



## **DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS**

### **COURSE OUTLINE – MU1240 APPLIED MUSIC I**

#### **VOICE**

**FALL 2015, WINTER, 2016**

**INSTRUCTOR:** John Murray, BMus (Hon), MMus      **PHONE:** (780) 539-0615  
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**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment.

#### **PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:**

MU1000 or successful completion of a music theory placement exam or Grade 2 Royal Conservatory Theory Exam and aural skills exam.

Corequisite: MU1400 is required for all Bachelor of Arts music majors/minors.

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

You will be required to purchase appropriate repertoire throughout the year. Bring water bottle, pencil, and music to each lesson.

#### **CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

Private study of voice or your principal instrument. This is a two-term course offered over fall/winter terms. It is identifiable in the Schedule of Courses (Timetable) with a Part A and a Part B. Students must register in both the Part A and the Part B of all types of sections offered (sections, labs, seminars, etc.) for this course.

Notes: Restricted to full-time music majors/minors in Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education. Students should be prepared to pay for the use of a

studio accompanist for juries, recitals, masterclasses, and private rehearsal sessions.

**CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:**

3 (.5-0-0) 15 Hours

**DELIVERY MODE(S):**

Studio Lesson.

**OBJECTIVES:**

Students in this course will learn how the vocal instrument works and how to use vocal technique and musicianship to primarily perform selected classical-music vocal repertoire.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Learning outcomes in this Applied Music – Voice course are totally dependent upon the amount of time each student spends on rehearsal of their assigned vocal exercises (to develop proper vocal technique); repertoire (learning of notes, rhythms, pronunciation, and a familiarity with the accompaniment part or parts); working a song into their voice using the prescribed method taught in the beginning lessons of this course; learning correct pronunciation of words in a foreign language (and their meaning); and developing musical artistry by applying a solid vocal technique to artistic interpretation of all songs they perform.

Students who are diligent to practice all of the above can normally expect to:

- Develop a solid vocal technique that will allow them to sing vocal repertoire freely without damaging the voice.
- Musically and artistically perform music from a variety of musical genres, styles, and musical periods.
- Correctly pronounce and understand music they perform that is written in a language other than English.
- Develop performance skills.
- Work collaboratively with other singers and instrumentalists.

**TRANSFERABILITY:** UA, UL, AU, AF, CUC, Other.

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.**

**Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A <sup>+</sup>	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A <sup>-</sup>	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B <sup>+</sup>	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B <sup>-</sup>	2.7	70 – 72	
C <sup>+</sup>	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C <sup>-</sup>	1.7	60 – 62	
D <sup>+</sup>	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

**EVALUATIONS:**

Ongoing Evaluation in weekly lessons, attendance	80%
April jury	20%

Students are evaluated at all lessons, master classes, and performances as to their technical and artistic development.

There will be a final Jury at the end of the school year (time and location TBA).

It is expected that to pass this course, a student will be doing one hour of formal practice per day. More than one hour per day of practice will undoubtedly assure you a better mark at the end of the year. If a student is insufficiently prepared for a lesson, the instructor reserves the right to suspend the lesson.

Students are required to attend 10 professional Fine Arts Department events (e.g. Concert Series, Visitor In The Arts, etc.) over the course of the year.

Students are required to attend all Visitor In The Arts' or Concert Series' professional musical productions. Professional musical productions, or a very high level of amateur productions, that are off-campus may also be applied to this attendance requirement. Please consult with your Voice Instructor.

Attendance at these events will be worth 5% of your final mark. Students are required to provide an accurate written report of all attendances of these professional events to the voice instructor by the last day of classes.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

#### **Effort and Attitude:**

- Demonstrate the desire to sing and willingness to develop technical and artistic excellence.
- Maintain proper mental, physical, and spiritual wellness.
- Each student is expected to keep aerobically fit and maintain good muscle tone especially in the torso area of the body. Please consult your physician before beginning any exercise program.

