

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

MUSI 2851 String Instruments and Vocal Pedagogy for Instrumentalists

Credit Hours: 1

Laboratory Hours: 2

Prerequisite: Music major and sophomore standing

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Designed as a practical preparation for prospective teachers of instrumental music. The first half of the semester develops diagnostic skills in teaching violin, viola, cello and bass. The second half presents fundamental vocal pedagogy, including how to develop and maintain proper vocal production and vocal health. Offers laboratory experience in teaching beginning string and voice students, in addition to solo string and vocal performance.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and explain the principles relating to proper vocal technique including breathing, tone quality, vowel production, phrasing, etc.
2. Perform several different types of solo vocal literature including art songs, folk songs, sacred solos and Broadway standards.
3. Identify individual differences in vocal potential, ranges, quality and pitch discrimination and the implications for teaching vocal music in school situations.
4. Develop a pedagogical understanding and performance proficiency on the Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass.
5. Develop pedagogical diagnostic skills for strings.
6. Develop an understanding of current methods for teaching instrumental music.
7. Implement those methods in an instrumental classroom setting.

B. University Learning Outcomes

MUSI 2851 String Instruments and Vocal Pedagogy for Instrumentalists enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking**

Students will draw conclusions and/or solve problems using proper musical terminology; personal expression within the context of musical performance.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently using proper musical terminology; personal expression within the context of a musical performance.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes whether in musical research, presentation, or performance.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will appreciate and reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Posture for Singing
- B. Warm-ups and Rehearsing
- C. Breathing and Basic Tone Production
- D. Resonance and Projection
- E. Pronunciation and Interpretation
- F. Basic Guidelines to Singing in Foreign Languages
- G. String Pedagogy and the History of the String Family
- H. Suzuki Techniques
- I. Orff Instrumental Practices