# MUSIC 151, 251, 351: VOICE FOR APPLIED MAJORS COURSE SYLLABUS

# I. Structure of the Program

#### A: Lessons

Each voice or musical theater major receives one thirty minute private lesson per week from his or her principal voice instructor (Prof. Kurau or Prof. Floriano). The schedule of voice lessons is made up at the beginning of each semester, at which time you are also registered for voice credit by the School of Performing Arts.

# B: Coaching

All voice and musical theater majors will be scheduled for one thirty minute coaching session per week.

## C: Group Lessons

All voice and musical theater majors are scheduled for weekly fifty minute group lessons. The "group" comprises several other majors, their principal instructor, and the voice coach.

#### D: Seminar

Voice seminar meets weekly, on Friday from 2:30-3-45. All voice and musical theater majors are expected to attend and to participate on a regular basis. Attendance will be taken. Persistent absence or tardiness will result in a lowering of your final grade for voice.

## II. Requirements

#### A: Repertoire

- 1. Voice and musical theater majors at the 151 level are required to learn and memorize four songs per semester. These songs should be selected, with the assistance of voice teachers or coach, from the classical repertoire, and should be diverse in language and style, to ensure early acquisition of necessary linguistic and stylistic skills. For musical theater majors 2 of these songs may be from the Broadway repertoire.
- 2. All voice and musical theater majors enrolled at the 251 and 351 levels are required to learn and memorize six songs per semester. Again, there should be songs in a range of languages and styles representative of the great diversity of the art song and operatic repertoire. For musical theater majors, 2 of these songs must be from the classical repertoire. The use of duets and other small ensembles is encouraged, but limited to one piece per semester. All jury repertoire including ensembles must be approved by coach and voice instructor, and must be memorized. SEE ADDENDUM

3. There is no repertoire requirement at the 399 level. However, recital repertoire should reflect the technical work and repertoire style of previous semesters, and all recital repertoire must be approved by both coach/accompanist and voice teacher.

## B: Performance

- 1. All voice majors are required to give at least one public performance per semester. The primary venue for these performances is the Friday Afternoon Recital, which takes place on selected Fridays at 4:00 in Sturges or Wadsworth Auditorium. Performance in some other public, faculty-sponsored event can be substituted for the Friday Afternoon Recital at the discretion of the principal instructor. Failure to complete this requirement will result in the lowering of your voice grade by one letter grade level.
- 2. All voices majors are required to give at least two public performances: a half recital given in the junior year, and a full recital given in the senior year.

All musical theater majors are encouraged to do a Junior Recital, and are required to do a Senior Performance Project, which can be a solo performance or a Musical Theater production.

- a: The repertoire performed on both the Junior and Senior vocal performance recitals will be chosen with consultation of both the studio teacher and the vocal coach. The repertoire will be primarily art songs, with one aria from either opera or oratorio allowed on the Junior recital, and two arias possible on the Senior recital. There must be at least two foreign languages represented in the Junior recital repertoire, and at least three foreign languages represented in the Senior recital. The goal will be to build up a student's repertoire during the first five semesters of study, so that much of the recital can be chosen from music learned in the earlier semesters.
- b: In general, there will be approximately 30 minutes of music prepared for the Junior recital, and approximately 60 minutes of music for the Senior recital. This repertoire should represent the musical styles contained within the student's years of vocal study at Geneseo. It should be primarily classical in nature, with occasional approved allowances for repertoire from musical theater or other genres.
- c: Recitals are scheduled in consultation with the applied faculty, by reserving a recital time on the SOTA concert calendar. The scheduling of recitals is handled by selecting a date in consultation with SOTA secretary.
- d: All junior and senior voice recitals must pass a recital jury; that is, a trial run of all or part of the recital program for the voice faculty. The jury must be scheduled by the student, to take place not less than one week before the performance date. In this jury the singer should be able to sing the entire program by memory. Failure to pass the recital jury will mean postponement of the recital to a later date.

# III. Assessment

#### A. Lesson and Coaching Grades

At the end of each semester each major will receive grades from the principal voice instructor and the voice coach. These grades are based on the observation of work in lessons, coaching sessions, group, and seminar, over the span of the semester. In essence, all majors start off with an A. There are a number of factors which will cause that A to be lowered, among them persistent absence or tardiness, failure to devote sufficient time to outside practice, as evidenced by coming to lessons unprepared, failure to achieve satisfactory technical or artistic progress. The grade given by voice instructors is necessarily subjective; it is the work that you do from day to day which will allow you to retain an A.

## **B:** Voice Juries

All majors except those enrolled in Music 399: Senior Recital or Senior Performance Project are required to sing a voice jury at the end of each semester. Voice juries take place on during exam week in Wadsworth Auditorium, and are, in effect, your final exam for the semester.

#### C: Final Grade

The final grade for the semester is computed as follows:

33.3% Lesson Grade, given by principal instructor

33.3% Coaching Grade, given by voice coach

33.4% Jury Grade, given by jury of faculty members

Note that the grade resulting from this average will be lowered one full letter grade (that is, A to B, B- to C-, etc.) if you have not met the performance requirement outlined above (see II. B: 1.).

## D: Senior Recital Grades

Grades for Music 399:Senior Recital will be given by the principal voice instructor in consultation with the voice coach.