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WELCOME & MISSION STATEMENT

Welcome! Your years of study are crucial to your development as a musician and person. This handbook has been developed to provide you with a general understanding of the departmental programs and requirements. Please feel free to consult with your voice teacher or the Directors of Vocal Studies for further guidance and to clarify any questions or concerns. Many hopes and prayers for a blessed year!

The Area of Vocal Studies is dedicated to training future musical artists, educators, and classical music professionals through rigorous vocal study, enriching course work, wide-ranged performance opportunities, and personal mentorship. Our long term goal is to develop vocal artists who will have a positive effect on the world by promoting a life of integrated faith and music that honors God.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Developing excellent vocal technique is important for all Vocal Majors and students whose primary instrument is voice.

Undergraduate students will strive to acquire a solid technical foundation and develop an understanding of the relationship between music and poetry in classical literature. Students will learn proper diction in English, Italian, German and French through IPA instruction and in their lessons with individual instructors. The goal of the undergraduate program is to help students build vocal and performance skills that equip them for the demands of solo and ensemble singing.

Graduate students will strive to develop the highest possible level of artistic interpretation as well as proficiency in vocal technique, musicianship, and advanced foreign language skills. They will also gain a deeper understanding of musical styles and historical periods. Students will learn research methods and critical thinking in vocal pedagogy and will integrate vocal and interpretive skills in preparation for performance on the concert and operatic stage.

STUDIO ASSIGNMENTS

New studio assignments are routinely determined by the Directors of Vocal Studies unless a student has been actively recruited into a studio or into the program by a particular teacher. Students may request to study with a voice teacher. However, admission to a studio will be dependent upon the availability of the requested teacher. Students should approach the Directors of Vocal Studies with requests to study with a particular teacher or to change teachers. The Directors will guide student through the process of requesting a voice teacher or to change studios. Studio/teacher changes will generally be made the semester following the request.

LESSONS

Lessons are either 30 minutes (one unit) or 60 minutes (two units) in length and students must complete a minimum of 12 lessons per semester. Teachers will make every effort to schedule lessons to accommodate the students' academic schedules. Lessons missed by a teacher due to illness or other reasons will be made up as will lessons missed due to University-approved field trip activities. Teachers can, but are not required to make up lessons canceled by the student due to illness or any other reasons. If possible, students are requested to give their voice teacher 24 hour notice should they need to cancel their lesson. “No-show” students do not receive make-up lessons.

STUDIO CLASSES

A teacher may at some time during the semester hold a studio class for his or her students. The class is structured by the individual teacher and includes student performances, demonstrations and discussions. Studio classes give students the opportunity to sharpen their performance skills in a familiar and trusted atmosphere.
MONDAY AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE FORUM

Every Monday afternoon, there is a valuable opportunity for students to gain knowledge and experience through student recitals, guest lectures and master classes by industry professionals. Nothing furthers the development of singers/performers better than an opportunity to sing for or observe their peers in an encouraging and educational atmosphere. Performance Forum attendance is therefore mandatory for all undergraduate Vocal Performance, Music Education, Music & Worship and Music majors with Vocal emphasis.

Student Recitals

All Music Majors must present a solo performance annually. All Vocal Performance Majors and Majors with an Emphasis in Vocal Performance, who are not presenting a Junior or Senior Recital, must fulfill this requirement in a Performance Forum (PF) recital. Priority will be given to Performance Majors. Some students with a Vocal Performance Emphasis may be requested to fulfill this requirement in one of the special “non-voice major” recitals at the end of each semester. These recitals are organized by the vocal area and are designed to help non-voice performance majors fulfill their performance requirements for the semester/year. Any variance must be requested in writing with an “In-House” Petition, by the student and their instructor, to Dennis Royse, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies.

Master Classes

Fall semester: Three master classes will be offered and vocal majors will be required to perform in at least one of these. Attendance is mandatory for all Vocal Performance majors and Music Majors with a vocal emphasis.

Spring semester: Master Class participation will prioritize Juniors and Seniors as well as Grad students who are preparing spring recitals. Attendance is mandatory for all Vocal Performance majors and Music Majors with a vocal emphasis.

Singer Enrichment

A series of lectures and presentations by esteemed guest artists and industry professionals is offered during Performance Forum as a means of enriching the performance practice and understanding of the music industry as we experience it today. Attendance is mandatory for all undergraduate Vocal Performance, Music Education, and all Music majors with vocal emphasis.
UNDERGRADUATE BACHELOR OF MUSIC OR BACHELOR OF ARTS VOCAL PERFORMANCE (APPLIED VOICE)

Students will experience singing in English, Italian, German and French as well as many compositional styles and periods over their four years of study. It is important that students learn a significant amount of repertoire over their four years of study (a minimum of 9 – 10 songs per year). It is also recommended that students document all works studied and update their repertoire lists on a regular basis.

