



Course Syllabus: Applied Voice Instruction

College of Fine Arts

AMUS 1201 Section 101

AMUS 1202 Section 101

AMUS 2201 Section 101

AMUS 2202 Section 101

AMUS 3201 Section 101

AMUS 3202 Section 101

AMUS 4201 Section 101

AMUS 4202 Section 101

Fall Semester 2026

Contact Information

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Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a broad spectrum of information about the singing voice. This class will include technique, pedagogy, repertoire selection, long-term career development, practice methods, group studio instruction and entrepreneurship. Lessons will be tailored to the goals and needs of each individual student. Applied Voice lessons are a once-per-week meeting between the student and the teacher. This course is designed for Bachelor of Music Performance, Music Education majors and minors. The course may be repeated for credit. Students outside the music area may register for lessons with permission from the instructor.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Applied Voice lessons require a weekly meeting between student and the applied professor. Some of these lesson times will be supplemented with private and group coaching with pianists, Sandra Cunningham, Alyssa Ham and Dr. Sungsoo Cho, Dr. Chad Pittman, Dr. Erica Rumbley and Shane Ohlson.

All assigned repertoire must be scanned and stored in a google drive folder. This folder will be shared with the voice professor and pianist. When a song is assigned, it is the student's responsibility to add the scanned music to a shared folder within 7 days of the assignment.

Daily practice is required for this class. Please keep a practice schedule and document your practice times so we can track your efficiency in your practice sessions.

All students enrolled in this class are required to perform in at least one departmental recital. These recitals are scheduled on Mondays at 4:00pm. *First semester students are exempt from this policy.

The final jury requires a memorized performance of at least 4 songs. Jury requirements are based on each individual's progress and may vary.

Freshman requirements (semesters 1 and 2) 4 songs each semester

Sophomore requirements 5-6 songs each semester. Sophomore barrier juries are required during the 4th semester of study. This is a 20-minute jury.

Junior and Senior requirements 6 songs each semester

Credit Hours

Varies by course number

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Regular Rehearsals with a studio pianist are required.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Course Grade - List all graded assignments with their point value and or percentage of total grade. Letter Grade Scale indicate the overall points or % to letter grade scale for example 1270 to 1137 = A.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Studio Goals for Music Department	100
Homework/Google Drive	200
Discussions/Studio Class	150
Recital Attendance/Studio Class Performance	150
Attendance	200
Final Exam	200
Total Points	1000

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	900
B	800 to 899
C	700 to 799
D	600 to 699
F	Less than 600

Homework

Regular, thoughtful work is required of each individual outside the weekly lesson time.

Exams

Studio performances and Final Juries are required.

Projects Required

Studio class and Recital Attendance class performance.

Mid-Term Exam

Memorized performance in Studio Class or Recital Attendance.

Final Exam

Students will be graded according to their lesson preparation, consistency in progress, repertoire development, technical understanding of their instrument and overall improvement throughout the semester.

Extra Credit

State whether or not you accept extra credit assignments.

Make Up Work/Tests

Make-up lessons are not guaranteed. 48 Hours must be given to reschedule a weekly lesson time. You may also plan ahead and switch times with other students.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: [Click here to enter appropriate date.](#) Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Deadline to file for graduation: [Click here to enter appropriate date.](#) Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" [Click here to enter appropriate date.](#) Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should so inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. Instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the

instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

You are required to attend all scheduled lessons throughout the semester. Absences will be excused for the following reasons: Illness, death in the family, or an approved and school-sponsored trip.

In order for any of these absences to be excused, I must be notified 48 hours in advance. The final grade for this course will be reduced by one letter for each unexcused absence after the first. Alternatively, documentation of the excused absence is required. (Doctor's note, Dean's note, etc)

In addition to attending each lesson, all students enrolled in applied lessons are required to attend all voice related concerts as well as the Music at Akin series of concerts.

Make-up lessons are not given but may be accommodated with some prior communication. You are also welcome to communicate with other students in your studio to switch times with advanced notice.

Collaborative Pianist Rehearsals

Each student is required to rehearse with the assigned collaborative pianist a minimum of 6 times. Rehearsals are scheduled and coordinated by Dr. Diltz or your assigned pianist. It is your responsibility to be proactive and schedule these rehearsals in advance. Each singer is required to bring their own printed or digital copy of the assigned repertoire to the rehearsal. Your pianist will keep a scanned copy of your music. Please always send your scanned repertoire to your pianist in advance. There are no make-up rehearsal times available for collaborative pianist coaching. If you need to cancel your scheduled time, please give the pianist 48 hours' notice. At minimum, please always communicate your attendance or absence.

