



Course Syllabus: Applied Voice Lessons

Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts

AMUS-1201-203, AMUS-1202-203, 2201-203, 2202-203, 3201-203, 3202-203,
4201-203, 4202-203
Spring 2024

Contact Information

Instructor: Myles Pinder
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*If you do not receive a response via phone or email within 48 hours, please contact me again.

Course Materials

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. You are responsible for providing appropriate copies for your assigned pianist.

All assigned music must be organized in a 3-ring binder and stored digitally in an online folder. Having an organized digital folder for your repertoire is required and is 5% of your final grade.

All students enrolled in this section of Applied lessons are required to organize a digital folder of vocal exercises. These exercises must be created on physical (scanned) or digital manuscript paper. Students are encouraged to share these files with each other and to also collect exercises from Choral ensembles and various outside sources. This additional folder may be housed in your repertoire folder and is 5% of your final grade.

Course Description

This syllabus serves as the guide for all sections of applied studio voice lessons. Lessons are designed to provide individual instruction to students in both Music Education and Vocal Performance tracks of study. Standard classical and contemporary styles are introduced and developed to prepare each student for future voice teaching and performance.

Students receive a 50-minute private lesson each week. Practice outside the lesson is required.

Credit Hours

Credit hours vary by course number.

Course Objectives

The goal of this course is to develop the understanding and healthy application of classical vocal technique. We will also spend considerable time learning varied repertoire, performance skills, musical interpretation, diction, musicality, score preparation and memorization tactics.

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes

- Progress in technical, musical, and performance skills suitable for the student's academic status and vocal level.
- Increase musicianship skills and music learning through assignments and individual instruction.
- Participate in studio class, studio recital, MSU student recital
- Prepare and perform the required number of songs from memory at a juried voice examination or recital to be held at the end of the semester.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2023-24](#)

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](#)

Grading/Assessment

Attendance	40%
Attendance and participation with Collaborative Pianist	10%
Digital repertoire folder	10%
Studio class and/or Departmental Recital participation	20%
Jury performance	20%

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 19th, 2024

Deadline to file for graduation: February 12th, 2024

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 24th, 2024

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Attendance

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly. It is important that you communicate with your instructor prior to being absent. Lessons canceled within 24 hours of the assigned time will be offered a make-up lesson time if the instructor can find an appropriate time. Lessons missed by the student will not be given a make-up lesson. Lessons missed by the instructor will be rescheduled at an agreed upon time.

One unexcused absence is allowed before the final grade will be adjusted. Each absence without communication will result in a 5% deduction on the final grade.

Please do not attend your applied lesson while sick or experiencing upper respiratory symptoms. If you are sick, please contact the professor to reschedule your lesson.

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 Clark Student Center, Room 168, (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](#).

College Policies

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS 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.](#)"

Inclement Weather Statement

Key decision-makers will monitor weather projections and communicate with local news agencies and WFISD leadership to make a delay or cancellation decision. Notification occurs through official campus channels and in communication with the local news networks. MSU channels include MSU Alert, MSU Safety app, Postmaster, website headers, MSU Police, and the Office of Marketing and Public Information. The timeline is as follows:

Event	Time	Day	Decision
Inclement weather occurs during regular work/class day	3:30 PM	Day of inclement weather	Cancel classes/events after 5 PM
Overnight inclement weather expected	8 PM	Day before inclement weather	Close campus or delay opening
Delay called the day before but change to closure due to the extent of weather impact	6:15 AM	Day of delay	Close campus
No cancellation or delay decision made the night before	5:30 AM	Day after no decision made the night before	Close campus or delay opening

Delay/closure times are as follows:

- MWF class day: Delay to either 10 AM or 11 AM; all classes prior to opening do not meet.
- TuTh class day: Delay to 11 AM; all classes prior to opening do not meet
- Saturday or Sunday: Delay to either 10 AM or 11 AM; classes may start after campus is open.

*If closed for inclement weather, lessons will be rescheduled if semester total is not met. If so, lesson will be cancelled.

Grade Appeal Process

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

Suggested Jury and Sophomore Barrier Information

Performance during recital lab is a component of your applied lesson grade. Successful completion of the Sophomore Barrier Exam is required before the student may enroll in 3000 level applied study. This 20-minute barrier exam takes place at the conclusion of the fourth semester of applied study during jury week. **Specific requirements for applied areas of study are included in the applied lesson syllabus.**

Suggested Hearing Loss and Health Statement for Music Syllabi

As a musician, your hearing is one of your most valuable assets. Unfortunately, high exposure to sound-producing activities can lead to noise-induced hearing loss. While this can be temporary, it can lead to tinnitus (ringing in the ears), permanent loss of hearing (particularly in the higher frequencies), and deafness. In addition to affecting a student's enjoyment of music, it also may render them incapable of continuing as a professional musician or music educator.

Musicians are also susceptible to musculoskeletal and vocal injury, particularly overuse injury. Failure to take adequate precautions can greatly shorten a student's performing career.

Means to minimize risks associated with hearing loss and performance-related injuries will be discussed during applied lessons and/or masterclasses. Faculty members can only present information to students and offer resources and assistance in seeking professional medical help when needed. The student has the final responsibility to take proper precautions.

Notice

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