# Syllabus

## Fall 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number:</th>
<th>MUAP 1119, 1219, 1329, 3219, 3329</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor:</td>
<td>Dr. Scott LaGraff</td>
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<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>By Appt.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Course Name:</th>
<th>Applied Voice</th>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Time:</td>
<td>M 1:00-1:50 and By Appointment</td>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>Music 280, 100</td>
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## Course Description

Private voice instruction (1 hour weekly [1/2 hour for 309/509]) and seminar participation.

### Applied Instruction-MUAP 1219/3219:

Two semester Hours Credit, one hour instruction per week plus one hour studio class or collective seminar weekly. Students are expected to practice assigned materials individually that may include exercises, daily routines, assigned solos, translating, IPA transcription, and/or memorization two hours daily, five days per week for a total of ten hours of outside preparation each week for fifteen weeks. Students are also expected to attend and perform in required collective seminars, recitals, and/or upper-level barriers, which is typically an additional five to ten hour time requirement during the fifteen-week semester.

### Applied Instruction-MUAP 1329/3329:

Three semester Hours Credit, one hour instruction per week plus one hour studio class or collective seminar weekly. Students are expected to practice assigned materials individually that may include exercises, daily routines, assigned solos, translating, IPA transcription, and/or memorization three hours daily, five days per week, for a total of fifteen hours of outside preparation each week for fifteen weeks. Students are also expected to attend and perform in required collective seminars, recitals, and/or upper-level barriers, which is typically an additional five to ten hour time requirement during the fifteen-week semester.

## Face Coverings

Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


Course Objectives
1. Develop a healthy and reliable vocal technique.
   2. Develop a working knowledge of the standard vocal repertoire (primarily classical and from the Western tradition) and to publicly perform representative works from this repertoire with ever-increasing musicianship and expression.

Program Learning Outcomes
1. Students will demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic elements of music, including sight-singing and analysis.
2. Students will demonstrate comprehensive capabilities in rehearsing and preparing a high-level performance in ensembles.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of applicable solo materials, an orientation to the fundamentals of pedagogy as pertaining to the instrument or area of study, and comprehensive capabilities in preparing and performing a solo at a high level.
4. Students will successfully complete an academic capstone project that demonstrates written language skills, citations, analysis, musical examples, and organization.
5. Students will demonstrate a working knowledge of music history and literature from the Western art tradition, with supporting related studies in non-Western traditions, practices, and cultures.
6. Students will demonstrate functional keyboard proficiency including scales, techniques, basic accompanying, and sight reading.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Through private lessons, individual practice sessions, and performances in studio and collective seminars, students will acquire and demonstrate ever-increasing knowledge and skill in each successive semester in the areas of:
   a) intonation
   b) rhythmic precision
   c) a good singing diction
   d) a good singing posture
   e) proper breath management for singing
   f) vocal registration
   g) a well-formanted tone quality
   (PLOs 1, 2, 3)
2. Students will acquire and demonstrate a growing knowledge of standard vocal repertoire by:
   a) learning a minimum of 3-5 songs and/or arias from the Western classical tradition, having learned a minimum of 16-20 songs by the 4th semester barrier and a minimum of 35-40 songs by graduation, representing various languages and stylistic periods.
   b) performing selections of same during lessons, studio and collective seminars
   c) attending vocal recitals
   d) self-directed listening
   (PLOs 3, 5)
Recommended Text (for new students)
Additional materials to be decided in consultation with instructor. Each student should be prepared to purchase at least one or two books per year.

Grading
Your grade will consist of the following elements:
- Lesson preparation. To include:
  - technique and repertoire
  - text translation and IPA transcription
  - weekly practice logs (if required by instructor)
- Seminar attendance, participation, and performances
  - We will set goals for your performances. Stick to the plan. Achieve the goal. Declare victory. In the process, get a good grade.

Grading Scale
A (90-100)  B (80-89)  C (70-79)  D (60-69)  F (59 & lower)

Course-Related Communication
Be advised that e-mail is a University-sanctioned form of communication. Please check yours regularly. It is also the best way to reach me. You may call my cell if you really need to reach me. Please don’t call after 9:30 p.m.

