**Reinhardt University**

**Fall 2023 Course Syllabus**

**Applied Voice: MUA 248/348**

**Instructor: Dr. Cory Neal Schantz**

Contact Information:

Office Phone: 770.720.5759

Cell phone: 405.365.9460\*

E-mail address: [cns@reinhardt.edu](mailto:cns@reinhardt.edu)

\*Cell phone is for emergency use only.

Office Hours: Hours are posted on my door, however,

please let me know if you plan on coming to see me during those times.

School Holidays (**No lessons or makeups**):

**September 4, October 4-6**

**I will also be out recruiting some this semester. It is my goal to make up every lesson that I miss but, given the challenge of scheduling, that may not be possible.**

**Changes or additions to the syllabus will be communicated in person and/or through the university e-mail system. Please be sure that your e-mail address is correct and check your e-mail often. Failure to do so could result in a lower grade.**

1. **Course Description**

Applied voice is the concentrated, individualized study of singing which includes learning technique, literature, and performance skills. Principles of vocal technique, both historic and contemporary, will be studied alongside literature appropriate for the developmental level of each student. Repertoire in multiple languages as well as multiple style periods will be studied.

1. **Course Materials**
2. Assigned vocal literature and methods
3. Binder with ruled paper, staff paper, and dividers
4. Pencil(s)
5. Cup and straws
6. Cellular phone or other recording device
7. Some may be required to purchase a subscription to sightreading factory.
8. **Student Learning Outcomes**
9. Each student will expand his/her knowledge of vocal technique, whether basic or advanced. (MLO 3, 5; RUSLO 4)
10. Each student will grow in his/her ability and confidence as a performer. (MLO 3; RUSLO 1)
11. Each student will learn the biographical and musicological background of each piece of music assigned. (MLO 2; RUSLO 5, 6)
12. Each student will GET BETTER. (MLO 1-5, RUSLO 1-4) I know this seems silly but if every student simply strives to get better then improvement will inevitably come. The improvement of each student is, ultimately, up to that student.
13. **Course Requirements**
14. Students are expected to BE ON TIME to lessons, rehearsals, and performances (including Studio Performance Lab).
15. Students must purchase assigned repertoire.
16. Lessons will consist of vocal warm-ups, technique exercises, and application of acquired technique to assigned repertoire. Vaccai Practical Vocal Method and Sieber Studies, if assigned, will be a critical part of your study. Students are **required to** **record** each lesson.
17. Improvement is only possible through daily practice. Each student is expected to spend at least 60 minutes per day in the practice room. This time is to be dedicated to your solo vocal study. Because of the limited practice space, please use this time working on technique and repertoire. Other issues of preparation such as memorization, translation, or research should be done in another space. **Please note that music learning is not the same as practicing**. You must first learn, then practice. Students will turn in a weekly practice log which details all activities related to applied voice study.
18. Students are expected to learn music promptly and accurately. Students will be allowed 1 week to prepare songs in English and 2-3 weeks to prepare songs in foreign languages. This does not apply to assigned Vaccai or Sieber exercises; these should be learned immediately. Some resources are available to help students in this process.
19. Prepare assigned Vaccai or Sieber exercises promptly and accurately. Proficient use of these exercises will be included in the calculation of your weekly grade.
20. Provide an accurate translation of any foreign language text as well as details of any characterization that might be necessary. This should be prepared before you begin learning the song. Translations are often available online, through IPA Source, or occasionally, in your music.
21. Complete weekly lesson reflection.
22. Complete repertoire background sheet for every song assigned
23. Complete assigned readings or audio/video assessments. Answer questions on Canvas.
24. Each student will have an accompanist provided by the university. You will rehearse virtually with your accompanist for 30 minutes a week. They will also make accompaniment recordings for you as well. This is not a time for you to learn your notes, it is a time for you to run and polish your repertoire. **Skipping a rehearsal with your accompanist shall constitute an absence.**
25. At least half of your repertoire is to be memorized before **Fall Break.** The remainderis to be memorized by the 1st week of April. Your memorization grade will be lowered 1 letter grade for each week you don’t have your music memorized after the assigned date. SERNATS repertoire must be memorized by the week of November 3.
26. Prepare a specified number of pieces to be artistically and accurately performed at your final jury assessment.
27. All of your rehearsal and preparation materials, including but not limited to Vaccai/Sieber and music copies, translations, song sheets and other information will be assembled in a folder **solely** dedicated to your vocal study. I will check on this periodically. It will be linked to your weekly preparation grade
28. Get better. Strive to be the best you can be in the moment.
29. Some of you will be asked to sightread as a part of your lesson.
30. **Attendance**

