

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

VOCAL AREA HANDBOOK

FOR
APPLIED VOICE
UNDERGRADUATE STUDY
MUS 212, 412

Compiled August, 2008

GUIDELINES FOR APPLIED VOICE

AUDITIONS:

An audition is required to register for all applied voice numbers. If you are a new student you must audition for placement in the program. Auditions are usually scheduled during the first week of each semester. Look for audition dates/times on the VOCAL AREA BULLETIN BOARD.

APPLIED VOICE COURSE NUMBERS:

2-4 credits = 50 minute lesson. 1 credit = 25 minute lesson.

MUS 212	Lower Division Applied Study (Freshman/Sophomore)
MUS 412	Upper Division Applied Study (Junior/Senior)

STUDIO AND COMBINED SEMINARS/AREA CONVOCATION:

Attendance and participation in Vocal Seminars and Convocation are required of all students registered for applied voice.

Area Convocations meet Tuesdays at 2:00.

Vocal Seminars meet Thursdays at 2:00.

See the VOCAL AREA BULLETIN BOARD for specific dates and locations.

Each student is required to perform in Combined Seminar or Area Convocation at least once per semester. See your instructor for assigned performance dates.

COMBINED SEMINAR FORMS for performance are available from your instructor and the area coordinator. It is the student's responsibility to complete all information on the form and have it signed by the applied instructor and the accompanist. Forms must be submitted to the area coordinator at least 24 hours in advance of the performance date. Priority will be given to students who have submitted the Combined Seminar Forms at the earliest date.

IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THEIR INSTRUCTOR TO SCHEDULE A LESSON TIME. THE DEADLINE FOR SCHEDULING A LESSON TIME IS THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES.

AN ACCOMPANIST WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EACH STUDENT BASED UPON AVAILABILITY AND THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY GUIDELINES:

1. Performance Majors
2. Music Education Majors
3. Music Business and Music Therapy
4. Minors and Electives

GUIDELINES FOR VOCAL JURIES

Each student registered for applied voice will be graded in a jury (final exam) by the attending voice faculty.

All repertoire must be memorized (with the possible exception of oratorio arias and chamber works). Each student is required to prepare and present in the jury the repertoire requirements listed in the Vocal Area Handbook.

Students are accountable for the repertoire performed with regard to composer, poem, style, and translation.

If a student is not prepared to present a piece requested by the jurors which appears on the repertoire list, the final grade will be lowered by one grade.

An unexcused absence from the final jury will result in failure of the applied credits. If a student is absent from their jury due to illness, a written doctor's excuse is required. An excused absence from a jury will result in a grade of "Incomplete". The incomplete will be removed from the student's record when the jury is completed within the first three weeks of the following semester.

Individual faculty jury grades are compiled and averaged with the instructor's studio grade. If there is a one-grade difference between the jury grade and the instructor's grade, the final grade is left to the instructor's discretion.

GUIDELINES FOR RECITALS

A RECITAL HEARING must be given for the voice faculty at least one month prior to the recital date. There are no exceptions to this policy. The recital repertoire must be typed and presented in a recital program format and copied for each faculty member. The entire recital program must be presented for performance at the recital hearing; the voice faculty will request selections from the complete recital repertoire. Written evaluations from each faculty member will be available to the student following the hearing. If the faculty finds the student to be insufficiently prepared to perform the recital, the recital hearing is not passed and the recital must be postponed.

TALENT GRANT RECIPIENTS

All Talent Grant Recipients are required to audition for all vocal area ensembles.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR MUSIC EDUCATION MAJORS

FRESHMAN, MUS 212

1st SEMESTER

5 Songs:

Instructor's choice; at least one foreign language.

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented.

2nd SEMESTER

5 Songs:

Instructor's choice; at least 2 foreign languages.

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented; must include a foreign language.

SOPHOMORE, MUS 212

1st SEMESTER

5 Songs:

2 pieces representing 2 different foreign languages.

1 20th/21st Century - English language.

2 Instructor's choice.

Jury Requirement: 4 songs presented.

2nd SEMESTER

Same as Sophomore 1st semester.

Jury Requirement: 5 songs presented.

JUNIOR, MUS 412

1st SEMESTER

6 Songs:

1 French

1 German

1 other foreign language represented

1 20th/21st Century - English language

2 Instructor's choice

Jury Requirement: 5 songs presented.

2nd SEMESTER

Same as Junior 1st Semester.

Jury Requirement: 6 songs presented.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR VOCAL PERFORMANCE MAJORS

FRESHMAN, MUS 212

1st SEMESTER

5 Songs:

Instructor's choice; at least one foreign language.

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented; must include a foreign language.

2nd SEMESTER

5 Songs:

Instructor's choice: at least 2 foreign languages.

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented; must include a foreign language.

SOPHOMORE, MUS 212

1st SEMESTER:

6 Songs:

1 Italian

2 German

1 Opera/Oratorio aria*

1 20th/21st Century art song – English language.

1 Instructor's choice

Jury Requirement: 5 songs presented.

2nd SEMESTER

6 Songs:

1 Italian

1 French

2 German

1 Opera/Oratorio aria*

1 20th/21st Century art song – English language.

Jury Requirement: 6 songs presented.

* Arias are not mandatory ; a song may be substituted at the instructor's discretion

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR VOCAL PERFORMANCE MAJORS (continued)

JUNIOR, MUS412

1st SEMESTER

8 Songs:

Instructor's choice, in preparation for the Junior Recital
Jury Requirement: 6 songs presented**

2nd SEMESTER

Instructor's choice, in preparation for the Junior Recital
Jury Requirement: 6 songs presented**

THE JUNIOR RECITAL MUST INCLUDE:

At least 2 foreign languages, one of which must be German or French.
A variety of styles and periods represented.