Lesson Grades
Lessons will be by appointment and held in Music 280 (unless otherwise stated by the instructor). It is the student’s responsibility to attend all scheduled lessons. If a lesson is to be missed – because of illness or other reasons – prior notification of the instructor (by e-mail, phone, facebook, text, or in person) is mandatory. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade for the missed lesson. The instructor will attempt to—but is not required to—make up excused absences; unexcused absences will not be made up. Lessons that fall on a school holiday are not required to be made up. Lessons canceled by the instructor will be made up.

The student is expected to practice any and all assigned music and exercises outside of the scheduled lesson time and to come to lessons prepared. The instructor will attempt to give specific directions for student practice between lessons. (This is where the majority of your vocal growth will come—by yourself in a practice room!) Learn your music by whatever means necessary. I will gladly help with pronunciation, but I do not wish to see valuable lesson time diverted to notes!! Failure to learn music on your own will adversely affect your grade. Notes will be taken each lesson on the student’s musical preparation, vocal growth, and attitude. Students who learn their music quickly, show evidence of technical growth, and conduct themselves responsibly will receive higher scores than those who do not. Once the student is assigned a piece of music, he/she is expected to begin working on it. Do not wait for the instructor to direct you to begin working on a piece; assume that you should be learning it unless told otherwise. It is acceptable to ask for more music once all assigned pieces have been learned.
Practice Logs (if required)
It is impossible to progress without regular practice. If I sense that a student is not practicing or is practicing insufficiently, I will assign a weekly practice log (available online and from instructor), to be filled out and turned in at the first lesson of each week.

Seminar Participation
All students are expected to attend all studio seminars, which meet Mondays from 1:00-1:50 in a location to be announced (M100: Cole Concert Hall). Due to the pandemic, there will be no collective seminars this semester. Attendance policies are the same as those for lesson attendance. Participation includes (but is not limited to) singing in class when asked—from memory unless otherwise stated—taking part in class discussions, listening respectfully to other performers and encouraging one’s colleagues. This is an excellent time to train your ear and to begin thinking as a voice teacher, no matter how young or inexperienced you may think yourself to be. Extraneous talking will not be tolerated and students who repeatedly offend may be asked to leave class for the day and will not be given credit for having attended. Students will be given advance notice if expected to sing and performances will be graded. All students must sing on at least one collective seminar.

Collaborative Pianists
Some students will be assigned student pianists by Dr. Petti. Take advantage of this opportunity and rehearse with them on a weekly basis. Advise them of your lesson time and ask them to attend the last half of lessons. Those who have not had a pianist assigned will need to contact Drs. Petti, Pitts, or Nixon or Mrs. Jeon (formerly Ms. Oh), and ask one of them to play for any upcoming performances. Send them an email that includes your name, your studio (LaGraff), what you'll be singing, when/where you're singing, and your cell # (very important). Also, make a copy of your music and put it in his/her mailbox (include all the info from the email). DO THIS AT LEAST A WEEK IN ADVANCE! You will then be able to schedule rehearsals with them, rather than throwing it together at the last minute. As a general rule, they will not perform with you if you have not rehearsed with them first.

Repertoire Sheets
The student will occasionally be required to complete a repertoire sheet (provided by the instructor) for pieces assigned during the semester. These will be turned in at a time set by the instructor and will be graded based on thoroughness, accuracy, and imagination. The sheets are self-explanatory and require that the student translate the song as well as answer other questions pertinent to its performance. These are very important and very helpful!

Recital Attendance (MUP 100)
Due to the pandemic, there will be no Recital Attendance requirement and no convocations this semester. Student recitals will be livestreamed and you are expected to tune in, especially for your studio mates.

