

APPLIED VOICE (Voice Majors)

MUAP 1262-001, 2262-001

SPRING 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

<i>Instructor</i>	<i>Office Location</i>	<i>Office Hours</i>
Annie Nichols	Levelland Campus	TBD
Instructor of Fine Arts	C. DeVitt Fine Arts Center, 144	<i>*I'll update once lesson times are finalized</i>
<i>E-Mail</i>	<i>Phone</i>	
anichols@southplainscollege.edu	(806)716-2892	

COURSE CONTENT

Through this individualized introductory course of study, the student will meet once a week with the instructor for a voice lesson to learn proper vocal and physical warm-ups, learn more about proper singing technique, as well as receive assistance in performance skills and etiquette.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Perform a minimum of four to six vocal pieces memorized, dependent on the semester
- Interpret the learned and memorized repertoire with correct technique and style
- Judge and use the proper amount of practice time required to master literature
- Understand the basics of proper singing
- Build the fundamental foundation of long-lasting vocal technique
- Gain confidence and trust in their musical ability and artistry
- Gain proper knowledge and the ability to intelligently discuss repertoire and composers
- Develop confidence in performance practice before their peers
- Develop an understanding of the human condition and human cultures, especially in relation to behaviors, ideas, and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought
- Demonstrate the ability to sight read at a level of skill relevant to professional standards for the particular music concentration
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the pedagogy of their performance medium

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Performance of 4-6 vocal pieces, memorized, depending on the course level
- Preparation demonstration at weekly voice lessons
- A final solo jury exam or barrier at the end of the semester
- Participation in the Vocal Ensemble of the Fine Arts Department

GRADING

Grade Scale

A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 F: 0-59

Grading Breakdown

30% Learning Outcomes
20% Participation
20% Jury/Barrier
20% Portfolio (Sophomores) or Repertoire Sheets and Practice Journals (Freshman)
10% Recital Attendance

HYBRID LESSONS

Due to the high risk of aerosol transmission during singing (even with masks), voice lessons will primarily be online this semester. However, there are a couple of rooms available that could allow us to properly social distance for some face-to-face meetings. This will be dependent on the scheduling of other private lessons as well as the scheduling of ensemble rehearsals, so the availability of these spaces is minimal. I am hoping to meet face to face at least twice a month, and once it is safe, hopefully we can meet face to face every week.

When meeting face to face:

- I will be in touch each week to let you know if we will be able to meet face to face.
- Make sure you have your mask. You will need to wear a mask while singing unless COVID protocol changes.
- Bring your music (or a device you can view your music on)
- Bring water

Here are instructions for online lessons:

1. Go to zoom.us.
2. Download Zoom prior to your lesson. (You do not need to create an account)
3. I will e-mail each of you an individual link for your lesson time. When it is time for your lesson, click the link. You may be automatically sent to a "waiting room". This means I am in another lesson or meeting. I will let you in to your lesson time when I finish.
4. Each voice lesson link will be a "recurring" meeting, meaning that your link should work every week at your lesson time. If that doesn't work, I will send you a new link each week.
5. For the best audio quality, (if possible) please download the Google Chrome browser. You can find it here:
https://www.google.com/chrome/?brand=CHBF&ds_kid=43700052787081806&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=1008138%20%7C%20Chrome%20Win10%20%7C%20DR%20%7C%20ESS01%20%7C%20NA%20%7C%20US%20%7C%20en%20%7C%20Desk%20%7C%20Bing%20SEM%20%7C%20BKWS%20~%20E
6. At your lesson time, check your SPC e-mail for an e-mail from "Cleanfeed". The subject line will typically be "Your Cleanfeed Pass".
7. Click the green button to connect. This will open the audio for your lesson in Google Chrome. If Google Chrome is not your default browser, you may be asked to copy the link into Chrome.
8. Click on the green "start" button
9. Make sure you have the correct microphone as your audio source by clicking on the wheel icon in the upper right portion of the window and selecting your microphone in the dropdown menu.

10. Join the Zoom meeting for your lesson as normal
11. Click "Mute" in the lower left corner of Zoom
12. We are ready for your lesson!

*If you are unable to use Cleanfeed, don't worry! Zoom has some audio settings we can change for the best voice lesson experience.

Some tips to make the most out of our online voice lessons:

- **If possible, wear headphones during your lesson.** This will decrease lag time.
- Try to be directly plugged in or as close to your Internet Router as possible for your lesson to help with connection.
- If you have one, use an external microphone as it will improve the sound quality. No stress if you don't have one, it is not required.
- We will need to try our best not to sing or talk at the same time. This will cause the most lag.
- Make sure you talk with your household about when and where your lesson will be. You need to be in a place where you can sing with 100% of your voice without disruptions. Please find a room where you can sing with out and not be shy. This will make the most of our lessons.
- You do not need a piano or keyboard, but you may need a second device to play audio tracks. I will send you recordings via e-mail of warm-ups and accompaniment tracks. You will play them and sing along to them so that I can help you with timing and pitch without having to worry about lag.
- It would be nice to have 2 separate devices for lessons: something to use zoom on and something to play the tracks with. If you only have one device, we will make it work!
- Have everything you normally would have at your lesson time
 - Music
 - Pencil
 - Water

ATTENDANCE AND PREPARATION

Since attendance is not a portion of your overall grade due to the Covid-19 pandemic, practice and communication are key to being successful in lessons. If you are ill or there is an emergency, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor before your scheduled lesson time. In order for the lesson to be made up, you must provide proper proof/documentation of the reason for your absence (i.e. a doctor's note, a letter from professors for school activities, etc.). If the absence is unexcused or the student has not displayed proper documentation, the lesson will not be made up. If a student has not attended their lesson and not contacted the instructor for 3 weeks, the student may be administratively dropped from the course.

