appropriate to ensemble Correct tone, volume, and timbre as appropriate to section Study and performance of Musical styles Jazz Rock Country Blues Pop Easy listening Folk RB Improvised solos as applicable Professional Standard of Conduct Demonstrate musical preparedness in rehearsal and performances Demonstrate professionalism with regard to attendance, attitude, deportment, and participation Memorization of performance repertoire as directed

Lab Content

Song Presentation1. Stage deportment2. Interpretation of text3. Expressiveness of voice, face and body4. Rehearsing and performing with an accompanist vs. recorded accompaniments5. Musicianship: intonation, rhythm and phrasing6. Visual self: costuming, makeup and grooming

Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- Lab (04)

Instructional Techniques

Lecture, master class and group rehearsal

Reading Assignments

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Writing Assignments

Students must demonstrate proficiency in performing a variety of popular music to the instructor's satisfaction to complete the course.

Out-of-class Assignments

Students will need to spend at least 30 minutes a day for 5 days a week practicing vocalizations and assigned songs. It is suggested that they dedicate some time each week listening to other pop vocal artists, analyzing their style and song repertoire. A variety of different artistic styles should be studied.

Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Evaluated solo and group performances. Evaluation of written student critiques.

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

Students must demonstrate proficiency in performing a variety of popular music to the instructor's satisfaction to complete the course.

Eligible Disciplines

Music: Master's degree in music OR bachelor's degree in music AND master's degree in humanities OR the equivalent. Master's degree required.

Textbooks Resources

1. Required Eloise Ristad. A Soprano on Her Head: Right-Side-Up Reflections, latest version ed. Real People Press, 1982 Rationale: This text is a background on overcoming stage fright and improving stage performance. This is a standard book. 2. Required Rundus. K.. Cantabile - A Manual about Beautiful Singing for Singers, Teachers of Singing and Choral Conductors , latest version ed. Pavane Publishing, 2009 Rationale: .

Other Resources

1. Repertoire appropriate to each ensemble: Selected handout materials including sheet music to be provided and distributed by instructor.