Student Recitals
Due to the pandemic, student recital protocols have changed. In addition to the recital committee and members of the voice area, students may invite up to 10 family members to attend the recital live. There will be no student attendance at recitals. Performers are encouraged to livestream the recital over facebook or another platform. Recital preparation forms are available from Dr. LaGraff.
Online Evaluation
All students are requested to fill out an online evaluation of the instructor and course, which can be accessed through mySFA.

School of Music Two Strikes Policy
Students who fail to earn at least the minimum passing grade in a music course in two successive attempts will not be allowed to continue as a music major, so KEEP YOUR GRADES UP!! Yes, college is a time for fun, but don’t forget that you’re here to earn a degree, and of equal importance, to learn how to be successful as a professional musician.

Also, a C is considered a passing grade in your music core courses (MTC 151, 152, 161, 162, 251, 252, 261, 262; MHL 245; MUP 101, 102, 201, 202). Failing to earn a C in these classes will cause you to lose your music scholarship if you have one!

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporation the works or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

Withheld Grades
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one
calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.
Voice-Choral Area COVID Guidelines

Voice lessons:

Face-to-face lessons will meet in the studio teacher’s office or possibly in a larger room when available. Individual teachers may teach some lessons via Zoom or FaceTime as warranted by particular circumstances.

Students exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms or who receive a positive COVID-19 test result will not be allowed in the Tom & Peggy Wright Music Building. There can be no exception to this policy. Likewise, anyone who is notified of COVID-19 contact will not be allowed in the Tom & Peggy Wright Music Building. Face-to-face activities will resume only after a quarantine period has lapsed or a negative test result is demonstrated.

All students are encouraged to purchase their own thermometers to keep track of COVID-19 symptoms. (Do not share thermometers!) Students exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms are encouraged to complete the self-reporting form available on your mySFA home page.

CDC-approved face masks will be worn in the appropriate manner when entering and exiting the teaching studio as well as during non-singing portions of lessons. Individual teachers may require wearing of masks during singing as well when warranted by particular circumstances.

All teaching studios will be equipped with HEPA-filter air purifiers.

Students must sanitize hands upon entry and exit from the studio. Appropriate social distancing will be practiced within the studio or other teaching area.

Music stands and other high-touch surfaces will be sanitized before and after every lesson.

Students should sanitize practice room surfaces upon entry and exit.

In studio class (small seminar) and collective seminar, masks will be worn without exception and appropriate social distancing will be practiced. Any desks, chairs, or other surfaces touched will be sanitized upon entry and exit of seminar room. Students will be responsible for sanitizing their own areas.

Students should provide their own:

- Face masks (reusable/disposable)
- Appropriate materials/equipment for sanitizing hands and surfaces
Each student should consult with her/his voice teacher for specific studio enhancements to these guidelines.

**A Cappella Choir:**

By audition. This large group of 48 singers will be split into three smaller sections of 12 singers. Face to face rehearsals will occur **Monday-Thursday**. Singers are requested to take their temperature before leaving their residence in the morning. Before rehearsal begins, students’ temperature will be taken again. The singers will be spaced 10 feet apart; wearing masks (student responsibility) and face shields (student responsibility) provided in collaboration with Dr. Dan Bruton in the Physics Department will be required. Indoor rehearsals will be shortened to 30 minutes at a time and before and after rehearsal, the room will be sterilized and disinfected with room foggers. When conditions are favorable, rehearsals will continue or occur under a tent provided. To provide further flexibility, faculty members are in the process of identifying additional indoor and outdoor large rehearsal spaces.

**Chamber Singers:**

By audition. This chamber group of 20 singers will have face to face rehearsals on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Singers are requested to take their temperature before leaving their residence in the morning. Before rehearsal begins, students’ temperature will be taken again. The singers will be spaced 10 feet apart; wearing masks (student responsibility) and face shields (student responsibility) provided in collaboration with Dr. Dan Bruton in the Physics Department will be required. Indoor rehearsals will be shortened to 30 minutes at a time and before and after rehearsal, the room will be sterilized and disinfected with room foggers. When conditions are favorable, rehearsals will continue or occur under a tent provided. To provide further flexibility, faculty members are in the process of identifying additional indoor and outdoor large rehearsal spaces.

