

Dr. Todd Wieczorek

Assistant Professor of Music
Western University
Don Wright Faculty of Music
London, Ontario CANADA N6A 3K7
Phone: (519) 661-2111 ext. 85398
Cell: 226-927-8476
E-mail: twieczor@uwo.ca

STUDIO VOICE SYLLABUS

Course Objectives

- To develop a personalized regimen of vocal exercises for warm-ups and technical mastery which, in turn, fosters a superior vocal technique
- To cultivate independence, confidence, and personal initiative in practice, performance, and vocal repertoire selection
- To further develop musicianship, musicality, and personal stylistic intuition
- To raise an awareness of proper vocal hygiene
- To continue fostering a genuine enjoyment of singing.

Course Prerequisites

Course numbers and prerequisites for applied lessons are dictated by the Music Performance Studies area in the Don Wright Faculty of Music at Western University.

Course Content

- Students registered in any of the following applied courses receive 24 lessons of 50 minutes each, normally 12 per term: 1920, 1925, 2920, 2921, 2925, 3920, 3921, 3925, 4920, 4921, and 4925. Students registered in 3924y or 4934y receive 12 hours of lessons, spread throughout the year.
- Performance majors and Artist Diploma students registered in one of the following courses also receive an additional 24 lessons of 25 minutes each, oriented toward recital requirements: 3926, 4923, and 4926. These lessons might be scheduled concurrently with the regular weekly lesson for a total of 75 minutes per week.
- Graduate students in the MMus Literature and Performance program receive 48 lessons, spread over 4 terms, normally 12 lessons per term. DMA Vocal students will receive 12 lessons per term of study in the various course numbers assigned, commencing with 9801a. Requirements for DMA students outside of the voice area will be discussed with the MPS Chair and Advisory Committee Chair

The first portion of the lesson will be devoted to the development of a personalized regimen of vocal exercises for warming up and technical mastery. Time will be focused on the establishment and reinforcement of positive and healthy singing reflexes through a series of short and intensive exercises. The remainder of the lesson will be devoted to repertoire. Technical and musical mastery will be achieved through singing of vocal repertoire suited to the level and voice type of each student.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to record their assigned exercises and repertoire in a *notebook*, which they must bring to each lesson. In addition, it is strongly recommended that each lesson should be recorded. Students are required to practice daily. *“In preparing for juries or recitals, students should pace their practicing carefully, doing regular amounts every day. Practicing, like any other physical activity, requires fitness and a daily routine; students who cram in many hours of practice in panic preparation for a coming examination and who have not been practicing regularly throughout the year, run the risk of physical injury, and possible serious interruption of their Applied courses.”* – MPS Handbook

Students are responsible for obtaining any assigned music by the following lesson, as well as completing a translation and an IPA transcription in a timely manner. Students must run their repertoire with their accompanist prior to their lesson.

Students are expected to check e-mail regularly and respond in a timely manner.

Performance Class will take place consistently during the semester. Unless noted in the Voice Handbook, students are required to attend and participate. A tentative schedule will be provided at the beginning of the year, and students should sing on their assigned dates. **Please memorize the music to be sung for master class if it is common practice to do so.**

A Studio Recital will be given each semester. Dates and locations TBD.

Students should take advantage of the Voice Fridays series organized by the Voice Area. This will occur on Fridays at 1:30pm. Although not officially required, this series offers great insight into many aspects of singing and will greatly enhance the studio experience. All students are strongly encouraged to attend.

Students are responsible for acquainting themselves, via the website, with Jury Requirements, as well as information contained in the Music Performance Studies Handbook. These two documents together as well as this syllabus comprise the course outline for the Applied Music Instruction and students must receive the course outline during the first week of class. The Music Performance Studies Handbook and the Jury Requirements for each instrument are posted on the Faculty of Music website. Please refer to the last page of the syllabus for these links.

Lesson Times

After the lesson times have been arranged, the time will be changed/rescheduled only to mutually convenient times.

Cancellations

1. If you are unable to attend a scheduled lesson time, you must contact me via text (226-927-8476) or e-mail the morning prior to your lesson time. The sooner I know, the greater chance of rescheduling your lesson
2. If you wake up and are ill, have no voice, or have a sore throat that is not allergy related on a lesson/master class performance day, please contact me to determine our next steps.
3. Under no circumstance will a note on the professor's door be accepted as proper cancellation procedure.
4. All lessons that have been cancelled according to one of the proper procedures may be made up at mutually convenient times.
5. To ensure lessons are not missed, attempt to trade lesson times with a studio “buddy” if you know you will be unavailable for a scheduled lesson
6. Lessons that I must cancel will be made up at a mutually convenient time.

Tardiness

1. The student is expected to arrive on time for each lesson, as this directly impacts the productivity of a lesson. No tardiness will be made up at the end of the regular lesson time.
2. If I am not present at the beginning of the lesson time, please wait for 15 minutes if you have not been contacted by text message. Any missed time will be made up at a mutually convenient time. I will be in contact either by text or email to reschedule the missed time.

Accompanists

1. You are responsible for retaining the services of an accompanist.

2. Accompanists should come to the agreed repertoire portion of the lesson
3. You are responsible for communicating master class performance dates and studio recital dates with your accompanist

Grading

Course Number	Jury Mark	Performance Class	Studio Instructor
M1920, M2920, M2921, M3920, M3922, M4920	25%	10%	65% (Term I & II)
M3921, M4921, M4922, M4923	20%	10%	70% (Term I & II)
M1924, M2925, M3925, M4925, M3924y, M4924y	25%	N/A	75% (Term I & II)

Grading Scale: Undergraduate

A+=100-90% A=89-80% B=79-70%, C=69-60%, D=59-50%, F=49-0%

Grading Scale: Undergraduate: MMus/DMA

A=100-80% B=79-70%, C=69-60%, D=59-50%, F=49-0%

Studio marks will consist of weekly in-lesson evaluations on the assigned materials (exercises and repertoire – see above Course Requirements), and in-lesson attitude, and completion of the recital card.

ACADEMIC CONSIDERATION FOR STUDENT ABSENCE AND MISSING WORK (≥10%): Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. Academic Consideration provides students with consistent, fair, and pedagogically appropriate consideration, without compromising the academic integrity of the course or program, when they have been unable to complete some component of a course due to short-term extenuating circumstances. Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions (physical or mental) that may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities are directed to seek Academic Accommodation through Accessible Education ([Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)).

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the end of the period of absence covered, to the Academic Counselling unit or Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), of the student's Home Faculty together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the academic consideration being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate Policy on Academic Consideration for Medical Illness at the following website for further details regarding various requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration.pdf

Whenever possible, students who require academic consideration should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

ACADEMIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR MISSING WORK (<10%): In cases where students miss work that is worth less than 10% of the total course grade (i.e. two or fewer assignments) due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean's office and the Associate Dean grants an accommodation, then the missed assignment(s) or quiz(zes) will be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not voluntarily submitted then the missed assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean's office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.

The Graduate Program in Music recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by illness or injury. To ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's course grade shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the office of the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies), not to the course instructor.

ACADEMIC OFFENCES: Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

<http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

CONTINGENCY PLAN: Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS

MPS Student Handbook:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html>

Undergraduate Jury and Recital Requirements:

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/juryRequirements/VOICE%20jury%20requirements.pdf>

Credit Recital Requirements:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/credit-recitals.html>

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