

Las Positas College  
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## Course Outline for MUS 33

### STUDY OF VOICE

Effective: Fall 2010

#### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MUS 33 — STUDY OF VOICE — 1.00 units

Individual improvement of the technical facility, tone quality, and range of the singing voice in solo performances; designed to extend knowledge of the literature in general and help acquire a basic repertory. Required for voice majors.

1.00 Units Lecture

#### Prerequisite

MUS 23B - Elementary Voice II  
with a minimum grade of C

#### Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

#### Discipline:

Family: Music Voice

	<u>MIN</u>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	18.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	18.00

#### II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 4

#### III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

**Before entering the course a student should be able to:**

A. MUS23B

#### IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

1. demonstrate knowledge of a basic foundation of voice production and an approach to widening their acquaintance with significant vocal literature;
2. show improved technical facility, tone quality, and range;
3. demonstrate musical sensitivity as a means for artistic expression;
4. improve ability to bring song to life through acting.

#### V. CONTENT:

- A. Principles of correct vocal production
  1. Tone quality
  2. Breath support
  3. Increasing the singable range
- B. Interpretive techniques
  1. Phrasing
  2. Diction
  3. Nuance of the text
  4. Stage presence
  5. Proper reading of the score
- C. In the course of two semesters, the following types of literature must be performed:
  1. Art song
  2. An aria from an opera, oratorio, or cantata
  3. A selection from a Broadway musical
  4. A folk song, spiritual, or other type of composition suitable for concert presentation
  5. One of the above songs must be in Italian and another in either France or German.
- D. Students will be responsible for learning something about the stylistic background and demands of each song, and, in the case of arias, etc., for explaining to the class the context out of which the song is taken.

#### VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. "Studio" approach to instruction
- B. Constructive criticism and suggestions for improvement
- C. Solo and unison performance of exercises and songs

#### VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Use the I.P.A. (International phonetic alphabet) to determine the proper pronunciation of English or foreign language. B. Prepare and perform one song in a foreign language 1. "Vittoria, Vittoria" by Carissimi 2. "Caro Mio Ben" twenty found Italian songs and arias songbook C. Compare and contrast the frottola, "El Grillo", by Josquin des Prez with the madrigal, "In Pride of May", by Thomas Weelkes.

#### VIII. EVALUATION:

##### A. **Methods**

- 1. Exams/Tests

##### B. **Frequency**

##### 1. Frequency:

- a. Daily critique of tone production
- b. Midterm-prepare and perform one song along with written examination
- c. Final examination--prepare and perform two songs.

#### IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Cameron, Julia *The Artist's Way*., Penguin Group, 1992.
- 2. Dayme, Meribeth and Cynthia Vaughn *The Singing Book*. 2nd ed., W.W. Norton & Co., 2008.
- 3. Moriarty, John *Diction*., E.C. Schirmer Music Co, 1975.

#### X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Appropriate literature as recommended by the instructor