

APPLIED VOICE

AMUS 1201, 1202, 2201, 2202, 3201, 3202, 4201, 4202, 1701, 3862, 4962

Fall 2019

Dr. Don Maxwell, Professor

Hardin N 101 ~ 397-4242

[Don Maxwell Email](#)

Welcome to Fall semester, 2019

The following information will explain the requirements for this course – individual voice instruction. Lessons are taught one-on-one, hence they are individually arranged at mutually acceptable times. The objective is simple: to learn how to use your voice in the freest, most expressive manner possible. Voice training is a long, arduous process fraught with difficulties. However, amazing progress can be made if we work together to understand the natural physical laws which govern vocalization.

Course Description: Although we will be spending a good deal of time vocalizing in lessons, the objective is to learn to communicate effectively to others through the singing of songs. It is therefore mandatory that you quickly learn the literature assigned. Your homework will consist of memorizing music, not vocalizing. All vocalizing will take place during scheduled lessons.

Course Objective: The main objective is to learn how to sing, demonstrating a reasonable command of vocal technique, language facility, stylistic accuracy, acceptable vocal quality and overall musical intelligence, culminating in the presentation of public recitals.

REPERTOIRE: Five songs will be assigned for the semester.

Grading Policy: On the weeks listed below, you will be graded on a new song; if it is MEMORIZED and well sung, you get an A. If not, your grade will be anywhere from B to F, depending on my assessment of where you are on the piece. It should be obvious if you get even one F, you cannot possibly get an A for the semester.

Week of Sept. 16- 1st song

Week of Oct. 18- 2nd song

Week of Oct. 28- 3rd song

Week of Nov. 18- 4th song

Week of Dec. 5- 5th song

UPPER-LEVEL: Voice majors may not begin junior-level courses (3000) until they have passed the Sophomore Barrier. At the conclusion of the 4th semester of study, the student must meet specific requirements in order to proceed to upper-level (see student handbook). For the jury examination, the student must have at least 5 songs memorized in at least three languages. The student must show promise of future success as demonstrated by command of vocal technique, beauty of tone quality, language and stylistic accuracy, musical intelligence, artistry and stage presence.

In the process of learning how to sing, we will address topics of vital importance to singers and prospective teachers of singing- the physiological vocal mechanism, resonance, the breathing process as it pertains to singing, voice change at puberty, and good vocal health habits.

ATTENTION: PLEASE BRING A FLASH OR THUMB DRIVE TO YOUR LESSONS! PIANO ACCOMPANIMENTS WILL BE RECORDED EARLY IN THE SEMESTER SO THAT YOU CAN HAVE THEM FOR YOUR PRACTICE TIME.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to be present for all lessons. In the event of illness or unavoidable delay, please call my office (4242) before your scheduled lesson. Two unexcused absences will lower the final grade by one letter—four unexcused absences, two letter grades, etc. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from the course by the instructor.

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 Dean of Students' Office.

DISRUPTION OF TEACHING: Disruption or obstruction of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other university activities authorized to be held or conducted on the premises of Midwestern State University. Such activity includes classroom behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program.

INSTRUCTOR DROP: An instructor may drop a student any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct.

OFFICE HOURS: If for any reason you need to talk to me out of class, please refer to the available office hours posted on my door.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: Social justice is one of Midwestern State University's stated core values and the professor considers the classroom to be a place where students will be treated with respect as human beings, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Moreover, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided the students can agree to disagree. It is the professor's expectation that ALL students be able to consider the classroom a safe environment.

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information that needs sharing, or if you need special accommodations in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

Federal privacy law prohibits me from releasing information about students to certain parties outside of the university without the signed consent of the student. Thus, in almost all cases I will not discuss your academic progress or other matters with your parents. Please do not have

them call me. Regardless of these important legal considerations, it is my general policy to communicate with the students, not their parents even when a student has signed a consent form. College students are adults and are expected to behave accordingly.

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's [Campus Carry webpage](#).