Applied Voice
Music 119A-419A
Fall Semester 2015
Syllabus

Instructor: Donald Simonson
Office: 202 Music Hall
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Email: drs@iastate.edu
Office Hours: As posted, or by appointment as necessary.

Studio Objectives: To provide a detailed and thorough understanding of western operatic style singing and related subjects.

Studio Policies: You are expected to rehearse each and every day. Schedule your rehearsal time as part of your day and develop a disciplined approach to vocalizing and rehearsing.

All lessons are 50 or 25 minutes long and follow the normal daily schedule.

Lessons missed by the instructor will be rescheduled and made up. Lessons missed by students will not be made up.

Students are responsible for securing and compensating their own accompanists. Accompanists should attend at least 1/2 of each lesson. Accompanists should be available for lessons by the third week of classes.

Students will keep a Notebook (contemporary practice/rehearsal log) and bring it to each lesson. Your log will also contain a repertoire listing of the composer, poet, key, language, translation, historical background, analytical comments, and publisher for each piece you are working on.

All repertoire assigned by your instructor must be translated (into English) and transcribed (into IPA) by the next lesson. Both the translation and the IPA should be copied into your score. You will not receive a lesson until these assignments are completed.

Attendance is required for all Seminars, Divisionals and General Recitals, and an additional twelve concerts per semester. All students are expected to be prepared to perform on all Seminars and at least two Divisionals.

Attendance is also required for all Faculty, Guest, and Senior Degree Voice Recitals. Failure to attend a Senior Recital will result in the loss of one full letter on your applied voice semester grade.

Students will turn in Recital programs and Reviews for all required recital or concerts at the end of each semester.

All student performances (except those for required choral ensembles) must be approved by the applied music teacher.
Outcomes: At the conclusion of each level, students will:

- accurately perform the selected Art Song/Aria Repertoire from memory and in the assigned language, while demonstrating historical/cultural knowledge appropriate to the context of composition and performance.
- exhibit musical accuracy with respect to articulation, dynamics, pitch, rhythm, intonation, phrasing.
- demonstrate continued development in areas of voice technique including but not limited to, legato, breath management, register adjustment/equalization, resonance strategies, and appropriate performance practice according to language, period, style and genre in a juried performance for voice division faculty.

Repertoire Req’s: Freshman (119A) Three/Four songs per semester required. A total of no fewer than seven songs per school year, involving a minimum of 2 languages.

Sophomore (219A) Five songs per semester (the Continuation semester will have a minimum of four). Total of nine songs per school year, comprising at least three languages.

Junior (319A) Seven songs per semester, including operatic or oratorio arias, as well as art songs by standard 19th and 20th century composers. A total of fourteen songs per year, distributed between arias and art songs, in at least three languages. More extended works, such as song cycles and solo cantatas, should be explored.

Senior (419A) Seven songs per semester, including operatic and oratorio arias, as well as art songs by standard 19th and 20th century composers. A total of fourteen songs per year, distributed between arias and art songs, in at least four languages. Other works, such as chamber ensembles, should be explored. Preparation for Senior Recital.

Jury Exams: The voice jury will be in two parts, performed before the Jury Committee (your applied teacher together with the other voice faculty). Part one will consist of the performance of selected examples from the required repertoire. Part two will consist of graded sight-singing. Freshman and Sophomores will be examined on solfege and texted examples. Juniors and Seniors, following successful completion of the continuation exam, will sight-sing texted examples only.

Grading: 50% of your final grade will be based on the average of your weekly lesson grade (including coachings). 20% will be based on recital attendance (General, Divisionals, Seminars and your additional 12). 30% will be based on your Jury Exam.

Please address any special needs or special accommodations with me at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you become aware of your needs. Those seeking accommodations based on disabilities should obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form from the Disability Resources (DR) office (515-294-6624). DR is located on the main floor of the Student Services Building, Room 1076.