Additional Requirements

A minimum of 36 – 40 works (songs, arias, recitatives) over the course of four years.
BM Vocal Performance majors are required to give a Junior Recital (minimum of 30 minutes of music) and a Senior Recital (minimum of 60 minutes of music)
BA Vocal Performance Majors are required to give a Senior Recital. A Junior Recital is not mandatory, but strongly encouraged.
Mandatory juries at the end of each semester, excluding semesters where recitals are being presented
Mandatory Freshman & Sophomore Platforms (See Achievement Platforms)

Repertoire

The following historical periods should be represented:
   Italian Baroque
   German Baroque
   Classical
   19th century (including French and German lieder)
   20th century
   Music written after 1975

At least 4 Italian songs or arias
At least 2 operatic arias
A secco recitative before 1815
At least one Oratorio aria
At least 4 German songs
At least 4 French songs
At least 6 songs in English (to include 3 American songs)
At least 2 songs from 'national schools' including Spanish, Czech, Russian, Scandinavian (English translations allowed)
Remaining repertoire choices at teacher's discretion
ALL OTHER MUSIC MAJORS WITH VOCAL EMPHASIS (APPLIED VOICE)

Additional Requirements

Students should complete a minimum of 32 – 36 works over the course of four years.
Junior and Senior recitals are not mandatory but encouraged
Mandatory juries at the end of each semester

Repertoire

The following historical periods should be represented:
  Italian Baroque
  German Baroque
  Classical
  19th century (including French and German lieder)
  20th century
  Music written after 1975

At least 4 Italian songs or arias
At least 2 operatic or oratorio arias
A secco recitative from 1815 or earlier
At least 3 German songs
At least 3 French songs
At least 4 English songs (two should be American songs)
Remaining repertoire choices at teacher's discretion

Music & Worship students are encouraged to include sacred, worship and church
literature from all historical periods.

MUSIC MAJORS (NON-VOCAL EMPHASIS) & NON-MUSIC MAJORS (APPLIED VOICE)

Teachers will determine repertoire according to level, interest of student and voice type

Students have the opportunity to perform a learned piece of music in a casual “non-voice
major” recital at the end of the semester which is organized by the voice department.
JURY AND PLATFORM REQUIREMENTS – VOCAL PERFORMANCE MAJORS (BM/BA) AND MUSIC EDUCATION

Juries

Voice juries take place at the end of each semester. A jury serves the purpose of evaluating the progress a student has made during the course of a semester. Students will perform their jury selections for faculty members who will give valuable and constructive feedback. The final grade will be determined by the student's primary voice teacher. Make up juries for students who must be absent from scheduled juries will take place during the first two weeks of classes in the following semester.

Students taking one unit of Applied Voice prepare a minimum of two selections from the repertoire requirements. Students taking two units of Applied Voice prepare a minimum of four from the repertoire requirements.

Students performing a Junior or Senior recital are exempt from juries in the semester of their recital.

Students participating in the Opera program are required to do juries however learned arias or roles may count as partial fulfillment of jury literature requirements.

Repertoire List Form

A repertoire list form to document studied works is available online. Students are responsible for maintaining their repertoire lists and updating them accordingly. Students will bring multiple copies of updated repertoire lists to achievement platforms as well as to their final Senior jury to facilitate evaluation by the voice faculty.

Achievement Platforms

Freshman Platform
To be taken at the end of Freshman year
A minimum of four selections from memory (two in Italian, two in English)
Focus of the evaluation is on all aspects of student's technical progress, including musical accuracy, tone quality, connection to breath, physical alignment, proper pronunciation and communication of text.
Pass: Student may progress to Sophomore level
Conditional Pass: Student passes platform but faculty has concerns about specific problems serious enough to question the student's further participation in the Vocal Performance program. Student will be required to do a Freshman Platform rehearing in the next semester.
Fail: The student does not pass platform and cannot continue as a Vocal Performance major.
Student receives feedback and recommendations from primary teacher and vocal faculty to facilitate a change of major/program.
Sophomore Platform

To be taken at the end of Sophomore year

Five selections from memory (German, French and English must be represented) Students will list all 5 selections including composer and submit copies to the voice faculty at the time of the platform.

Functions as 'gateway' test for continuing as a Vocal Performance major or maintaining voice as the emphasis for a Music Education major

Focus of evaluation is on demonstrated growth and progress in all skill sets. Voice faculty will look for a synthesis of vocal, musical and performance achievement.

Pass/Conditional Pass/Fail

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE (VOICE)

Graduate students will focus on advanced repertoire from all compositional styles and periods and will continue to refine their musical, foreign language, critical thinking and stage presentation skills.

