

Syllabus

MUSIC 215: FIRST YEAR MASTERCLASS

FALL 2015

Instructor Dr. Amber Sudduth Bone, Amber.Bone@wwu.edu

Objectives

In this class, students will:

- Perform frequently, alone and in groups, to establish a collaborative community that encourages creativity and builds the onstage confidence of its members
- Learn and practice established techniques for preparation and presentation that call for flexible, vivid artistic choices and make performances clear and exciting
- Become conversant in standard singing and acting vocabulary and explore various resources
- Constructively evaluate their own and others' efforts and apply their knowledge to an end-of-quarter Practice Jury performance

Materials and Assessment

Plan to have with you and be ready to sing, at each class this quarter, *a binder containing two songs which you can perform from memory*. At the beginning of the quarter, this may be your audition repertoire, but we will expect that you will add material from your lessons as soon as possible. These performances will give us a chance to discuss how the class topics can be applied to the repertoire you are working on in an enthusiastic and supportive environment. Each student will sing at least once, and this may be at any class (even if you've already sung!) Should your name be chosen to sing and you find yourself unprepared, you will forfeit that day's attendance credit.

You will be placed in a small group of 6-7 peers who you will work closely with throughout the quarter. In addition to activities and performances, this class will include brief and fun group discussions and projects on Canvas. Masterclass is worth 30% of your grade for Music 215 and assessment records will be shared with your applied teacher at the end of the quarter.

Schedule of Topics

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| October 1 | Question and Answer Session, Succeeding in the First-Year Music Core |
| October 8 | Great Storytellers: Connecting with the Audience |
| October 15 | Score Study Scavenger Hunt, Character and Creators |
| October 22 | The Art and Science of Warming Up, and Vocal Instrument Care and Maintenance |
| October 29 | How to Learn and Memorize a Song Quickly and Deeply |
| November 5 | Applying Technique to Repertoire, or Practicing Singing Strategically |
| November 12 | Diction Tricks and Tips, and the International Phonetic Alphabet |
| November 19 | Creating Art with Collaborative Pianists |
| November 26 | No Class (Thanksgiving Holiday) |
| December 3 | Practice Juries |

“Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.”
Scott Adams, cartoonist