

COURSE SYLLABUS VOICE STUDIO

Fall 2025

APPLIED MUSIC MVV 1411, 2421, 3431, 4441, MVO 6460, MVO 7460

Instructor:	Dr. Anthony Offerle
Instructional Method:	In-person and Video Conferencing (as needed)
Day/Time:	TBA (Lesson times are based on the available hours in the students' course schedule.)
Location:	MUB: 343
Office:	MUB: Room 343
Office Hours:	As posted
Phone:	(352) 273-3189 (office) (352) 284-7065 (cell and text) not after 8:00 PM
E-mail	tofferle@ufl.edu (Email will be answered within 24 hours, on school days.)

Introduction:

Welcome to our studio! I use the word “our” because this is how we work best. My teaching philosophy is predicated on working together with my students to achieve their fullest potential as a vocal artist. Communication is the key to making dynamic and long-term vocal progress.

First and foremost, we all need to be safe. Singers have faced long-term breathing issues post COVID including the most recent variant. You are encouraged to get vaccinated, social distance, wear a mask, and adhering to all other safety protocols. Please read the UF directives on mask expectations in all buildings. The cases of Omicron are on the rise. We have the option to have FaceTime and Zoom lessons as well.

Most of all, please *breath* (not in the inhalation sense) but in the metaphorical sense of letting what you can't control go. Do be flexible and patient with your academic, social, and other area of your life. Remember, every person is being affected and they are trying their best to stay on track. Be kind to everyone and most importantly, be kind to yourself. You do not have to be perfect in this studio. Work diligently, listen and ask questions, and be a constant consumer of all aspects of music. I'm looking forward to working with each one of you and making this a fantastic year!

Teaching Philosophy:

For students to truly succeed, they must be constantly challenged to meet their individual goals and never accept anything but their own best effort. It is a privilege to work with singers who have varied aspirations ranging from a career on the stage to a professional life as a music educator. Whether you desire to teach, sing for a living, or use their skills in other areas, my responsibility is to help you achieve your optimum performance skills. The art of singing is a journey and a teacher is charged with guiding his pupils, at whatever stage they may find themselves, in the most appropriate direction to achieve their highest ambitions.

Each singer is unique and has a special set of abilities and expectations. There is no one singular practice that accommodates the needs of every student; therefore, having a variety of technical approaches and the ability to adapt to the needs of my students is of the utmost importance. My approach is to work with the whole student: mind and body. Singing requires not only a strong vocal technique (the body is one's instrument) but singers must also meet the mental challenges that face all performers. Singers, more than any other performers, are required to come to terms with the personal elements of intimate expression and communication with an audience. While this may come naturally to some, it is generally a complex issue for most students but, nevertheless, a crucial part of developing the whole performer.

My methodology is to engage my students in a singing process that is based on fundamentally sound bel canto techniques and then design a specific strategy with each singer that builds the voice through vocalizes (such as those presented by Vaccai), specific technique exercises, and appropriate literature. The proper synthesis of technical training in combination with well chosen vocal repertoire helps build a strong foundation that allows a singer to perform with ease and confidence. I firmly believe that, the more fundamentally grounded a singer's technique, the greater their range of musical and dramatic expression.

I. MATERIALS:

1. A computer or other device that allows video/audio communication.
2. Music as assigned.
3. Students must be prepared to purchase music each semester.
4. A recording device for each lesson. Cell phones are a good option.
5. Pencils and a Notebook.
6. Lesson Attire: Dress for a presentation at each lesson.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

See the attached University of Florida - School of Music / Voice Area Syllabus

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

See the attached University of Florida - School of Music / Voice Area Syllabus

III. EVALUATION:

See the attached Studio Grading Criteria and the University of Florida - School of Music / Voice Area Syllabus in addition to the attachments regarding studio policies and grading.