Repertoire learned during the undergraduate degree may not be repeated during the graduate degree.

Master of Music in Performance (Voice) requires a full graduate recital in addition to juries. The student is exempt from doing a jury in the semester of his or her recital.

Repertoire

The following historical periods should be represented

- Italian Baroque
- German Baroque
- Classical
- 19th century (including German and French Lieder)
- 20th century
- Music written after 1975

Juries

Students taking two units of Applied Voice will prepare a minimum of 5 – 6 selections from the repertoire requirements. Each jury will include arts songs and at least one aria from opera or oratorio per semester. Students participating in the Opera program are required to do juries however learned arias or roles may count as partial fulfillment of jury literature requirements. Students are expected to be able to recite the English translations for all foreign language selections if asked and must demonstrate sufficient technical, musical, and performing proficiency to prepare the graduate recital.
ALL OTHER MASTER OF MUSIC STUDENTS TAKING APPLIED VOICE

Graduate students will focus on advanced repertoire from all compositional styles and periods and will continue to refine their musical, foreign language, critical thinking and stage presentation skills. Repertoire learned during the undergraduate degree may not be repeated during the graduate degree.

   Repertoire guidelines the same as for MM Performance (Voice)
   All Master of Music students taking Applied Voice are required to do juries
   Recital not mandatory

RECITALS (VOCAL PERFORMANCE B.M./B.A. AND M.M. PERFORMANCE – VOICE)

Junior Recital (B.M.)
   -30 minutes of memorized consecutive music
   -Should be a joint recital with another student on the Junior level

Senior Recital (B.M./B.A.)
   -60 minutes of memorized consecutive music
   -Mandatory pre-recital hearing

Graduate Recital
   -70 minutes of memorized consecutive music
   -Recital repertoire should represent a culmination of the vocal, musical and artistic work done to date
   -Mandatory pre-recital hearing

BACHELOR OF MUSIC PRE-TEACHER CERTIFICATION SENIOR RECITAL REQUIREMENTS

A 60 minute senior recital is required for BM Music Education majors. A junior recital is not required, but students are welcome to complete one.

For the senior recital, music education majors should plan to have a minimum of 30 minutes of solo performance in their primary applied area. The remaining 30 minutes may include their solo applied area, but may also include conducting, chamber music, composition and arranging, and performing on secondary instruments. Students are encouraged to include diverse styles of music including pop/commercial, jazz, and world music.

Additional Voice Requirements:
4 languages should be represented
Repertoire

Teachers and students will strive to choose level-appropriate repertoire for all recitals. Recitals are comprised of art songs from all of the afore-mentioned historical periods. No more than 2 opera arias will be allowed on any recital program.

Accompanists

Students giving recitals will be responsible for acquiring and compensating their recital pianists and should consult with their primary teacher regarding appropriate stipends for their accompanists. Students are able to utilize the services of the staff accompanists for 'in-lesson' coaching and rehearsal. (Refer to the Music Major Handbook for detailed information and accompanist request forms)

Practice Rooms

Practice rooms on campus are limited. Students are advised to reserve practice/rehearsal rooms in advance through the School of Music office. (Refer to Music Major Handbook for further information)

Scheduling

All student recitals must be booked well in advance with the School of Music office. For undergraduate students, recitals may NOT be scheduled during final examination periods in any semester. Please stop by the School of Music office to pick up a Recital Date Request form to begin the scheduling process.

Contact person for the recital process is Leslie Cheng (lcheng@apu.edu). Once a recital date and time has been confirmed, a recital confirmation packet along with a program template is sent to the student and instructor by email. Please refer to this packet and template for detailed instructions with regard to recital preparations. Pre-recital and recital completion forms are also included in the confirmation packet. Students are responsible for inputting their own recital program information into the template and must have their programs approved by their applied instructor. Additionally, students must make an appointment with the Writing Center to review their program. Please use the following link to make appointments with the Writing Center: www.apu.edu/writingcenter/appointments (Refer to Music Major Handbook for complete recital information)
CHORAL ENSEMBLE REQUIREMENTS (VOCAL PERFORMANCE MAJORS)

Freshman and sophomores will be assigned two choral ensembles, one of their choice and one assigned.

Juniors may choose Opera as their ensemble and then they will be assigned to another.

Seniors may choose Opera as their ensemble or they will be assigned to another. The Senior recital will count as one other assignment.

Any petition process will be handled together with the Directors of Voice and the Petition Committee.

Scholarship money is for assigned ensemble(s). (This is not a change from current policy.)

If consensus cannot be reached between the Directors of Voice and the Petition Committee, the student may request the petition be sent to the Dean for a final decision.

**This handbook corresponds with the 2017/18 catalog.**