SENIOR, MUS412

SEMESTER 1 and 2

Instructor's choice, in preparation for the Senior Recital
Jury Requirement: 8 songs presented**

THE SENIOR RECITAL MUST INCLUDE:

20th/21st Century repertoire in English.
German, French, and at least one other foreign language.

**Jury Requirements must be met in the absence of a Recital Hearing

**A PERFORMED OPERA ROLE MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR UP TO 2 REQUIRED
REPERTOIRE PIECES AT THE DISCRETION OF THE VOICE FACULTY. THE ROLE MUST
BE SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL TO THE FACULTY PRIOR TO THE JURY.**

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR MUSIC BUSINESS and MUSIC THERAPY

FRESHMAN, MUS212

1st and 2nd SEMESTERS

5 Songs:

1 Classical piece (folk song, art song, etc.)

1 foreign language

3 Instructor's choice

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented; must include classical piece.

SOPHOMORE, MUS212

1ST and 2nd SEMESTERS

5 Songs:

1 Classical (folk song, art song, etc.)

1 Foreign language

1 20th/21st Century – English language

2 Instructor's choice

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented; must include classical piece.

JUNIOR, MUS412

1st and 2nd SEMESTERS

5 Songs:

1 Classical (folk song, art song, etc.)

1 Foreign language

1 20th/21st Century – English language

2 Instructor's choice

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented; must include foreign language.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR MINORS and ELECTIVES

2 CREDITS/50 MINUTE LESSON:

5 Songs:

2 Classical pieces (folk song, art song, etc.)

3 songs: Instructor's choice

Jury Requirement: 3 songs presented; must include classical piece.

1 CREDIT/25 MINUTE LESSON:

3 Songs:

1 Classical piece (folksong, art song, etc.)

2 songs: Instructor's choice

Jury Requirement: 2 songs presented; must include classical piece.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR BFA MUSICAL THEATRE APPLIED VOICE

MUS 212, 2 credit hours

A minimum of five songs will be learned during the course of the semester. These may be divided between pop/belt and classical/mix at the teacher's discretion, based upon the student's individual vocal needs.

No fewer than three songs are offered for the jury examination. The jury offerings must include at least one pop/belt and one classical/mix selection. A total of two songs will be performed in the jury: the first chosen by the student, the second selected by the voice faculty from the remaining choices.

MUS 212, 1 credit hour

A minimum of three songs will be learned during the course of the semester. These may be divided between pop/belt and classical/mix at the teacher's discretion, based upon the student's individual vocal needs.

No fewer than two songs are offered for the jury examination. Ideally the songs will include both pop/belt and classical/mix genres. A total of two songs will be performed in the jury.

MUS 412, 2 credit hours

A minimum of five songs will be learned during the course of the semester. These may be divided between pop/ belt and classical/mix at the teacher's discretion, based upon the student's individual vocal needs. One song will be a self-prepared piece in the genre of the student's choosing.

No fewer than five songs are offered for the jury examination. The jury offerings must include at least one pop/belt and one classical/mix selection. A total of three songs will be performed in the jury: the first chosen by the student, the second and third selected by the voice faculty from the remaining choices. The self-prepared piece WILL be performed in the jury.

MUS 412, 1 credit hour

A minimum of three songs will be learned during the course of the semester. These may be divided between pop/belt and classical/mix at the teacher's discretion, based upon the student's individual vocal needs. One song will be a self-prepared piece in the genre of the student's choosing.

No fewer than two songs are offered for the jury examination. The self-prepared piece WILL be performed in the jury. Ideally, the other song should be in the opposite genre from the self-prepared selection. A total of two songs will be performed in the jury.

REQUIREMENTS OF VOCAL DEVELOPMENT

<u>MUS 212</u>	<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>
TECHNIQUE/ TONE QUALITY	Progress toward: Resonance and Placement Lack of breathiness Purity of vowels Inside space Warmth	Continued progress: Resonance and Placement Relaxed Jaw Space and Relaxed throat Warmth	Continued progress in all elements plus increased consistency in vowel placement Released laryngeal position, relaxed throat, Proper balance of registration in accordance with style characteristics	Focused sound Correct vowel placement
INTONATION	Reasonably accurate within vocal limitations	Improvement	Improved	Consistent
BREATH SUPPORT	Progress toward: Low breath No extraneous movement Raised/expanded rib cage Good body position Quiet inhalation	Improvement	Improved	Consistent
MUSICIANSHIP:				
Tempo	Tempo in keeping with the intent of the composer but not an arbitrary marking at this level; deter- mined according to technical ability of the student.		Increased attention to the markings of the of the composer	
Rhythm	Accuracy is essential at all levels			
Dynamics	Not a crucial element at this level		Increased attention to dynamic contrasts; Ability to display “forte” and “piano”	
Style	Stylistic understanding with lack of “scooping” and “crooning” with clean onsets and releases		Increased understanding of varied styles of art song and arias	
PREPARATION	Crucial at all levels		Increased awareness and development of of performance discipline	
DICTION	Clarity in English and Italian	Clarity in German and French	Consistency in English and Italian with increasing consistency in French and German	
INTERPRETATION	No obvious extraneous movements, pacing, Swaying, etc. Correct body position and energized mind connected to the body. Overall portrayal of the general mood of the piece.		Increased consistency with more attention to delivery of the text and portrayal of the character.	

Upper Division students (having completed the Mid-Career and Assessment and registering for MUS 412) should display Continued development and progress in ALL areas outlined above.