#### **Daily Rehearsal:**

- Ideally you should be practicing 1 or 2 hours 5 to 6 days per week.
- Practice vocal exercises and assigned pieces each rehearsal.
- Learn and memorize new music quickly. Learn the meaning of each word in those pieces written in a foreign language.
- Keep developing in your ability to artistically interpret the text of your pieces. Character development, singing in character, and singing with expression are important aspects of creating an affective musical performance.

- Without daily rehearsal and practice you will not improve. The more you practice, the better you get. The opposite is also true. A significant part of your final mark (at least 75%) will be based on your professor's, and your jurists', impression as to how well you have developed technically.

#### Weekly Preparation:

- Work with an accompanist on a regular basis. I suggest once a week at least.
- Be thoroughly acquainted with the accompaniment to all your pieces before singing them in lessons or master classes.
- Make sure you are practicing the exercises from your exercise sheets on a daily basis.

#### Lesson Preparation:

- Music you expect to work on during your lesson time must be thoroughly learned.
- Notes should be learned, you should be familiar with the accompaniment part, understand the translation of foreign words, understand your "character" in each piece, have the piece memorized or very nearly memorized for each lesson.

#### Master Class:

- Master class is held on a weekly basis and students should be prepared to perform in a master class at least once a term.
- Attendance at Master Class is not mandatory.
- Your music should be thoroughly prepared before performing it in master class.

#### Performance:

- Participation in at least one Student Noon Hour Music Recital is recommended.
- Failure to have pieces properly prepared by your scheduled performance date(s) will affect your final grade.
- Participation in more than the required amount of noon hour recitals will be taken into consideration when final grades are assigned.
- No performance will be allowed to proceed if the music is not properly prepared.

#### Accompanist:

- Be prepared to hire the studio accompanist for your own weekly rehearsals, noon hour student recitals, or any other department-related music functions you may be performing at.
- Accompanist fees must be paid promptly. The accompanist has the right to stop providing services to anyone who does not pay their accompanist fees on time.
- You must let the accompanist know well in advance (2 weeks minimum notice) when you will need them to accompany you. The accompanist has the right to refuse to play for any student who does not give them timely notice of their required service.
- Make sure your accompanist has his or her music at least two weeks in advance of your performance of those pieces in a non-mandatory Master Class.
- This instructor reserves the right to disallow any person, or persons, the privilege of

accompanying any, or all, of his college voice students for any college- or department-related vocal activity.

#### Attendance:

- More than 20% absenteeism (6 lessons) may constitute a failure except for medical or extenuating circumstances in which case a doctor's letter may be required. It is expected that students will attend all lessons. If a student cannot attend a class due to medical reasons or other extreme circumstances, it is necessary to give the instructor advance notice. If you do not inform the instructor in advance, you will not be able to make the lesson up. \*Please read College Calendar-Academic Regulations-Debarred From Exams for more clarification of the possible consequences of not meeting attendance requirements.
- You are expected to attend all student and faculty performances each semester.
- Students are required to attend 10 professional Fine Arts Department events (e.g. Concert Series, Visitor In The Arts, etc.) over the course of the year. Attendance at all music Visitor In The Arts presentations is mandatory.
- Attendance at all noon hour student music recitals is expected.
- Attendance at professional-level music voice recitals and/or concerts in Grande Prairie is expected. It is the student's responsibility to hand in a signed ticket stub or program, to this instructor, by the end of the school year as proof of attendance at any professional-level concert.
  - Failure to attend at least two of these events will affect your final grade by at least 15% per missed event.
- Attendance at all "field trip" events is mandatory.
  - Failure to attend these events will affect your mark by at least 35% per missed event.
  - All students who are absent from more than 20% of their lesson times (6 lessons), without a medical certificate, may be told to withdraw from this course. In such a case they will automatically receive a grade of DB (debarred).

#### Juries:

- All voice students must participate in a final jury. The final jury normally takes place shortly after the last week of classes at GPRC. Your jury pieces should be discussed and selected with your voice teacher near the end of the school year. Jury marks will be based on your preparation of each piece including, vocal technique, memorization, pronunciation, interpretation, musicianship, and stage deportment. At least one original copy of each of your jury pieces must be submitted to the jury. Jury forms must be filled out correctly and handed out to each jury member at the time of your jury performance. Failure to properly fill out and distribute your jury forms will affect your final jury mark.