Attendance at lessons and rehearsals is **mandatory**. Students are expected to notify the instructor *in advance* if they are unable to attend a lesson because of an illness, emergency, or official college function. Contact information is provided at the top of this document. Excused absences may be made up at the discretion of the instructor, but there is no obligation to do so. Absences will be considered unexcused if the student fails to notify the instructor of the reason for absence within 24 hours after the scheduled lesson. If you know you are going to miss a lesson, notify instructor as soon as possible. Two unexcused absences will lower the student’s grade by one letter. **A student with three or more unexcused absences cannot receive a passing grade for the course.** Examples of excused absences are illness, family emergency, official university activity. Lessons missed by the instructor will be made up at the convenience of both instructor and student.

\*Please note that attendance requirements also apply to any schedule rehearsals/coachings with your assigned accompanist.

1. **“Coffee” lessons**

I am well aware that you, as students today, have a great deal weighing on you and want to do what I can to create a healthy learning environment. I know that sometimes students will be so overwhelmed that studio teaching becomes counterproductive. With this in mind, once a semester, I am allowing for what I am calling a “coffee” lesson. If you find yourself overwhelmed to the point of being unable to work productively you may walk into your lesson and ask for a “coffee” lesson. At this point, we will use the lesson as an opportunity to discuss what difficulties you are having and attempt to develop a strategy to alleviate the challenge at hand. **“Coffee” lessons are only available once a semester.**

1. **Lesson reflections/rep background sheets**

Lesson reflections are due 24 hours after your lesson. For each song, you will complete a background sheet and turn it in before we work the song together.

1. **Performances/Voice Final**

Voice principals must sing on a departmental recital every semester. (Documented illness may be *considered* as an excuse for inability to perform at such events, in which case prior performances may be used for evaluation.) Voice minors may or may not perform on departmental recitals but must meet all other departmental performance standards. Failure to fulfill performance requirements will result in the lowering of your grade by one letter grade.

All applied voice students will present two songs from memory (via video) at the Voice Final.

1. **Studio Performance Lab**

Requirements for Studio Lab will be addressed in the Studio Lab syllabus. Your grade from Studio Class will be incorporated into your Applied Voice grade (see below).

1. **NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing)**

GA NATS will be held live November 3-4 at Reinhardt. The university will cover your entry fee.

1. **Grading Rubric**

60% Attendance Lesson/Preparation (attitude, assigned repertoire, Vaccai/Sieber)

Your lessons/performances will be graded using the following rubric on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the best).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Att.** | **Sightreading**  **(if applicable)** | **Prep.** | **Intonation** | **Musical**  **Accuracy** | **Breath**  **and Body** | **Diction** | **Expression** | **Avg.** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

10% Lesson reflection/background

5% Memorization deadlines

10% Studio Lab Grade

15% Jury

\*Please note that you cannot receive an A in this course unless you turn in every assignment.

1. **School of Performing Arts Music Learning Objectives**

1. Demonstrate the ability to understand and use the basic theoretical elements of music.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of musical genres and traditions in both Western and non-Western cultures.

3. Demonstrate the ability to perform at an advanced level on a major performance medium and with proficiency on secondary instruments, displaying an understanding of styles representative of specific composers and historical periods.

4. Demonstrate the ability to collaborate in applied lessons, ensemble rehearsals, and performances.

5. Demonstrate professionalism in the following areas: initiative, self-discipline, time-management, preparation, and pedagogy.

