

Syllabi available for download from the Umbra Institute website only with the purpose of informing students and advisers about course content. **All rights are reserved.**



MUSC 305: Voice Performance

Course Syllabus
Spring Semester 2024

Instructor: Francesca Lione

Credits: 1-2

Contact Hours: 15-30

Prerequisites: Students are assigned exercises and tasks of variable difficulty, based on a progressive skills evaluation before the arrival and during the semester.

Class Meeting Days & Time: TBD

Office Hours: By appointment

Email: mgarilli@umbra.org

Course Type: Voice performance course

Course Fee: 350.00-700.00 \$

Course Description

The course is open to singers at basic, intermediate and advanced levels who wish to elevate their performance skills to aspire to an ever-greater level. Through a comprehensive exploration of technique, musicianship, and performance strategies, students will develop the tools necessary to become professional singers. The program may undergo time variations depending on the student's reception.

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Use the appropriate breathing and singing techniques
- Create/extend a repertoire
- Interpret Italian songs with correct pronunciation
- Reading notes
- Improvise

Course Materials

Handouts will be provided by the instructor.

Assessment

Attendance & Homework	10%
Homework	40%
Final Recital	40%

Grading

Students are reminded that it is their responsibility to note the dates of exams and other assignments. No

Syllabi available for download from the Umbra Institute website only with the purpose of informing students and advisers about course content. **All rights are reserved.**

alternative exam dates will be offered and professors are not required to give partial credit for any late work (they do so at their discretion: the Institute's default policy is no extensions and a zero for any work turned in late). Students who book travel when they have an exam or other assessment will have to change their plans or accept a zero. Letter grades for student work are based on the following percentage scale:

Letter Grade Range	Numerical Score Equivalent	Student Performance
A	93% - 100%	Exceptional
A-	90% - 92%	Excellent
B+	87% - 89%	Superior
B	83% - 86%	
B-	80% - 82%	
C+	77% - 79%	Satisfactory
C	73% - 76%	
C-	70% - 72%	
D+	67% - 69%	Low Pass
D	63% - 66%	
D-	60% - 62%	
F	59% or less	Fail (no credit)

Please note: decimal numerals between 1-4 are rounded down while 5-9 are rounded up: e.g., expect 89.4 to be 89.0 while 89.5 to round up to 90.

Attendance (10%)

Attendance is an essential part of this course. You have one "sick day," per Institute policy. If you attend all the other meetings, you will receive 10% for this part of your grade. There are no make-ups offered for attendance.

Homework (40%)

Students will be assigned homework regularly. They should prepare all assigned materials for each lesson with a demonstrated improvement from the previous lesson. Students should allow themselves adequate time between their previous engagement and a lesson to warm up and concentrate on the music that they will be performing at the lesson.

Final Recital (40%)

The final recital will be a public event, held in front of the instructor or a commission of instructors. Students will play from a selection of music assignments based on various materials presented throughout the semester.

Extension & Submitting Late Work

Work submitted after the deadline will receive a grade of zero, not partial credit. Each student is allowed one extension of 24 hours over the entire semester. This can be used for any assignment but the final project. Students need to email the instructor before the deadline and inform the instructor of their use of the extension. Any work submitted after the 24-hour extension will be marked zero. As for all policies, exceptions can be made by the Director for students with special accommodations or in case of medical emergencies, etc.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is expected and mandatory for classroom times and co-curricular activities. All students are allowed 1 unexcused absence, which does not need to be justified. It is the student's responsibility to keep it in case of real necessity. i.e., sickness or any other unforeseen inconvenience that may prevent students from

Syllabi available for download from the Umbra Institute website only with the purpose of informing students and advisers about course content. **All rights are reserved.**

being in class. More than 1 absence will affect your final grade by 2% per absence up to a maximum of 10%. Excessive unexcused absences may result in a failing grade or disciplinary action. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the number of absences or late arrivals for each course, and to ask the instructor when in doubt. If students miss class, they are responsible for obtaining class notes from other students and/or for meeting the professor during office hours. Any work missed in class because of an excused absence may be made up within one week of the return to the class. Any work missed that was a quiz or other test must be made up outside of class time and will, in the interest of intellectual honesty, be a slightly different test than the one given in class. Legitimate reasons for an excused absence or tardiness includes: death in immediate family, religious observances, illness or injury, local inclement weather, medical appointments that cannot be rescheduled. Absences relating to illness may be excused by the Director but only if a medical certification is provided. Students who request an approved absence to observe a religious holiday must submit a formal request to the Institute's Director within one week after the add/drop period when course schedules, including any field trips, are finalized. No exceptions will be made after this deadline. Except in the case of medical emergencies, absences are not accepted when tests are scheduled; tests cannot be made up. Furthermore, scheduled times and dates indicated for exams, quizzes, oral presentations, and any other graded assignments cannot be changed for any reason. Even if more sections of the same class are activated, students may only take exams during the scheduled times and dates for the section they are enrolled in.

Tardiness Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes punctually. Any student arriving up to 15 minutes late or leaving up to 15 minutes earlier than the scheduled class end time will be marked as tardy. Each incident of tardiness (late arrivals to or early departures from class) is 0.5% off the final grade. However, should a student arrive more than 15 minutes late or depart more than 15 minutes before the conclusion of the class, it will be recorded as an absence.

Students are also expected to remain in class during the time of instruction except for a reasonable amount of time to use the restroom. Students who leave class and do not return during the class session will receive an unexcused absence or late penalty.

Academic Integrity

All forms of cheating (i.e., copying during exam either from a fellow student or making unauthorized use of notes) and plagiarism (i.e., presenting the ideas or words of another person for academic evaluation without acknowledging the source) will be handled according to the Institute Academic Policy, which can be found in the Umbra Institute Academic Policies and Conduct Guidelines.

Classroom Policy

Students are expected to follow the policy of the Institute and demonstrate the appropriate respect for the historical premises that the school occupies. Please note that cell phones must be set on silent mode before the beginning of each class. Computers and other electronic devices cannot be used during class lectures and discussions for anything other than note-taking, unless there has been a specific academic accommodation.

Syllabi available for download from the Umbra Institute website only with the purpose of informing students and advisers about course content. **All rights are reserved.**

Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

WEEK 1

Level assessment, review and refine basic singing techniques

WEEK 2

Review and refine basic singing techniques

WEEK 3

Reinforcement of technique and breathing, with practical and pleasant examples

WEEK 4

Choice of repertoire. Technical work on the songs

WEEK 5

Analyze the performances of renowned singers to learn about their interpretative choices

WEEK 6

Work on musical interpretation and phrasing

Semester Break

WEEK 7

Technical work on the songs –part 2. Study various musical styles (comparison of different composers)

WEEK 8

Select solo repertoire from different periods and styles

WEEK 9

Work on memorization techniques and stage safety

WEEK 10

Work on memorization techniques and stage safety

Syllabi available for download from the Umbra Institute website only with the purpose of informing students and advisers about course content. **All rights are reserved.**

WEEK 11

Consolidation on musical expression and stage presence

WEEK 12

Practical session and tests. Final exam