Please note: Students with disabilities:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Please see grading rubric, project details, and Voice Area Procedures which is available from the Voice Area Coordinator:

STUDIO GRADING CRITERIA

6	Excellent Lesson. Student has gone beyond the weekly assignments and done more than expected, i.e. student has practiced more than the expected 6 hours per week, memorized a larger portion of the assigned music, etc. *
5	Very Good lesson. Student has completed each of the weekly assignments without exception and demonstrates clear improvement from the previous week. *
4	Good Lesson. Student has completed most of the weekly assignments and shown signs of improvement.
3	Average lesson. Student has completed half of the weekly assignments and shows some signs of improvement. *
2	Below average lesson. Student has completed few of the weekly assignments and shows little improvement.*
1	Poor lesson. Student has not completed any of the previous week's assignments. *
0	Missed Lesson.

Seventy-five percentage points (75%) of the final grade will be based on the total lessons grades.

VOICE AREA
LAB REQUIREMENT (Attendance is required each week.)
STUDIO GRADING CRITERIA

10	Excellent work. Student has kept copious notes on each singer performing in Voice Lab throughout the semester and submitted a 200 word typed summary. Students in this category will also attach programs from each of the voice area required concerts they supported.
8	Good work. Student has kept notes on most singers performing in Voice Lab throughout the semester and submitted a 200 word typed summary. Students in this category will also attach programs from each of the voice area required concerts they supported.
6	Average work. Student has kept notes on two of three singers performing in Voice Lab throughout the semester and submitted a 200 word typed*summary. Students in this category will also attach programs from all but one voice area required concerts they supported.
4	Below average work. Student has kept notes on one of three singers performing in Voice Lab throughout the semester and submitted a 200 word typed summary. Students in this category will also attach programs from all but two voice area required concerts they supported.
2	Poor work. Student has kept notes on few of the singers performing in Voice Lab throughout the semester and submitted a 200 word typed summary. Students in this category will also attach programs from all but three voice area required concerts they supported.
0	Student did not turn in a notebook.

Ten percentage points (10%) of the final grade based upon the total number of Voice Labs and required concerts.

JURY EXAM

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

4	Student meets all the required literature requirements.
2	Student is one selection short of the literature requirements.
0	Student is two or more selections short of the literature requirements.

VOCAL TECHNIQUE

5	Excellent				
4	Good				
3	Average				
2	Below average				
1	Poor				

MUSICIANSHIP / DICTION

3	Excellent				
2	Good				
1	Average				
0	Below average				

TONE QUALITY

3	Excellent				
2	Good				
1	Average				
0	Below average				

ARTISTRY – EXPRESSION / STAGE PRESENCE

3	Excellent				
2	Good				
1	Average				
0	Below average				

The Voice Area Jury will count as (15%) of the final grade and must, by the consensus of the voice faculty, be given a passing mark.
10% percentage points of the final grade is based upon the jury score.

The jury grade is based on the performance during the vocal area – jury examination and all student and lab

performances. The criteria is listed on this page and takes into consideration a national standard by which we assess all our voice students as well as the individual student's progress over the course of the semester.

Academic Honesty

At the University of Florida every student signed the following statement: "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for the University." The instructor of this course fully endorses this statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing is subject to an automatic E and further disciplinary action. All violations of academic honesty will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action without exception. <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>

****If you are repeating this course at UF, please be aware that turning in any part of any written assignment that you submitted for this course in the past also constitutes academic misconduct. See "Scope and Violations" under the Honor Code above.**

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>.

Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct

It is the policy of the University of Florida to provide an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. This includes information sent through e-mail. Sexual harassment and sexual misconduct in any form will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. The University encourages students, faculty, staff, and visitors to promptly report sexual harassment or sexual misconduct. For more specific information, please see www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/affact/harass (Located in the General Information section of the University Catalog.)

University Counseling Services

Contact information:

Counseling Center

Address:

3190 Radio Rd.

P.O. Box 112662, University of Florida

Gainesville, FL 32611-2662

Phone: 352-392-1575 Web: www.counsel.ufl.edu