

Sam Houston State University  
Musical Theater Department  
VOI 101 and 301  
Syllabus: Spring 2008

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Office Hours: By appointment

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## **DESCRIPTION**

VOI 101 and 301 is a one hour weekly private voice lesson. Instruction is given in the following areas: technique, repertoire development, style, interpretation, diction, vocal and physical health, music reading skills, techniques for learning new music, memorization and performance.

## **OBJECTIVE AND GOAL**

This class is designed to aid the serious student in developing their vocal and performance abilities in a safe and supportive environment with a goal of preparing the student for a career in the performing arts.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

- *CD*

Please bring a blank CD to record your lessons, this is an excellent study aid and record of your progress!

- *Notebook/Journal*

Keep a lesson notebook and journal in a 3-ring binder. Include in this notebook: class notes, hand-outs, music, assignments, and a practice log, or journal. Please do not put your music in plastic!

- *Assignments*

You are expected to prepare your music for each lesson, including musical, historical and dramatic analysis. Please refer to your "Guidelines for Learning New Music."

- *Repertoire*

VOI 101 students are required to learn six new songs each semester; VOI 301 students are required to learn eight new songs each semester. I encourage you to bring in song ideas and actively participate in research and your own repertoire development.

- *Practice*

Singing is a skill and must therefore be practiced regularly! Ideally, you should practice and study your music everyday! Everyday practice should include vocal warm-ups, learning notes and rhythms, listening to lesson CDs, studying scores, researching historical background and performances, and dramatic interpretation. i.e. movement, gestures, character interpretations.

- *Attendance*

Missed lessons will not be made up. If you are not able to make your lesson, please call me at the office, or email me and let me know. You will get one "free" absence with no explanation necessary. Repeated absences will negatively affect your grade.

- *Mid-term*

At mid-point in the semester, I will conduct a check of your repertoire for musical and dramatic analysis. Specific details on the mid-term will be provided separately.

- *Final Jury*

At the end of the semester, you will be required to give a performance of selected repertoire by memory for the voice faculty. This is an evaluation of what you have accomplished over the semester. Jury grading may consist of the following criteria: personal improvement, breath management, phonation, intonation, resonance, diction, musical accuracy, interpretation, dramatic presentation, physical presentation, and overall instrument potential.

- *Accompanist*

Students are required to contract a private accompanist. Your accompanist must be able to come to the second half of your lesson. This is an additional expense not covered by tuition or other fees. You must provide the accompanist with copies of your music. It is strongly recommended that you rehearse with your accompanist outside of your lesson.

- *Studio Class*

There will be regular times the entire studio will meet together to perform for each other and for class demonstrations. Requirements for attendance at studio class are the same as described above for lessons.

- *Copies*

I need copies of your repertoire and don't mind making copies for you. Just give the music to me at your lesson, or put it in my box in the Theater Office with instructions.

## **GRADING**

50% Final Jury (averaged from faculty jury sheets)

50% Lesson preparation and assignments, mid-term, lesson notebook/journal, attendance, attitude and professionalism.

*Please let me know if you have any problems, questions, or concerns. I can't help you if I don't know what's going on. You can always email me, or call me at home (936) 588-0294. I look forward to an enjoyable and successful semester working with you!*

*Sandy*

Sam Houston State University  
Musical Theater Department  
VOI 101 and 103  
Syllabus: Fall, 2007  
Instructor: Sandra Johnson

I have read, I comprehend and agree to the terms of the Syllabus for VOI 101 and 103.

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Student's Name (printed)

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Student's Signature

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Date