

# University of North Florida Department of Music Course Syllabus

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Term: Spring 2008 (January 8<sup>th</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup>)  
Course: MVV 4640: Vocal Pedagogy  
Semester Hours: 2 Semester hours per course.  
Time: Tuesday & Thursday 3:30 – 4:20  
Room: Building 45 / Fine Arts Center Room 2308  
Professor: Dr. Krzysztof Biernacki  
Studio Tel: (904) 620-3852  
E-mail: [kbiernac@unf.edu](mailto:kbiernac@unf.edu)  
Web Site: <http://www.unf.edu/~kbiernac>  
Office Hours: Fridays 1:00 to 2:00 or by appointment.

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## COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to basic concepts and methodologies of modern vocal pedagogy. It is designed as a comprehensive overview for undergraduate voice students as prospective voice teachers, choir directors, coaches, performers, or other professional voice users.

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

The following textbook will be used throughout the semester and it is available for purchase at the UNF Bookstore:

Ware, Clifton. *Basics of Vocal Pedagogy. The Foundations and Process of Singing*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1998.  
MT820 .W26 1998

## SECONDARY TEXTBOOKS:

The following textbooks will be used as secondary sources for additional research, examination and discourse:

Miller, Richard. *The Structure of Singing. System and Art in Vocal Technique*. New York: Schirmer Books, 1996.  
MT825 .M646 1986

Miller, Richard. *Solutions for Singers: Tools for Performers and Teachers*. New York: Oxford University Press, c 2004.  
MT820. M5993 2004

Miller, Richard. *On the Art of Singing*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.  
MT820.M599 1996

Additional reading materials such as articles from prominent journals will be handed out on a weekly basis. Supplemental textbooks and periodicals will also be put on reserve at the Carpenter Library Reserve Desk.

## COURSE FORMAT & EXPECTATIONS:

The format of this course will be based on advanced reading and study of individual chapters of the textbook. Students are required to read specific chapters (plus additional articles if any) one week in advance. Content of individual chapters will then be discussed during class with special emphasis on *Study Review* included at the end of each chapter.

## ASSIGNMENTS AND QUIZZES:

There will be two shorter quizzes plus one major assignment due on April 24<sup>th</sup> 2008. More information regarding major assignment's topic will be handed out by the end of January 2008.

## COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week I	January 8 <sup>th</sup> – General introduction and description of the course.
Week II	January 15 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 1: Philosophy of Singing. January 17 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 2: Psychology of Singing.
Week III	January 22 <sup>nd</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 3: Body-Mind Integration.
Week IV	January 29 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 4: the Vocal Process: Making Connections. January 31 <sup>st</sup> – <b>QUIZ # 1</b>
Week V	February 5 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 5: Respiration: Managing Breath.
Week VI	February 12 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 6: Phonation: Producing Tone.
Week VII	February 19 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> – Chapter 7: Registration: Connecting Voice Levels.
Week VIII	February 26 <sup>th</sup> – <b>MIDTERM</b> February 28 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 8: Resonation: Optimizing Tone Quality
Week IX	March 4 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 9: Articulation: Voicing Vowels and Consonants.
Week X	March 11 <sup>th</sup> and 13 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 10: Coordination: Unifying the Vocal Process.
Week XI	March 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> – <b>SPRING BREAK</b>
Week XII	March 25 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 11: The Singer's Instrument: Use, Pathology, and Care. March 27 <sup>th</sup> – <b>QUIZ # 2</b>
Week XIII	April 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Chapter 12: Solo Vocal Performance.
Week XIV	April 8 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> – Continuation on Chapter 12: Solo Vocal Performance.
Week XV	April 15 <sup>th</sup> and April 17 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 13: Teaching Singing.
Week XVI	April 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Continuation on Chapter 13: Teaching Singing April 24 <sup>th</sup> – <b>REVIEW + ASSIGNMENT DEADLINE !</b>

## **FINAL EXAM - TBA**

## GRADING POLICY & MARK BREAKDOWN:

The final mark will be calculated as follows:

A	=	93-100
A-	=	90-92
B+	=	87-89
B	=	83-86
B-	=	80-82
C+	=	77-79
C	=	70-76
C-	=	67-69
D	=	60-66
F	=	59 or below

5%	=	Quiz # 1
30%	=	Midterm
5%	=	Quiz # 2
20%	=	Assignment
10%	=	Attendance & Attitude
30%	=	Final Exam

### OFFICE HOURS:

Due to an overload of teaching hours and departmental responsibilities, Dr. Biernacki will only be available for regular office hours on Fridays between 1:00 to 2:00. Students are also welcome to book an appointment or stop by Dr. Biernacki's studio (Room 2308) at any time. Asking questions and seeking advice is very strongly encouraged !

### STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities who seek reasonable accommodations in the classroom or other aspects of performing their coursework must first register with the UNF Disability Resource Center (DRC) located in Building 10, Room 1201. DRC staff members work with students to obtain required documentation of disability and to identify appropriate accommodations as required by applicable disability laws including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). After receiving all necessary documentation, the DRC staff determines whether a student qualifies for services with the DRC and if so, the accommodations the student will be provided. DRC staff then prepares a letter for the student to provide faculty advising them of approved accommodations. For further information, contact the DRC by phone (904) 620-2769, email ([kwebb@unf.edu](mailto:kwebb@unf.edu)), or visit the DRC website (<http://www.unf.edu/dept/disabled-services>).

*“You never truly understand something until you have taught it – Good Luck”*

Old Yoga Master