

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Music 171 – Class Voice

2 hours lecture, 2 units

Catalog Description

Designed to help the student learn to use the voice correctly. Principles of vocal placement, posture, balance, breath control and vocal tone are emphasized through individual performances.

Prerequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

Ability to read music

Entrance Skills

Without the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge, students entering this course will be highly unlikely to succeed:

- 1) Recognize and understand musical symbols.
- 2) Read and play rhythms using quarter notes and eighth notes.

Course Content

- 1) Orientation on what students must do to become a singer
- 2) Knowledge of correct physical requirements to become a singer
- 3) Development of correct breath control for singing
- 4) Differentiation of varying tone qualities
- 5) Use of correct diction in singing
- 6) Comparison of contrasting singing styles
- 7) Performance of selected vocal literature

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Aurally identify contrasting vocal tones such as soprano, bass, bright or dark
- 2) Demonstrate proper breathing, vocal techniques, posture, and stage deportment
- 3) Identify and correct musical challenges with regard to pitch, tone, dynamics, rhythm, articulation, phonation and resonance
- 4) Interpret assigned vocal music according to its appropriate style and period
- 5) Prepare selected vocal literature for musical performance

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Class performances that measure students' ability to identify and integrate vocal literature, technique and stage deportment.
- 2) Written assignments including essays that measure students' ability to interpret and differentiate selected vocal literature.

- 3) Class exercises, written assignments and quizzes that measure students' ability to identify and apply vocal pedagogical concepts.
- 4) Final exam that measures students' ability to demonstrate proper breathing, posture, vocal production and utilize basic vocal terminology.

Special Materials Required of Student

CD player, recording device

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Smart classroom with piano, writing board with musical staves, stereo audio system, document camera

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Demonstration
- 3) Analysis of compositions
- 4) Evaluation of performances

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) **Reading:** review course materials on vocal technique, including breath support, posture, resonance, diction, and tone production; review background information on vocal styles and composers for assigned repertoire.
- 2) **Writing:** short reflective reports analyzing recorded or live vocal performances, focusing on technique, tone, diction, musical interpretation, and stage presence.
- 3) **Other:** complete regular individual vocal practice sessions applying class techniques to warm-ups and assigned songs.

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative examples):
 - a. Vaughn, Cynthia and Dayme Meribeth, ed. By Matthew Hoch. *The Singing Book*. Rowan & Littlefield, 2024.
 - b. Byrne, Andrew. *The Singing Athlete: Brain-Based Training For Your Voice*. Andrew Byrne Studios, Inc., 2020.
- 2) Supplemental: None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate proper singing technique.
- 2) Interpret representative repertoire with stylistic and aesthetic accuracy.