

Applied Studio Voice for Musical Theatre Majors

MVV 1411 (Section 8897)

Fall 2016

Instructor: Matt Morgan

Jmorgan@arts.ufl.edu

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this course is to facilitate the development of each student's singing to his or her highest potential through work on:

Technique (posture, breath management, diction, vowel purity, intonation, tonal quality and resonance, line, etc.)

Musicianship (accuracy of rhythm and melody, phrasing, tempo, dynamics, etc.)

Artistry (musical and dramatic interpretation, communication of the text, appropriateness of tone colors, stage presence, vocal and dramatic style, etc.)

Versatility (mastery of classical, musical theatre, and commercial vocal styles, including the development of a healthy approach to belting)

Another major objective will be to develop a personal **Audition Book** containing solid 16-bar, 32-bar, and full song audition selections that cover a wide range of vocal styles and type - appropriate characters.

COURSE DESIGN

Each student will have a 50-minute lesson each week at a regularly-scheduled time. In addition, there will be regular studio classes for solo performances and discussion each semester.

MATERIALS

Students will record every lesson for review during the week on a personal digital recorder. They should also keep a notebook of their lesson assignment sheets, song preparation papers, handouts and a regularly updated list of songs and 16-bar cuts for their personal audition book.

REPERTOIRE

Repertoire will be chosen to promote the growth of good, solid vocal technique and artistry, with a balance of selections from musical theatre literature (classic and contemporary) as well as other commercial vocal genres. A short "song preparation paper" will be written for several of the selections, at least three per semester. Emphasis will be on healthy vocal production through the application of sound vocal pedagogy. Each student will receive

individualized training to find and develop their authentic voice both technically and as an artist.

FINAL JURY: The jury exam consists of performing no less than two pieces chosen from the semester's study in a concert format before a panel of the voice and musical theatre faculty at the end of each semester.

GRADING

Final grades will be based on the following:

Weekly Preparation/Practice/Progress: 75%

This portion of the grade reflects the degree of completion of goals on lesson assignments, prepared music assigned each week, and evidence of weekly practice. This will be assessed through a 5 point rubric:

5: The student has completed weekly goals set by the teacher, is perfectly prepared with musical assignments, and has evidenced daily practice.

4: The student has completed some but not all weekly goals, is fairly well prepared with musical assignments, and has evidenced practice throughout the week but not on a daily basis.

3: The student has completed only a few of the weekly goals, is moderately prepared with musical assignments, and has evidenced some but not regular practice.

2: The student has completed only one weekly goal, is poorly prepared with musical assignments, and has evidenced only a small amount of practice.

1: The student has completed no weekly goals, is completely unprepared with musical assignments, and has evidenced no amount of practice.

Attendance:

Regular attendance of weekly lessons is required. No unexcused (undocumented) absence will be permitted. Each unexcused missed lesson will not be made up and will lower the final grade by one-half of a letter. Excused absences are considered to be only those where official documentation is provided, and cannot be excessive. Three instances of lateness (more than five minutes) will be equivalent to one absence. Make-up lessons are at the discretion of the teacher. Students may be directed to swap with another student's lesson time.

Regular attendance of the weekly studio class is also required, unless special arrangements have been made.

Office hours are by appointment, but communication by email or phone is also encouraged.