Course Description:

This course concentrates on basic fundamentals of singing, using vocal exercises and simple songs. Additional repertoire will be taken from classical, folk, and musical theatre sources. Emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of the singing voice, the body as a musical instrument, and the vocal potential of each student. Everyone will receive both class (group) and private (individual, one-on-one) instruction from a qualified professional.

Required Texts And Materials:

1. A 3-ring notebook and pencil containing all class handouts (textbook). One copy of all materials will be provided to each student. Replacement copies will be the student’s responsibility.
2. You should bring your notebook, pencil, and all handouts to every class.

Course Objectives:

1. To sing with correct posture, a raised and quiet ribcage, a relaxed and lowered jaw, vocal freedom with pharyngeal space, diaphragmatic—costal breathing technique, and a legato vocal line and phrase with proper diction.
2. To sing in tune with rhythmic accuracy.
3. To sing in vocal ensemble, blending and balancing your voice with other singers.
4. To memorize and perform assigned songs with appropriate stage presence in a recital setting.

Attendance:

Attendance is important—if you miss more hours than the class meets per week, then your grade will be adversely affected. If you stop attending class but do not drop the class by the drop deadline, then you may receive a failing grade. Three tardies or leaving from class early equals one absence.

If you are absent or need to be absent for an emergency situation, then I recommend you talk with me to find out if you will be excused. It is your responsibility to make up any class work that you miss. If you are not feeling well on a particular day and are having vocal problems, then talk to me before class so that we can determine your level of participation. If you stop attending class, it is your responsibility to officially drop the class through the registrar’s office. If you have more than 5 absences, then you will most likely fail the course.
Grading:
Performances will be graded on use of vocal techniques studied in class, musical preparation, and stage presence (communication of the text). You must be able to match pitch consistently in order to receive a passing grade. Grades are based on Attendance & Participation (25%), Completed Assignments (25%), and Performance (50%). Excessive tardies or absences will adversely affect the Class Participation grade.

Practice Rooms:
Practice rooms are located on the second floor of the Carr Education-Fine Arts building. Students taking voice class should practice a minimum of 30 minutes a day in order to make suitable progress. Remember the adage: “You only get out of something what you put into it.”

Concert Assignment & Report:
Attend one student recital (Wednesdays 4-5 pm) or studio voice class (Mondays 4-5 pm) this semester. Those will begin sometime in October. Dates will be announced in advance.

The concert report must be one page long (typed, double-spaced) and is to include a description, analysis and review of a solo vocal performance outside of class. Use the terminology discussed in class to describe your reaction to the singer. If you are unsure of the suitability of a concert for the concert report, then please check with the professor. Your concert report will be due on the last class before dead week, which is Wednesday, Nov. 29.

University Course Withdrawal Policy:
The last day for a partial or total withdrawal from the University for the Regular Session will be Friday, Nov. 3. Withdrawal grades will be indicated by a “W”.

Midterm Memory Exam will be the week of March 7-11.
The final recital performance will be on Wednesday, Dec. 6. and May 3 (Non-music majors on May 3).

University Honor Code:
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained both in print and web versions of the Student Handbook.

ADA Compliance:
Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Religious Holy Days:
1. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code §11.20.
2. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.
3. A student who is excused under section 2 may not be penalized for the absence; however, the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily.