

# Individual Lessons, Voice, Syllabus

**MP 174 A/B #42224/42226, MP 274B #42232**

## General Information

### Instructor Information and Availability

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Office hours by appointment: 217B

### Course Information

Course name: Individual voice lessons  
Section number: MP 174 A/B or MP 274 B  
CRN: 42224/42226, 42232  
Scheduled time/days: by appointment  
Number of credits: 1 or 2

**Prerequisites: none**

### Course Materials

Required:

- Access to Moodle

Optional:

- students should bring assigned music and writing materials to class
- a pitch pipe or metronome could be helpful

### Course-Specific Requirements

The instructor and the student will decide on specific repertoire. It is the student's responsibility to procure the agreed upon materials with assistance from the instructor.

### Course Description

No audition is required. Student will focus on improving vocal technique in a variety of areas, such as pitch matching, breath control, posture, and vocal quality, etc. The first lesson will be an opportunity for the instructor and student to establish goals and

discuss previous experience and any known existing vocal issues. The students will be asked to sing some exercises for the purpose of evaluation/diagnosis, and as a way for the instructor to become familiar with the student's voice.

## **Juries**

Juries are solo performances by students taking lessons. These solo performances are done in front of a panel of lessons instructors. Will be **required for music majors** at the end of each Term. These performances are to be factored into your grade. (They are **optional for non-majors** and will not factor into non-majors' grades.) If you are in your second year of lessons, you may choose to perform in a half recital during the spring term in lieu of a jury. See below for information.

## **Studio Class**

All music majors taking lessons are required to either perform or watch performances by their peers. This is called Studio Class, occurs **weekly beginning the second week of school**, and it is a part of your grade for individual lessons. These studio classes allow you a chance to perform your repertoire in front of an audience and build your performance skills. After each performance, faculty will speak to the student constructively about ways to improve. Music majors are required to perform one piece in these studio classes each term.

## **Half-Recital**

In lieu of a second-year spring term jury, you may choose to perform in a half-recital. This type of recital is a formal performance of 25-30 minutes worth of music. Recital repertoire qualifications are set by your instructor. Most of your literature should be solo works, though some duets, trios, etc... are allowable at the discretion of your instructor.

If you have a colleague who is also interested in preparing a half-recital, we recommend you join them and complete a full recital; 25-30 minutes of you performing, 25-30 minutes of them performing. You may then also perform a collaborative piece to close.

A recital hearing, in which you perform all the music of your recital, should be presented to members of the faculty at least 2 weeks prior to the recital. The hearing is a dress rehearsal of your performance consisting of all the components of your recital. It is meant to ensure that your music is thoroughly prepared and you are comfortable performing in a public setting.

## **Piano Proficiency (Music Majors Only)**

NASM requirements dictate that all music majors must acquire keyboard competency through the piano proficiency examination. The music faculty at LBCC believe that a basic level of proficiency is needed to function as a working professional musician. This piano proficiency must be completed before you graduate and/or transfer from LBCC.

For more information, please consult the Music Major Policy Handbook. If you have any questions, please see any piano instructor or the head of the music program.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Describe and demonstrate proper breathing technique
2. Match pitch with another instrument
3. Demonstrate correct posture
4. Describe elements of musical interpretation and presentation
5. Examine and select appropriate repertoire
6. Explain basic physics of the human voice
7. Utilize various rehearsal strategies

## **Safety and Health Practices for Musicians**

We care about your health and safety as you practice and perform. Performing too much or with improper technique can be detrimental to your progress and could have long-term consequences that could impact your career. To help offset these issues, we ask that you please listen to your instructor about technique and form. We also are providing you with these links from the National Association of Schools of Music that help detail what to watch for and how to perform safely and effectively.

[Protecting Your Hearing](#)

[Protecting Your Hearing Student Information Sheet](#)

[Protecting Your Neuromusculoskeletal Health](#)

[Protecting Your Vocal Health](#)

## **Class Policies**

### **Behavior and Expectations**

Students are expected to:

- ❖ Attend all lessons. Please see attendance policy below for more details.

- ❖ Practice a minimum of 30 minutes per day for the one-credit class and 60 minutes per day for the two-credit class. A written practice journal may be helpful but is not required.
- ❖ Complete short and long term applied assignments as assigned by the instructor.
- ❖ Attend special events, such as free concerts, assigned by the instructor.
- ❖ Complete listening and/or written assignments as assigned.

The instructor will select and assign repertoire and various technical exercises that are appropriate to the level and interest of each student. Students should work toward completion of both short and long term assignments and to show visible progress each week.

Students are expected to purchase music in a timely manner. A limited number of books are available at the LBCC bookstore. Others should be purchased by the student from a local bookstore, from the instructor directly, or online. Music Library or borrowed copies may be used for study purposes only, but printed music is recommended. Photocopies and/or library copies may not be used for performances.