**Kantorei (treble choir) and The Singing Axes (tenor bass choir):**

These groups will utilize a hybrid of indoor and outdoor rehearsals.

Kantorei will be split into two separate, balanced ensembles: Kantorei Purple and Kantorei White. Dr. Fish and a graduate student will share teaching responsibilities of these choirs. The two groups, KP and KW, will sing separate literature.

The Singing Axes will also be split into two balanced ensembles, but will rehearse together once every two weeks, as they will not be singing separate repertoire.

All singers will wear masks and face shields, unless the singers have purchased the “Singer’s Resonance Mask” which is not conducive for shields. Singers will be physically distanced nine to ten feet apart. Chairs will not be used.
Rehearsals will be shortened and a portable fogger will be used to sanitize Kennedy Auditorium or Cole Hall for indoor rehearsals.

To provide further flexibility, faculty members are in the process of identifying additional indoor and outdoor large rehearsal spaces.

**Conducting I:**

This practicum class of under 20 will be spaced 10 feet apart; wearing masks (student responsibility) and face shields (student responsibility) will be required. Each student will be assigned their own personal music stand. Each student will be responsible for retrieving their assigned music stand from a locked room, cleaning the music stand, and putting the music stand away. Indoor class meetings will be shortened to 30 minutes at a time and before and after rehearsal the room will be sterilized and disinfected with room foggers. When conditions are favorable, class will occur or continue under a tent provided.

**Opera Ensemble:**

This class will meet face to face on Monday and Wednesday in the Choir Room. The students will be spaced 6 feet apart during class activities (10 feet apart when singing wearing masks (student responsibility), and face shields provided in collaboration with Dr. Dan Bruton in the Physics Department. Indoor rehearsals will be shortened to 30 minutes at a time and before and after rehearsal, the room will be sterilized and disinfected with room foggers. To provide further flexibility, faculty members are in the process of identifying additional indoor and outdoor large rehearsal spaces. Chairs will rarely be used.

**Opera Workshop:**

This class will meet face to face on Tuesday and Thursday on the Cole Concert Hall Stage. The students will be spaced 6 feet apart during class activities (10 feet apart when singing wearing masks (student responsibility), and face shields provided in collaboration with Dr. Dan Bruton in the Physics Department. Indoor rehearsals will be shortened to 30 minutes at a time and before and after rehearsal, the room will be sterilized and disinfected with room foggers. To provide further flexibility, faculty members are in the process of identifying additional indoor and outdoor large rehearsal spaces. Chairs will rarely be used.

**French Diction:**

Both sections will be divided into two groups each. One group (half of the students) will meet on Tuesdays and the other group will meet on Thursdays in order to facilitate appropriate physical distancing. The remainder of the instruction will be delivered online asynchronously.
Masks will be mandatory. All touched surfaces will be sanitized before and after class by students.

**Italian Diction (Dr. Fish’s section):**

Class will be held in the Band Hall. The students will not use chairs or stands; students will sit on the floor.

Students will be provided with these materials:
- 9X12 portable dry erase board
- One dry erase marker
- One eraser

Students will show their work on the whiteboards. All written assignments will be received and returned electronically. Performance quizzes and tests will take place outdoors (weather permitting). Class will use Zoom performance quizzes and tests as a last resort.

Dr. Fish will also create some diction demonstrations for student practice on D2L

**Italian Diction (Dr. Turner’s section):**

Class will be a combination of face-to-face and asynchronous online instruction. Assignments, tests, exams etc. will be online. One class meeting each week will be face-to-face, focusing primarily on the International Phonetic Alphabet, correct pronunciation of the sounds, and application to various texts; the other class “meeting” will be online (asynchronous) and will provide instruction, exercises, and assignments through D2L.

**Vocal Pedagogy:**

This class will meet face-to-face in the Music Recital Hall in order to make appropriate physical distancing possible. Appropriately worn facial masks will be mandatory. All touched surfaces will be sanitized before and after class by students.