SDSU School of Music and Dance - MUSIC 212 Sections 2-6: “Learn to Sing” / FALL 2015
COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Michelle Ayres
EMAIL ADDRESS: MAYRES@MAIL.SDSU.EDU
OFFICE HOURS: Room M269, Monday/Wednesday 10:00 am – 11:00 am (by appointment)

SECTION MEETING TIMES: Sec. 2 – MW 12-12:50pm, Sec. 3 – MW 2-2:50pm, Sec. 4 – TTH 9:30-10:20am, Sec. 5 – TTH 11-11:50am, Sec. 6 – TTH 12:30-1:20pm
LOCATION: Music Building, Sections 2, 4, 5, 6 Room 233 – Section 3 Room 206

COURSE OBJECTIVES
This class is a study of basic principles of singing, and the development of poise and stage deportment including an acquaintance with a variety of singing styles and genres.

Basic vocal skills will be developed. Correct breathing, posture, tone production, diction and vocal health will be stressed. The student will gain the ability and knowledge to sing in many styles/genres, including: Classical, Jazz, Pop, Rock, Folk, and Musical Theatre. A collaborative and interactive learning environment will enable students to prepare and implement musical performances that reflect the unique perspectives and gifts of each singer.

COURSE OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify and demonstrate the various aspects of the singing process and singing styles
2. Explain good habits for vocal health
3. Sing for a public audience
4. Use newly developed skills to more fully appreciate singing as an audience member

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class Participation
All students will sing in every class meeting – either as an individual or as part of a group. Students are also expected to be attentive, respectful, and supportive audience members when others are singing and to participate in class discussions. Failure to participate or attend class will result in a lowered participation grade.

2. Written Assignments - Concert Attendance
Each student will attend a minimum of two concerts/events. For each performance, the student will compose a well-written 200-300 word commentary that addresses the performance as it relates to material covered in class.
EVALUATION AND GRADING
Percentage Weights:
50% Class Participation/Attendance
25% Written Assignments
25% Scales, Arpeggios, Exercises

Numeric Grading Scale:
A 94-100 C+ 81-82
A- 92-93 C 76-80
B+ 90-91 C- 74-75
B 85-89 D 70-73
B- 83-84 F 69 or below

REQUIRED TEXT
NA

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY
Students enrolled in MUSIC 212 agree to abide by the San Diego State University Academic Integrity Policy as stated in the SDSU General Catalog. This policy addresses basic obligations relating to honesty, truth, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Your signature on all your work and your participation in this class indicate you have read and abided by this policy.

FINAL EXAMINATION
The final exam for this course will be a singing performance in public, location TBD
Performances will take place during the last two weeks of class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Attendance is essential for this course and is therefore mandatory for all students. Please note:
1. All absences are considered unexcused unless approved by the instructor. You are allowed three absences. It is a wise idea to save them in case of illness.
2. Each unexcused absence beyond the student’s third absence lowers his/her final grade for the course by one half letter grade, unless excused. (i.e. On the fourth absence, an “A” becomes a “A-” for the semester.)
3. Punctuality is also necessary. Three late arrivals are equivalent to one absence.
4. Excessive Absences due to medical reasons are considered unexcused unless accompanied by written documentation showing the student’s name, date(s), and signed by a licensed medical professional.
5. Kindly let me know by email as soon as possible about any absences.

LATE WORK POLICY
Late work will not be accepted unless approved by the instructor.
COMMUNICATION
The course syllabus, class schedule, class announcements, and all homework and writing assignments will be made available through Blackboard. Students will receive periodic e-mails (announcements, changes in schedule, etc.) from the instructor. All correspondence will be sent to the student’s school (@mail.sdsu.edu) e-mail address.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Students with documented disabilities desiring testing or other accommodations should not hesitate to contact the instructor. Strict confidentiality will be maintained in such cases.

SDSU SCHOOL OF MUSIC RECITAL, CHORAL, JAZZ, AND OPERA SCHEDULE
Visit http://music.sdsu.edu/index.php/site/calendar for updated locations, dates, and times. Make sure you check this schedule often, as dates may change. All operas are ticketed events; you may purchase tickets at any campus box office prior to the beginning of the show or at the door.

CLASS SCHEDULE
The schedule below indicates due dates for major assignments. Specific readings and additional written assignments will be made in class and posted on Blackboard. This schedule is subject to change.

Week One - Introductions, syllabus, sing in class - voice lessons
Week Two - Singing Master Class, / movement / sing in class – voice lessons
Week Three – Classical, Musical Theatre / voice lessons / how to learn music
Week Four – Classical, Musical Theatre / voice lessons / translations “what does this mean”
Week Five – Musical Theatre, Rock / voice lessons / how to learn music
Week Six – Concert Commentary #1 Due / acting and expression / microphone techniques
Week Seven – Musical Theatre, Rock / voice lessons
Week Eight – Rock, Folk / voice lessons / how to learn music
Week Nine – Rock, Folk / voice lessons / Rock scream techniques
Week Ten - Concert Commentary #2 Due / acting and expression / microphone techniques
Week Eleven – Jazz, Pop / voice lessons / scat technique / straight tone
Week Twelve – Jazz, Pop / voice lessons / microphone techniques
Week Thirteen – Jazz, Pop / voice lessons / improv techniques
Week Fourteen Sing for the public, location TBD
Week Fifteen – Sing for the public, location TBD

*Monday, September 7 NO CLASS – LABOR DAY
*Wednesday, November 11 NO CLASS – VETERANS DAY
*Wednesday, November 25-27 NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK