

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL & WINTER 2022-23

MU1250VA (YA2): Applied Music I (Voice) – 6 (2-0-0) 60 Hours for 30 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: John Murray **PHONE:** (780) 539-2812
OFFICE: L-118 **E-MAIL:** jmurray@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS: As posted on my office door and by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: Private study of voice or your principal instrument. This is a two-term course offered over fall/winter terms. It is identifiable in the Schedule of Courses (Timetable) with a Part A and a Part B. Students must register in both the Part A and the Part B of all types of sections offered (sections, labs, seminars, etc.) for this course.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Royal Conservatory Level 8 Theory, Conservatory Canada Gr.4, or MU1000 or successful completion of a music theory placement exam. Corequisite: MU1400 is required for all Bachelor of Arts music majors/minors.

SUGGESTED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Twenty Six Italian Songs and Arias by John Glenn Paton (Alfred Publishing). Please see instructor before purchasing material for clarification of voice type/category.

Students may be required to purchase other music throughout the year for personal study as required. Please bring a pencil(s), eraser, manuscript paper, and a ruler to all scheduled classes. They may be purchased through Long & McQuade in Grande Prairie.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESOURCES:

The music library at NWP has many musical resources for students, so please take advantage of this. You can request access from the course instructor.

1. Miller, Richard. *Solutions for Singer: Tools for Performers and Teachers*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

2. Julia Davids, Stephen LaTour. *Vocal Technique: A Guide for Conductors, Teachers and Singers*. Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press, 2012.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Studio Lesson and Masterclass

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Applied Music I will enable students with the building blocks of vocal technique. It is designed to give students the necessary skills, training, and practical performance experience to develop their voice and abilities. Students will have an opportunity to study repertoire from the Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic/Classical, and Contemporary periods ranging in styles and genres. Students will grow in their knowledge and technique of their instruments, learning how to adjust for different styles when applicable.

Students receive a one-hour lesson each week. Participation and Attendance in weekly Masterclass is a mandatory requirement as well as regular practice of assigned repertoire and vocal exercises (minimum 4-5 hours per week).

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completing this course, students will:

- Develop the building blocks of vocal technique including but not limited to posture, breath support, diction, and resonance
- Develop skills related to vowel formation in singing and how to apply this in different languages for singing, and in different styles and genres when applicable
- Develop an individual practice plan that works for their schedule and practice habits, with the help of the instructor
- Development of pronunciation in the main sung languages: Italian, English, French and German
- Develop in their ability to perform music artistically and sensitively and work with an accompanist

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Ongoing Evaluation in weekly lessons (personal practice and masterclass)	50%
Visitor in the Arts attendance	5%
Juried Recital Performance(s)	5%
Final Jury (April)	30%
Fall Semester Listening Assignment	5%
Oral Presentation (April)	5%

Students will be evaluated on all lessons, masterclasses and performances to assess their artistic and musical growth. There will be a final assessment (jury) at the end of the school year (date TBA).

Developing a personal practice plan is essential to success in this course. It is the students' responsibility to come to lessons prepared and ready to work.

Students are required to attend 10 professional Fine Arts Department events throughout the year as well as attend all *Visitor in the Arts* or *Concert Series* productions and may also attend high level productions outside of school for this component. Please have a copy of each program and a list of the events attended to submit for 5% of your final grade at the final lesson of the year.

The **Listening Assignment** is a written assignment that will be due at the end of the first semester in the students last voice lesson or masterclass. With suggestions from the instructor, students will listen to three different recordings by different artists of one of the pieces they are working on. Please submit a 2-page report, double-spaced outlining some of the similarities and differences that you hear in interpretation. Are there elements from their performance that you like and could apply in your own interpretation? What do you think of their use of the “building blocks” of singing? Do you like their performance? What specifically is successful or unsuccessful in their performance?

The **Oral Presentation** portion of this course will be a 10–15-minute presentation that will take place in one of the final Masterclasses. Students have two options for this presentation:

- A. Students will be required to think of a topic related to voice performance or pedagogy that they either are curious to know more about or are personally struggling with (talk to the instructor if you need ideas). Students will use online journals (*Journal of Singing*) to research this topic and must source three articles that reference their topic. In the presentation students will share what they have learned with the class. There is no written submission required, however a bibliography of the sources used must be submitted on the day of the presentation. This assignment is due at the end of the academic year.
- B. Students can observe someone in the local music community (a voice teacher, music therapist, recording engineer, choral conductor etc...) and present on what they learned from this observation assignment. The course instructor will guide you with questions to ask and things to look for depending on the line of work chosen.

GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Will include weekly lessons at a mutually agreeable time, weekly masterclass (Thursdays, 2:30-3:20 pm in L106)), and final juries in April (date and time TBA).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Students are responsible for their class attendance as it is mandatory for the development of learning concepts in this course. Please notify the Professor by email if you are unable to attend the class, a doctor's note may be requested. Please review the NWP policies pertaining to academics, absence, and student responsibilities. Students must attend all scheduled lessons and masterclasses.

Studio policy applicable to all students:

1. Come warmed up for all classes. Be sure you have sung earlier in the day.
2. Be on time for all lessons and masterclasses.
3. Hydrate, and do your best to live a healthy lifestyle as this will help your instrument.
4. Learn your notes, words, and rhythms outside of the lesson time.
5. Students will practice 4-5 hours weekly at a minimum.
6. Aim to memorize your music promptly. Ask the instructor for help with this if needed.
7. Students are expected to work with the studio accompanist outside of lesson, masterclass, and recital times. These sessions will be at the expense of the student.
8. Participation in Masterclasses is mandatory for all Applied students every 3-4 weeks, as scheduled. Students will be memorized and prepared for these classes.
9. Students will give the instructor (or accompanist if meeting for a rehearsal) as much notice as possible if they are unable to attend a class for any reason.
10. Students may be required to do short listening assignments throughout the semester as assigned by the instructor.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.