Online Computer Requirements

The only online requirement is to save all sheet music scans digitally.

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Instructor Class Policies

Collaborative Pianist Rehearsals

Each student is required to rehearse with the assigned collaborative pianist a minimum of 6 times. Rehearsals are scheduled and coordinated by Dr. Diltz or your assigned pianist. It is your responsibility to be proactive and schedule these rehearsals in advance. Each singer is required to bring their own printed or digital copy of the assigned repertoire to the rehearsal. Your pianist will keep a scanned copy of your music. Please always send your scanned repertoire to your pianist in advance. There are no make-up rehearsal times available for collaborative pianist coaching. If you need to cancel your scheduled time, please give the pianist 24 hours' notice. At minimum, please always communicate your attendance or absence.

Curriculum and Course Materials

The curriculum for this course will be determined collaboratively by the teacher and the student to address each individual students' specific goals. Assignments are cumulative and must be stored in a digital folder. You are required to locate and purchase your own music for each assignment. The digital folder will create a resource for each student as they begin their own applied lesson studios. Sheet music that is in the public domain may be provided to you by the instructor. Sheet music under copyright restrictions must be obtained by the student. It is not the responsibility of the instructor to provide copies or scans of music. Students enrolled in applied lessons should be capable of locating and obtaining their own sheet music resources.

A list of suggested repertoire is included in the **Appendix**.

Communication

You are welcome to contact me at any time via email. I check messages regularly. If you do not get a response within 24 hours, please text me. Technically, you may text at any time. However, please observe basic etiquette and do not text very early or very late in the day unless it is an emergency.

Email is preferred.

If you have issues with your assignments, do not wait until your next lesson to resolve the issue. Please reach out for help.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants,

loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees

are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1-5 9/17 to 9/25	Detailed instructions on the Activities and Assignments	n/a
Week 6-10 9/28 to 10/30	Mid-Term Performance	By October 30
Week 11-15 11/2 to 12/4	Prep for juries	December 3-5

Appendix

Graded Repertoire and Vocal Literature Resources for Singers Texas UIL Solo and Ensemble 2024-2025 Prescribed Music List

<https://www.uiltexas.org/pml/>

Teaching Musical Theater Songs: A Graded Repertoire List Journal of Singing

1996 Jan/Feb (volume 52 issue: 3. Page 25)

*A scan of this article will be provided in the studio and via D2L

The Royal Conservatory. Vocal Series, 2019 Edition

This set of books includes 11 volumes of standard repertoire for all classical voice types.

General Bibliography

Coffin, Berton. *Singer's Repertoire*, v. 1-5, Scarecrow Press, 1960.

Doscher, Barbara. *From Studio to Stage: Repertoire for the Voice*. Crouch Books, 2002.

Emmons, Shirley. *The Art of the Song Recital*. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press, 2002.

Espina, Noni. *Repertoire for the Solo Voice: A Fully Annotated Guide to Works for the Solo Voice Published in Modern Editions*. Scarecrow Press. 1977.

Espina, Noni. *Vocal Solos for Christian Churches*. 3rd Edition. Scarecrow Press, 2016.

Goleekee, Tom. *Literature for Voice: An Index of Songs in Collections and Source Book for Teachers of Singing*, v. 1-2. Scarecrow Press, 2000.

Hames, Elizabeth and Michelle Blumsack. *Progressive Vocal Repertoire*. EM Music Publishing, 2013.

Kagen, Sergius. *Music for the Voice, Revised Edition: A Descriptive List of Concert and Teaching Material*. Indiana University Press, 1969.

Kimball, Carol. *Song: A Guide to Art Song Style and Literature*, revised edition. Milwaukee: Hal Leonard Corporation, 2005

Lentini, Dana. **Teaching the Child Singer: Pediatric Pedagogy for Ages 5-13**. Hal Leonard, 2020.

Lust, Patricia. *American Vocal Chamber Music, 1945-1980: An Annotated Bibliography*. Greenwood Publishing, 1985.

McTyre, Ruthann Boles. *Library Resources for Singers, Coaches, and Accompanists: An Annotated Bibliography, 1970-1997*. Greenwood Publishing, 1998.

Vaccai, Nicola. *Method Books in volumes: high soprano, soprano, tenor; mezzo-soprano, alto, baritone*. Schirmer, 1986.