

STUDIO VOICE SYLLABUS
MVV 1411, 2421, 3431, 4441 and MVO 6460
FALL 2021

Instructor:

Dr. Brenda Smith
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Student Hours

Opportunities to meet with the instructor outside of lesson times to discuss related issues are available by appointment. See the studio schedule on the door of MUB Room 302. Feel free to communicate by e-mail or phone, if needed.

Individual and Class Sessions

Private lesson times are arranged with the instructor and will follow the guidelines of the School of Music. Voice studio classes meet Wednesdays, 6th period (12:50 pm) in MUB Room 142. Attendance is mandatory.

Attendance

- Lessons missed due to student illness, observance of religious holidays, field trips or other University of Florida approved activities will be excused if the instructor is notified a minimum of 24 hours before the lesson appointment. Lessons missed due to lack of preparation, missed without 24 hours notification of the instructor cannot be made up.
- Lessons missed when the instructor is absent for professional obligations or due to illness will be rescheduled.
- Excused absences are those officially sanctioned by the University of Florida. <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Grading

Using the plus/minus scale, the course grade will be calculated in the following way: Semester grades are based on four factors:

- Attendance (prompt attendance at all lessons, rehearsals, and studio classes)
- Initiative (practicing, recording device, repertoire preparation)
- Progress (completion of repertoire and projects, performance results) Please note the following: In accordance with the Voice Area Handbook, every student must learn at least 6 new works every semester. During the pandemic, this minimum may not apply. Repertoire to be presented at the jury will be selected by the instructor in consultation with the student. Preparation of a selection is deemed thorough if IPA, Word-by-word, and

poetic translations appear in the score, all notes and rhythms have been learned, and comparative listening/program notes are accomplished.

Grading Scale & GPA equivalent:

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93.4-100	A	4.00
90.0-93.3	A-	3.67
86.7-89.9	B+	3.33
83.4-86.6	B	3.00
80.0-83.3	B-	2.67
76.7-79.9	C+	2.33
73.4-76.6	C	2.00
70.0-73.3	C-	1.67
66.7-69.9	D+	1.33
63.4-66.6	D	1.00
60.0-63.3	D-	0.67
0-59.9	E	0.00

More information on grades and grading policies is here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Please feel free to consult with the instructor at any time regarding your status in the course.

Course Expectations

The ability to “count-sing” the melodic material, to “vowel-sing” the text along with the insertion of IPA transcriptions, word-by-word translations and poetic texts in the semester’s repertoire are expected for repertoire assigned for weekly lessons. Each student will be expected to complete assignments on time.

Studio Class and Voice Recitals

Studio classes (combined and individual) are considered an integral part of voice study. Timely presence in studio class is expected. Each student should support studio peers by attending degree recitals or dress rehearsals. Please mark calendars and plan work/social obligations accordingly.

Collaborative Pianists

Every student is assigned a collaborative pianist who will attend lessons and accompany studio class and recital performances. The collaborative pianist can create rehearsal recordings to assist with music learning. A weekly rehearsal session with your collaborative pianist will be arranged. The attendance policy of the studio applies. It is the responsibility of the student to pay the collaborative pianist in a timely fashion.

How to Learn New Repertoires

Because muscle memory is a crucial element in vocal technique, each song/aria should be learned systematically and carefully.

1. Read the text and analyze its meaning. Gather information about the poet and composer. Determine the context and musical style of the song/aria.
2. Include in your score the breath/dynamic marks and an IPA transcription.
3. Where appropriate, write in the word-by-word translation of the text.
4. Count sing the song/aria beginning with the introduction and include the interludes. Make note of difficult intervals.
5. Chant and then sing the vowels of the words phrase by phrase. "Rhyme" the vowels to ensure accurate tuning.
6. Add the consonants while maintaining the rhythmic integrity and vowel purity of the work.
7. Memorize.

Grading Criteria

The criteria for grading in Studio Voice are Attendance, Initiative and Progress. Each weekly lesson assignment contains specific opportunities for the accumulation of points. General weekly expectations are available in Canvas. Specific individual expectations are recorded at the lesson in writing by the teacher.

Points will be given for the preparation of each of the following:

- IPA/Word-by-Word translations in the musical score
- Program notes/Poetic equivalents given orally or in written format
- Readings and Comparative Listening Reports
- Accurate and active use of the Practice Log
- Prompt attendance and active participation (Lessons and Studio Class)
- Presence at recital performances of studio and voice area colleagues
- Jury Performance

Vocal Health

Please do not hesitate to write or call if you have any discomfort with your voice.

Students Requiring Accommodation

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting

accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

UF Evaluations Process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via **GatorEvals**. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from **GatorEvals**, in their Canvas course menu under **GatorEvals**, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Counseling and Wellness Center

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/default.aspx> (352) 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

The Writing Studio

The writing studio is committed to helping University of Florida students meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. Visit the writing studio online at <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio> or in 2215 Turlington Hall for one-on-one consultations.