VOICE LESSON SYLLABUS: MUS356 and MUS456
Dr. Emily J. Riggs
Updated 12/2013

Course Objectives:
Private voice instruction at the 356 and 456 level is intended to equip students with the necessary skill set to complete a successful senior project (in fulfillment of the MUS490/WRT075 requirement). This preparation includes the fundamentals of vocal technique and vocal diction, musical literacy, and experience with a variety of material from the standard repertoire (including exposure to works in a variety of languages from the Baroque period to the present). Students will demonstrate their progress at the end of each semester in the form of a graded jury.

Required Texts:
There is no single required text for this course, however, as the need arises, students may asked to either purchase or borrow scores for study. Materials can be purchased online through websites including Sheetmusicplus.com or Classical Vocal Reprints, or borrowed from the University Library. Copies of the 24 Italian Songs and Arias have been ordered and are in stock in the bookstore for those of you who would like to purchase your own copy.

What to bring to your weekly lesson:
- Three ring binder with 2 copies of each assigned piece (please make sure photocopies are neatly prepared for the sake of your pianist).
- Pencil
- Practice Journal

Studio Requirements:
Departmental “Brown Bag Recital Series”: Each student enrolled in private lessons is required to perform in at least 2 departmental Brown Bags each semester. Please see the attached schedule of Brown Bags for the current semester and review the necessary policies and procedures.

Studio Class: Voice Studio Class meets every Tuesday from 5:30-6:30. Attendance is mandatory and students should be prepared to sing every week.

End-of-semester Jury: At the end of the semester each student is required to perform a jury for members of the voice faculty. Jury requirements are dependent on course number and total credits of vocal study previously completed. The date for voice juries will be announced during the first or second week of classes.

Grading Policy:
80% Preparation and Progress demonstrated at weekly lessons
20% Semester Performances (Brown Bag/Jury/etc.)

Failure to attend weekly studio classes will result in a lowering of your final grade.
Accompanist Policy:
All Voice Performance Majors are required to schedule a regular weekly/or bi-weekly rehearsal with their accompanist. Voice Performance majors, please read and sign the accompanist contact and return it to me by your next lesson.

All other voice students are required to meet at least once with an accompanist outside of their lesson or studio class time prior to each scheduled performance (Brown Bag/Final Jury/other recital).

Attendance:
Any lesson cancelled by the instructor will be made-up at a mutually agreed upon time. Lessons cancelled by the student for illness or other reason will be rescheduled at the discretion of the professor and as availability permits. No-shows, or lessons cancelled less than 24 hours in advance, will not be rescheduled.

Special Accommodations:
If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of AccessAbility Services at (860)465-0189.

Academic Services:
Students are encouraged to use the support offered by the Academic Services Center located on the ground floor of the Library. Tutoring, Math, Writing, and supplemental Advising Services are available for students in the Center at the following times: Sun. 2-9; M-Th. 9-9, Fri. 9-5. (Closed Sat.) For further information call 465-4272 or check the ASC website at http://www.easternct.edu/asc/.
VOICE PERFORMANCE MAJORS
Policies and Procedures
(Updated Spring 2013)

**Brown Bag Recitals**

Every student enrolled in private lessons is required to perform on at least 2 Brown Bag Recitals every semester they are enrolled in private lessons. Students, in consultation with their primary voice instructor, may choose to sing 1-2 selections.

*NEW PROCEDURE*

Prior to performing on each Brown Bag Recital, students will be required to submit an online “Repertoire Submission Form”. Every student enrolled in private voice will be emailed a link to the “Repertoire Submission Form” at the beginning of each semester. Please complete all required fields and submit the form no later than the Monday before the scheduled performance. If you miss this deadline you will not be eligible to perform. A reminder email will be sent one week prior to each performance date.

Attire for Brown Bag should reflect the formality of the recital. (Absolutely NO jeans, flip-flops or sneakers). Ladies: Skirts and dresses should be at least knee length. Men: Dress pants and a button down shirt w/ a tie would be more than appropriate. No jacket necessary. Please ask if you have any questions about appropriate attire.

**Studio Class**

Studio Class will be held every Tuesday from 5:30-6:30. All students enrolled in private voice lesson are required to attend and actively participate in class. The format of class will vary from week to week. Materials found in this course packet will be used to enhance the studio class experience. Please bring this packet with you to every studio class meeting.

Students should be prepared to sing in studio class approx. once every other week. Copies of your repertoire are due to Eric no later than the Tuesday before you plan to perform. Please make sure copies are complete, aligned correctly, and that no notes are cut off.

*Submitting Accompanist Copies*

Music should be given to your accompanist at least a week in advance of any studio class performance. Asking an accompanist to sight-read music for you is unprofessional.
# Repertoire Requirements for Voice Juries

## Voice Performance Majors

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
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| MUS356 (semesters 1-2) | 2 memorized selections  
English and Italian |
| MUS356 (semesters 3+) | 3 memorized selections  
English/Italian/French/German  
Jury Panel will select 2 pieces to hear |
| MUS456 | 4 memorized selections (1 opera/oratorio aria)  
Jury panel will select 2-3 pieces to hear |

## Non-Majors, Non-Performance Concentration Majors, Music Minors

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
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| MUS356 | 2 memorized selections  
Any language (based on student/teacher goals) |
| MUS456 | Same as Major |

## Criteria for Advancement to MUS456

*(Recommended at end of sophomore year or equivalent study)*

### Language/Diction Requirements

Demonstrates proficiency in the 4 major singing languages in both lessons and juries.

### Technique

Solid progress toward establishing a consistent and balanced tone  
Healthy/Balanced Onset  
Understanding of proper breathing and posture for singing  
Accurate Intonation

### Musicality

Demonstrates and understanding of rhythm, dynamics, articulation and phrasing

### Expressiveness/Communication

Demonstrates a developing ability to connect to text and communicate meaning through performance.

*Appropriate dress for juries is the same as the required attire for Brown Bag*