Students are asked to give a “heads up” knock on the lesson room door if the previous lesson is not dismissed on time.

You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](#), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

## **Attendance/Tardiness Policy**

Ten lessons are offered each term. While it is necessary to maintain consistent attendance, it is understood that sometimes health issues or emergency situations simply occur. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor as soon as the student knows he/she will not be able to attend a lesson. Such contact must be made before 8:00am the morning of the lesson. In case of such illness, makeup lessons will be offered to students that give such notice prior to the missed lesson. In the event of the instructor cancelling a lesson or a missed lesson due to a holiday, makeup lessons will be offered by the end of term. The student and instructor will decide on an appropriate time for the makeup lesson. That may be an additional lesson time or add on to their existing lesson time. If the student does not attend the makeup lesson, no further makeup will be offered. If the student is running late, the instructor will not wait for the student more than 10 minutes without notification.

## **Other Music Program Policies (Music Majors Only)**

The link above will direct you to the Music Major Policy Book. This book is an official addendum to the syllabi.

### **Grading**

Grading will focus heavily on attendance and the student's individual practice and effort.

Attendance: 50 points (5 per lesson)

Homework: 150 points (15 per week)

200 points total

Homework will be assigned at each lesson and may include any and all of the following: practice time, research related to the song or text of the song, pronunciation of song lyrics, learning the notes and rhythm of songs, listening to audio recordings or watching performance videos or other exercises related to breathing, relaxation and vocalizing.

Final Grade Calculation:

- A = 90-100% Excellent Work
- B = 80-89% Good Work
- C = 70-79% Average Work
- D = 60-69% Poor Work
- F = 0-59% Failing Work

## **College Policies**

### **LBCC Email and Course Communications**

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

### **Disability and Access Statement**

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](#) for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789.

### **Statement of Inclusion**

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing

culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

## **Statement of Diverse Repertoire and Practice**

The LBCC Music Program is committed to providing an excellent education that honors both the traditional canon and music from populations who have been typically underrepresented. We are committed to presenting music to our students from diverse voices throughout their time at LBCC.

## **Title IX Reporting Policy**

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](#) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

## **Public Safety/Campus Security/Emergency Resources:**

In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at 541-926-6855 and 541-917-4440.

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a [public safety app](#) available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.

## **Campus Resources**

### **Library**

Computers and printing available, sheet music

## **Tips for Success in This Class**

- Schedule practice time in your weekly calendar
- Allow time for warmups daily
- Websites: [Diction Domain](#)

[IMSLP Petrucci library](#)

[LiederNet translation resource](#)

[Art song Central library and IPA](#)

## Changes to the Syllabus

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.

## JURY ETIQUETTE

Juries are required for Music Majors. If you are a music major, you must perform a jury in your major instrument and piano if you are taking that concurrently as a private lesson.

Music majors, we ask that you perform two pieces in your major instrument. There may be other requirements in addition to the two pieces that need to be met. Please see your instructor for more information. Your instructor will help you choose two appropriate works. If piano is your non-major instrument (and you are taking individual lessons on it), you will perform a separate jury on piano in addition to the two works on your major instrument.

For these juries we ask that you:

- ❖ When indicated by your instructor, practice with your collaborative pianist or partner well in advance of the jury to achieve a comfortable and solid performance. Your partner must have the music by the end of week 7.
  - If you do not rehearse with your collaborative accompanist, you may not be allowed to participate in the jury.
- ❖ Please fill out 4 copies of the Jury form and return these to your instructor prior to the jury.
- ❖ Present at least two copies of the pieces you will be performing to the jury panel.
- ❖ Please arrive 10 minutes early to your jury as it is important to maintain the schedule.
- ❖ You are expected to introduce yourself and announce the title and composer. Be prepared to share the time period and translation (if applicable) of your pieces.
- ❖ We would prefer you perform memorized. Accompanists and soloists must use separate copies of the music.

- ❖ We ask you to dress nicely for the jury. Whatever you would wear for a formal solo performance in front of your peers, teachers, and colleagues would be appropriate. Consult your instructor for details.
- ❖ In consultation with your instructor, follow the jury performance standards listed below:

### **Jury Performance Standards**

Your repertoire list over two years of lessons need to include music from the Baroque, Classic, Romantic/Impressionistic, and 20th-21st Century periods.

In addition to touching on those periods, you must have at least:

- ❖ 4 pieces in English
- ❖ 3 pieces in Italian
- ❖ 3 pieces in German
- ❖ 2 pieces in French
- ❖ 1 opera aria
- ❖ 1 oratorio aria
- ❖ 1 Baroque or Classical recitative