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MUSI 111A.01: Singing for Non-Majors

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Singing for Non-Majors

MUSI 111A (2 credits)

University of Montana

School of Music

Fall 2014

Instructor: Courtney Gammill, Graduate Teaching Assistant

Email: courtney.gammill@umontana.edu

Office: #11 (in the basement)

Office Hours: By appointment

Class Time and Location: MWF 11:10-12:00, Music 205

Final: 8:00-10:00am on Friday, December 12

Required text and materials:

- *The Singing Book, 3rd Edition* - Meribeth Dayme & Cynthia Vaughn (ISBN 978-0-393-92025-3)
- Small notebook (9.5"x6" or 8"x5")

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the skills that enable and enhance artistic singing. As a group students will work to understand and exercise good tone production, musicality, and performance skills with a baseline of musical knowledge.

Course Goals:

- To build musicianship skills and confidence in performance
- To establish a vocabulary for discussing singing
- To document your progress as a vocalist

Course Objectives:

- Discuss how the voice works
- Understand singing basics (i.e. posture, breathing, etc.)
- Sing in groups, as well as alone
- Discover strategies for learning a new song

Assignments:

- Homework
- Preparation of assigned repertoire.
 - Students will be assigned three pieces throughout the semester. The first two will be learned as a group. The third song will be performed as a solo and must be memorized. You may pick any song from the textbook. Your song choice must be approved by the instructor. **This performance will be your final.**

- Critique of a live performance.
 - Students are required to attend one of the approved vocal performances and write a response. The critique should be a minimum of two pages, double spaced. A rubric will be provided. You must attach the program/ticket from the performance to your critique.
- Journal
 - Students will write short responses to videos assigned at the beginning of the week (usually 2). The responses should be written in your small notebook and must be at least a paragraph long. Videos will be assigned at the beginning of the week and journals will be due on Friday.

Quizzes and Tests:

- Short quizzes will be given on all reading assignments.
- There will be two tests on material covered in class and in the textbook.

Expectations:

- Cell phones silenced and put away.
- Prepare and practice repertoire and vocal exercises outside of class.
- Complete all assignments.
- Come to class! Be on time and be prepared.
- Be professional. This includes treating your classmates with respect, especially in regards to performances. Rude, hurtful, or negative comments will not be tolerated.
- Dress appropriately for performances. We will have a short discussion on this topic in class.

Grading:

Homework (45 pts)

Journals (60 pts)

Critique (70 pts)

Quizzes (45 pts)

Tests (100 pts)

Group Performance (130 pts)

Final Performance (150 pts)

Total: 600 pts

Grading Scale

A = 93-100 A- = 90-92

B+ = 87-89 B = 83-86 B- = 80-82

C+ = 77-79 C = 73-76 C- = 70-72

D+ = 67-69 D = 63-66 D- = 60-62

F = Below 60

Disabilities

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting the instructor. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). “Reasonable” means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.

Academic Misconduct

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review at http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php.