If you test positive for Covid-19, you must contact DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at (806)716-2376 or dedens@southplainscollege.edu. If you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, contact Nurse Edens. If you have more questions regarding South Plains College's Covid-19 response, please visit <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/covid19-faq.php>.

END OF SEMESTER RECITAL

At the end of the semester, voice majors and non-voice majors have the option of taking part in Voice Studio Recital. More details will be shared at a later date once I know if it needs to be virtual or not. Students are not obligated to take part in the Recital, but it is a great way to share a song or two that you have worked on over the semester.

JURIES

A final jury exam or barrier will be conducted for all voice majors at the end of the semester by the voice faculty. Juries consist of two portions:

- Performance of one piece selected by student
- Performance of one piece selected at random by faculty

Please take care to observe the following for jury exams:

- Arrive at least 15 minutes early, warmed up and ready to sing. Be prepared to be flexible with your assigned time
- Dress appropriately, as for an audition or interview
- Bring ALL prepared music, as the faculty may wish to hear any piece listed
- Music must be memorized unless otherwise approved by the teacher
- The accompanist is the student's responsibility. **Schedule your jury time with your accompanist.**
- **Failure to show up to your jury will result in an "F" grade for the semester.** An "incomplete" will be given if a documented illness is discussed and approved by the instructor PRIOR to the student's scheduled jury time
- An "incomplete" should be made up during the first two weeks of the following semester

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Binder (some of this material may be submitted online due to COVID 19 protocols): You will keep a binder that will be graded throughout the semester. It should include the following:
 - Copies of repertoire
 - Repertoire Sheets
 - Practice Journal
 - Vaccai Exercises (unless you have the Vaccai book)
 - Repertoire List (unless the instructor keeps it)
- Pencil
- Optional: Recording Device (Recording lessons is a very helpful practice resource)

REPERTOIRE SHEETS

Students will research their assigned pieces and create repertoire sheets for each piece. Rep sheets can be turned in via Blackboard. (You should keep printed copies in your binder as well)

Repertoire sheets are to include:

- Name of piece
- Name of larger work (if applicable)
- Composer
- Composer Dates

- When the piece was written
- English translation (if applicable)
 - This should be a TRUE translation of the piece, not the English lyrics adapted for the music.
- Your interpretation of the song
- If the piece is from an opera, operetta, or musical, give a synopsis of the show and a description of what is happening during the song. Include characters and important plot points.

PRACTICE JOURNAL

Students will keep a detailed practice journal of their practice time throughout the semester. Practice Journals should be submitted each Sunday by 11:59pm. Practice journals should include the following for each practice time:

- Date
- Time (Start and End time)
- Description of type of vocal practice, including but not limited to:
 - Warm Ups/Technical Work
 - Breathing Exercises (Lip buzzes, lip trills, straw exercises, etc.)
 - Diction/Language Work
 - Memorization
 - Learning/Practicing Pitches
 - Dynamics
 - Performance/Expression
 - Study on the historical context of the piece and/or composer and/or larger work
 - Listening/Watching other performances
- If you did not practice, it is better to turn something in saying you did not practice. However, as a Voice Major you should be practicing at least 1 hour a day. Practice does not always mean singing through repertoire. See the description above for more ways to practice.

STUDENT RECITAL PERFORMANCE AND ATTENDANCE

All of the Music students at South Plains College meet periodically throughout the year at 4pm in the Recital Hall for a student recital. Attendance for Student Recitals is **mandatory**. One meeting is a general meeting at the beginning of the semester where students receive important information. The other meetings are Student Recitals. These are opportunities for you to perform your solo repertoire in a recital setting.

Music majors receive one performance opportunity per semester for the Student Recital which keeps about a limited number (10) of performers at every recital. If you plan to perform on a specific date, you should submit a student recital application form in advance upon the decision of performance date with your studio professor and pianist.

STUDENT RECITAL/JURY ATTIRE

- Men: Slacks or Khakis (No jeans); shirt with collar (button down preferred); belt; dress shoes (no tennis shoes or flip flops); tie and/or jacket are optional
- Women:

- Dresses that cover the shoulders hit at least knee length
- Blouse/top that covers the shoulders with slacks (no jeans) or skirt that is at least knee length
- Pant Suit or Suit Dress
- Hose/tights preferred
- Shoes: Dressy Flats or Heels no higher than 3 inches

STUDENT CONDUCT

○ CLASSROOM CONDUCT

- Failure to comply with lawful discretion of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course. Please refer to the student handbook for further rules and regulations on student conduct.
- **CELL PHONES:** Cell phones should be silenced and stored away during voice lessons, **unless being used for recording for practice purposes**. If there is an emergency that you need access to your phone, please discuss with the instructor prior to your lesson time

○ ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.
- **CHEATING:** Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of coursework. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.
- **PLAGIARISM:** Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity

and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

TITLE IX PREGNANCY ACCOMMODATIONS STATEMENT

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

Texas Senate Bill – 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Note: The syllabus presented above is subject to revision. Any revisions that are made will be emailed to the class roster in a timely manner by the instructor.