

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

VIPA 4620 Vocal Techniques

Course Syllabus

Course Description:

An advanced study of the care and cultivation of the singing voice, aesthetic awareness, musical language and history, vocal solo repertoire, foreign language singing, artistic expression, vocal techniques, ensemble performance, performance practice, recital etiquette, recital program writing, program notes, research and daily practice discipline: The class will vocalize daily in preparation for required solo performances. The students will maintain a rotating schedule of voice lessons, accompanist rehearsals, ensemble rehearsals, and class research. The students will be encouraged to participate in honor solo performance and solo competitions and festivals.

Curricular Mapping:

The primary purpose of this course is to prepare the student for a life of solo performing and preparation for further studies in voice after graduation. This is an advanced level class. The student may continue studies in singing by taking this class until the completion of high school or private voice lessons.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Sing with advanced vocal technique, breath, posture, tone, and intonation
2. Vocalize with competent intonation on a major and minor scale, thirds, intervals, chromatic scale, assigned harmonies from the I, IV, V7 and ii chord using “solfege”
3. Perform in a choral ensemble and chamber ensemble with measurable success
4. Gain success in the vocal arts which will encourage the student to continue as a lifelong singer
5. Be better prepared for collegiate or professional level musical ensembles and solo performances
6. Perform correct pronunciation of various language repertoire with well placed vowel shape, exact translations, and stylistic expression
7. Better understanding choral literature, style and composers from Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and Contemporary periods

8. Have a sense of artistic aesthetics in the vocal arts
9. Realize God's gift of music that is intrinsic and extrinsic
10. Understand music with an increased Christian worldview

Texts:

Course material will be provided by your instructor and available in the classroom.

Prerequisites:

Prerequisite includes placement by the instructor for returning students or a vocal audition and interview with the instructor for incoming students. The course requires previous vocal studies in choir and/or voice lessons. The audition includes a prepared solo selection, sight-reading, range testing, tone matching, and "solfege" scales. This class is open for qualifying junior and senior level students and is designed for students planning to continue for study and performance at the collegiate and/ or professional level.

Course Outline and Requirements:

- 1.0 Vocal Techniques
- 1.1 Instrument created by God
- 1.2 Continual Assessment of Posture
- 1.3 Continual Assessment of Breath
- 1.4 Continual Assessment of Resonance
- 1.5 Continual Assessment of Tone
- 1.6 Continual Assessment of Healthy Phonation
- 2.0 Theory
- 2.1 "Solfege" System applied directly to choral scores
- 2.2 Independently perform Major Scale, Minor Scale
- 2.3 Independently perform Arpeggios I, IV, V7 and ii
- 2.4 Independently perform Thirds and Intervals
- 2.5 Independently perform Chromatic Scale
- 2.6 Independently perform Harmonies on I, IV, V7 and ii
- 3.0 Choral Technique
- 3.1 Re-access Voice Assignment
- 3.2 Voicing according to literature style and demands

- 3.3 Triadic Choral Blend, appropriate vibrato, stylistic accent
- 4.0 Score Reading
- 4.1 SSAATTBB
- 4.2 Independent Part reading
- 4.3 Advance in musical forms
- 4.4 Rhythms; syncopation, mixed rhythms
- 4.5 Notes; dissonance, non-traditional harmonies
- 4.6 Precise Control of Dynamics
- 5.0 Repertoire
- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Score marking
- 5.3 Folder Management
- 6.0 Performances
- 6.1 Concert 1
- 6.2 Concert 2
- 6.3 Concert 3
- 6.4 Concert 4
- 6.5 Festivals
- 6.6 Chapels
- 6.7 Church Services
- 6.8 Community Concerts
- 6.9 Golden State

Grading:

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Notebook	25%		
Recital/ Final	25%	Quarter	50%
Research	15%	Quarter	50%
Song Preparation	15%		
Studio Performances	15%		
Syllabus Signature	5%		

High School Standard Grading Policy:

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Parent-Student Handbook.

Class Policies:

The following class policies are non-negotiable. Please see the instructor if you have any concerns with your ability to follow these policies.

1. Attendance: Students are expected to be in class daily. If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to get the classwork and homework missed. You will have one day for every day you are out to make up your work- no exceptions.
2. Tardiness: Students are expected to be in their seats with their folders out and all materials needed ready when the bell rings otherwise you will be marked "Tardy."
3. No gum, no drinks or food, only water in a container that seals

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

Tips for the Students:

It is recommended that students prepare their activities calendar while collaborating with the performance calendar. Students should be responsible to have all materials in their folder for each rehearsal. Participation equals progress.

This course moves at a fast pace. Getting behind can be detrimental to your achievement and may cause dismissal from the course

Miscellaneous:

Folders will be graded at random times without your prior knowledge. It is recommended that you keep your folder up to date and music marked well in pencil only.