### Vocal Health:

- Each student is expected to maintain proper vocal health.
- If chronic vocal problems persist and you are not able to practice or perform then this will affect your final mark.
- In the case of chronic vocal fatigue or illness this instructor will ask you to visit your local physician for an examination of your throat and larynx. If your doctor advises that it would be unwise to sing then lessons will only resume when you have medical clearance from your physician.
- If vocal health does not return then you may be asked to drop this course.

### Other Requirements:

- Those students who do not read music are expected to find their own way of learning their voice-course pieces. Some suggestions might be:
  - Ask someone who does read music to work with you on a regular basis to help you learn the notes of your repertoire.
  - Ask a pianist to play the melody notes and then the accompaniment part onto a tape for you.
  - Re-take the rudiments of theory course (Mu 1000) here at the college.

**Please Note: It is not the responsibility of this voice instructor to help you with note learning of your assigned voice-course pieces.**

### STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at [www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/\\*\\*](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**)

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

### COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

The instructor may need a few weeks to thoroughly determine the level an individual is at in his or her technical and artistic development. If students attend lessons and practice on a regular basis then technical and artistic growth will be the result. The assignment of repertoire is totally determined by the technical and artistic readiness of a student to move to the next level and meet the challenges of more challenging repertoire. There are no specific timelines but rather an ongoing assessment of when a student is ready to progress to the next level of technical exercises and/or repertoire. When a

student has shown that s/he is ready to move on then suitable repertoire will be assigned.

### **Fall Semester:**

Sept. 1/15	Student Orientation	Students contact instructor to set up lesson times for Fall Semester.
Sept. 2/15	Voice lessons begin	
Sept. 3/15	Masterclass	Hand out and discuss Course Outline. Learn basics about warm-ups and vocal technique. Learn how to work a song into the voice. Announce weekly performance groups for Masterclasses for first term.
Sept. 7/15	Labour Day	No classes
Sept. 10/15	Masterclass	Videos on vocal pedagogy. Discussion.
Sept. 17/15	Masterclass	Students in the first group perform their assigned piece or pieces.
Sept. 24/15	Masterclass	Students in the second group perform their assigned piece or pieces.
Oct. 1/15	Masterclass	Students in the third group perform their assigned piece or pieces.
Oct-Nov.	Masterclasses	Each group of students rotates through the remaining Masterclasses until December 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
Nov. 26/15	Oral Report sign-up date deadline.	All six-credit Voice Students must sign up for a time to present their Oral Report. Students will be divided equally to present their report on either Jan. 7/16 or Jan. 14/16.
Holidays	No classes	Monday, Oct. 12 – Thanksgiving.



Wednesday, Nov. 11 to Friday, Nov. 13 –  
Remembrance Day and Fall Break.

Dec. 8/15      Last Day of Classes

Dec. 9/15      Exam period starts

Voice Jury for second-year six-credit voice  
students. Time and location TBA

Students should set up lesson times for  
the Winter Semester with the instructor  
sometime before Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Winter Semester:**

Jan. 6/16      Voice lessons begin.

Jan. 7/16      Masterclass

Oral Reports (six-credit students only)

Jan. 14/16      Masterclass

Oral Reports (six-credit students only)

Jan. 21/16      Masterclass

Group 1 students perform piece or pieces  
from their assigned list.

Each group of students rotates through  
the remaining Masterclasses until April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Feb. 15-19      No classes

Family Day followed by Winter Break.

Mar. 25/16      No classes

Good Friday.

Apr. 13/16      Last day of classes

Apr. 14/16      Voice Juries

Time and location TBA.

All first and second-year voice students  
must participate in this final Voice Jury.

### **RELEASE:**

For the purpose of promoting the achievements of Grande Prairie Regional College and the success of students, staff, faculty and the College community, each student should be prepared to grant the college the right to use: their name, their projects (scores, digital files, artwork, recordings, videos, etc.) his/her statements, photos and/or testimonials.