1. **Repertoire Expectations (2 credit hours)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| M. Ed/VP/ SM | Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
| Sophomore | 2 additional Vaccai  6-8 additional (min. 1 French, 1 Italian, 1 German) | 2 additional Vaccai (8 total)  6-8 additional selections multiple languages |
| Junior | Continue Vaccai(possible additions)  8 selections | Vaccai  8 selections (30 minute Junior  Recital, Performance Majors) |

**Those presenting recitals must provide translations to foreign-language art songs and brief program notes. Translations should be prepared before the hearing. Notes must be prepared one week before the recital performance. Additional guidelines will be provided on a separate document.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MT** | Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
| **Sophomore** | 6-8 songs (minimum 3 golden age) | same |
| **Junior** | 8 selections | 8 selections |
| A principle role in either an opera or musical theater production may be substituted for up to 2 jury selections. | | |
| \*MT majors must present entire audition book, along with headshot and résumé, at **final** fall jury. Cuts will be selected at random and presented to jury panel. | | |

**XVI. Participation in University Production**

* **Music Education** majors are strongly encouraged to participate in (performance or tech) either one musical theatre or opera production per academic year.
* **BA/Sacred music** majors are encouraged to participate in two musical theatre or opera production during their undergraduate studies.
* **Vocal performance majors (BA or BM) should plan on participating in every opera production**. If not cast in a role, participation in ensemble or crew is mandatory as determined by the director and/or musical director.
* **Musical theatre majors must audition for every musical theatre production**. Additional requirements determined by Theatre department.

1. **Conflict resolution**

If you have a conflict with any teacher on campus, first speak to the teacher about your concerns. It might be helpful to have this conversation with a witness or record the conversation. If no resolution can be reached, please email Dr. Tarrant with the details of your concern.

If the issue is of a sensitive nature, you may feel free to email Dr. Tarrant at the outset of the issue. Emails provide documentation. Documentation protects both student, faculty, and university. Please be sure to document problems with emails.

Campus Nurse within the Student Health Center nurse@reinhardt.edu, 770-720-5542 or www.reinhardt.edu/nurse.

Public Safety Non-Emergency Phone: 770.720.5789 Emergency Phone: 770.720.5911 publicsafety@reinhardt.edu

Dean of Students deanofstudents@reinhardt.edu, 770-720-5540

**Additional Information**

**Statement on Health and Safety Issues for All Musicians**

The Reinhardt University School of Performing Arts, per the standards of the National Association of Schools of Music, is required to inform students and faculty of health and safety issues, hazards, and procedures inherent in practice, performance, teaching, and listening both in general and as applicable to specific specializations. This includes, but is not limited to, information regarding hearing, vocal and musculoskeletal health, injury prevention, and the use, proper handling and operation of potentially dangerous materials, equipment, and technology. Please read and follow the guidelines linked on the School of Performing Arts webpage to maintain best practices for musicians’ health and safety concerns: <https://www.reinhardt.edu/academics/music/PDF/Reinhardt-Musician-Health-and-Safety.pdf>

The Center for Student Success

The Center for Student Success, located in room 035 of Lawson, offers free peer and faculty tutoring for all subjects. To make an appointment, go to Reinhardt's homepage and check on Academics and on the next screen, click The Center for Student Success. This next page enables you to see tutors and times available for each subject area. At the bottom of the left column, click on Student Appointment Form. Fill in all required fields, signaled by a red dot, and submit your request. Dr. Emanuel will contact you within the same day to confirm your appointment.

Disabilities

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

Students with diagnosed disabilities may contact the Academic Support Office (ASO) in the Lawson Building (5567) regarding the submission of required documentation and the arrangement of academic accommodation. Your professor may assist in making this contact.

Academic Dishonesty

Refer to the *Reinhardt College Academic Catalog*, 2012-2013, for a listing of unacceptable forms of academic behavior

## Health

Students are expected to maintain and practice healthy vocal habits. Discretion should be used at all times regarding voice use. Other proper speech habits, including optimum pitch level, should be maintained. Smoking, alcohol abuse and drug use, late-night habits, and other risky behaviors are also strongly discouraged.

### Civility

Students are expected to communicate in a civil manner in academic interactions at all times, both in and out of the classroom. This means that interactions are to be carried out in a polite, courteous, and dignified manner, which is respectful and understanding toward both peers and instructors. Unbiased and non-discriminatory actions that reflect the utmost respect for one another, regardless of race, gender, religion, disability, or sexual orientation are mandatory. Failure to behave in a civil manner may result in disciplinary actions.

### Electronic devices

**Please place all electronic devices not relevant to this class in the “Off” position.**

## Note of agreement and acceptance

This syllabus is an agreement between the instructor and student to provide mutually and completely a worthy learning experience. By remaining registered in this course, the student has recognized the obligations set forth in this syllabus for satisfactory completion of the course.

The above schedule and procedures are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.