

MU 414

Instructor: Professor Janise White
Office: Fine Arts Complex Room 300
Office Hours: M/W 11-12noon;
Classroom: FA 103
Telephone: (310)287-4548
E-mail: whitejan@wla.edu
Textbooks: Gabriel Faure 50 Songs Edited by Ward and Walters
Functional Lessons in Singing by Trusler and Ehret
Schirmer Opera Anthology
Supplies: Textbook & CD Player.
Units: 2 Units UC:CSU Transferable

Music 414 emphasizes the study of French Diction, French Songs and French Arias. The student will receive instruction in French Diction rules unique to singing including elisions and appropriate balance of nasal resonance. The objective is to develop skilled technique so as to maintain an excellent tone and the ring of the words without glottis, abdominal or diaphragmatic attacks. Assignments from the French repertoire will be studied throughout the semester as listed on the syllabus. Approximately four songs will be assigned during the semester. Student assignments are performed in the class on a weekly basis during the three hour class session. Throughout the semester, students will receive instructions pertinent to the growth and development of vocal skills including: respiration, phonation, intonation, resonance, appoggio technique, messa di voce, staccato, agility, interpretation, expression, vowel modification and diction.

In order to successfully navigate the course, the staff accompanist accommodates students by offering weekly rehearsal sessions. Students may make appointments to rehearse assigned repertoire with the staff accompanist during the day or between 6 to 6:30pm prior to the class meeting. The instructor is also available by appointment during Office Hours to meet with the student to address any vocal problems or concerns. Students must record no less than 11 rehearsals with the staff accompanist during the semester. Additionally, each student is advised to rehearse one hour daily for the development of the vocal apparatus. Accompaniment compact disc recordings provided by the publisher or recordings by stellar artists will assist the student in private rehearsals. Carefully prepare assigned vocal selections during daily rehearsals, giving special attention to breath control, intonation, diction, phrasing, articulation and expression. With the support of staff and regular mandatory attendance, the student will quickly develop vocal skills suitable for public performances as a soloist or chorus member.

Weekly student class performances are mandatory. The student will be graded on the overall performance preparation and delivery of each song assigned. In addition to weekly Voice Class performances, the student is required to participate in a Voice Concert Report Activity. The purpose of the Voice Concert Report Activity is twofold: (1) It is beneficial for the student to ascertain from the spectator's position the singer's performance skill and vocal technique for inspiration and artistic development; (2) It is a fulfillment of the Critical Thinking General Education requirement.

Voice Concert Report Guidelines: One two-page concert report will be due by the Final Exam and is to be submitted to the instructor on that due date. You are required to detail the concert featuring a vocalist in the following manner:

1. Simply list the performers names, along with a condensed summary highlighting the artists' training, performance history and major accomplishments;
2. List the repertoire performed.
3. Give the title and a brief description of your most enjoyable composition on the program.
4. Critique the entire concert in terms of the quality of the performance.
5. Attach a program indicating the date and location of the concert.

Opera Companies to attend:

Los Angeles Opera; Long Beach Opera; Burbank Civic Light Opera; Opera UCLA;

Midterm and Final Exam performances may be performed from memory or with music. The Final Exam may consist of a Musical or Operetta in which student participation is mandatory. To obtain a passing grade, the student must maintain regular attendance, class participation, submit one Voice Concert Report and perform for the class during the Midterm and Final Exams.

Courtesy Rule: Students will be requested to reserve judgement on all performances to the discretion of the instructor. In accordance with the Student Conduct Code, any student with inappropriate behavior will be referred to the Administration for suspension or permanent expulsion from the class.

ATTENDANCE:

Students' attendance for the full three hour class session is mandatory. In the event of an absence, the student should contact the instructor by email. Three or more unexcused absences will result in exclusion from the class roster.

EVALUATION METHODS AND GRADING CRITERIA:

Each student may earn up to 10 points for each class performance. Each of the completed assignments is worth 25 points each. The Midterm and Final Exams are worth 50 points. All assignments must be completed by the final class meeting or an F grade will be given. Incomplete grades will only be issued in unmitigating circumstances following a consultation with the student.

Practice Card, Daily Assignments & Completed Assignments:	50%
Concert Report, Midterm Exam & Final Exam	+ 50%
Total Point Score=Grade	100%

Grade Distribution:

A	90 - 100%
B	80 - 89%
C	70 - 79%
D	60 - 69%
F	50 - 0%

EXAMINATION CALENDAR

MIDTERM EXAM – Tuesday, October 22, 2013

FINAL EXAM – Tuesday, December 10, 2013

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Labor Day.....Monday, September 2, 2013

Veteran's Day.....Monday, November 11, 2013

Thanksgiving Day.....Thursday, November 28-Dec 1, 2013

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
VOICE IV-414

QUANTITATIVE REASONING

INTERPRETATION AND IDENTIFICATION

Vocal Anatomy

Vocal Tract

Diaphragm

Intercostal Muscles

Resonating Cavities

Epigastrium

Music Literacy

Clef Notation

Music Symbols

Dynamics

Time Signatures

Rhythmic Notation

Solmization

Sight Singing

Major Scales

Minor Scales

Intervals

Major, Minor, Augmented, Diminished

TECHNICAL COMPETENCE

French Diction

Vowel Modification

Aspiration

Expanded Tessitura

Blended Register

Appoggio Technique

Agility, Ornaments, Portamento

Conjunct and Disjunct Vocalises

Song Interpretation

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

French Chanson

French Operatic Arias

MU 414	Assignments: Textbooks: Functional Lessons In Singing (FLS) Gabriel Faure 50 Songs (Faure)
Week 1	French Diction Mixed Vowels Enya Final mutes Glide
Week 2	En Priere by Faure (Faure)
Week 3	En Priere by Faure (Faure)
Week 4	Complete: En Priere by Faure (Faure)
Week 5	Mandoline by Faure p. 166 (Faure)
Week 6	Mandoline by Faure p. 166 (Faure)
Week 7	Complete: Mandoline by Faure p. 166 Midterm Selection
Week 8	MIDTERM EXAM
Week 9	Select one or more French Arias from the Opera Anthology Textbook Chanson d'amour by Faure p. 103 (Faure)
Week 10	Chanson d'amour by Faure p. 103 (Faure)
Week 11	Complete: Chanson d'amour
Week 12	Beau Soir by Debussy p. 217 (FLS)
Week 13	Beau Soir by Debussy p. 217 (FLS)
Week 14	Complete: Beau Soir
Week 15	Dress Rehearsal Final Exam Selection (One aria and French Song)
Week 16	Voice Concert Report Due FINAL EXAM (One aria and French Song)