



**MUVO5211/5111 Private Voice for the Non-Major  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Division of Church Music Ministries  
Spring 2023**

Dr. Jessica McMillan  
Assistant Professor of Music and Worship  
Office: Sellers 220C  
Phone: 504-282-4455, ext. 8267  
Email: jmcmillan@nobts.edu

**Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

**Course Description**

This course is designed to continue the development the advanced voice student's instrument through the use of various prescribed vocal techniques and appropriate literature and in turn enabling him/her to better serve the local church by supplying proper tools that he/she can use to communicate effectively with his/her voice students and church choir members.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. Understand basic principles of vocal production.
2. Apply an understanding of proper breath control and resonate phonation.
3. Communicate effectively the text of assigned pieces from memory.

**Course Resources**

1. Vocal collections and solo songs available in the Martin Music Library.
2. Vocal literature to be purchased based on professor's assignments.

**Course Methodology & Requirements**

1. The student will practice assigned literature for private study and private voice lessons.
2. The student will be evaluated on a weekly basis as outlined under the Course Grading Procedures later delineated in this syllabus.
3. The student will perform in Recital Lab at least **twice** during the semester as well as in any studio recitals or masterclasses. All selections in these venues must be performed from memory.
4. The student will perform a final Voice Jury which serves as the final exam.
5. The student will be required to do a song study for each piece assigned, including translations for songs in foreign languages.
6. The student will attend all evening vocal performances, unless prohibited by a class or other extreme exigent circumstances. Failure to do so will result in the lowering of the student's overall grade by no less than one letter grade.
7. Students must commit to regular practice time as deemed necessary by the professor.
8. Students taking one-half hour lessons will memorize 4 songs.
9. Students taking one-hour lessons will memorize 6 songs.

## **Absences, Cancellations, and Make Up Lessons**

1. For every two absences the student's final grade will be automatically lowered by one letter grade. (2 absences - one letter grade; 4 absences - two letter grades, etc.)
2. Make up lessons must be agreed upon by the teacher and student and will be given only in case of extreme emergency or death.
3. There will be no allowance for a missed make up lesson.
4. If the professor misses a lesson due to professional reasons, illness or emergency, the lesson will be made up at the teacher's discretion.
5. If a lesson is missed because of a declared campus emergency (i.e. hurricane) the lesson will be made up at the professor's discretion.
6. If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a 30-minute lesson or 15 minutes late to an hour lesson, it will be assumed that the student is not coming. The time will be used to attend to other matters, and the student will receive a zero in the studio for the day.
7. In terms of cancellations, a 24 hour notification is required. Failure to show for a lesson will result in a zero for the day. Students are given one unexcused, no questions asked absence. In extreme circumstances, an absence may be excused but will be left to the discretion of the instructor.

## **Course Grading Procedures**

Studio Grade is determined as follows:

Attendance of Weekly Studio Lessons: 30%

Music Memorization: 20%

Recital Lab Presentation 1: 10%

Recital Lab Presentation 2: 10%

Final Jury Performance: 30%

## **Technical Assistance**

1. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/)- Email for general technical questions/support requests.
2. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu)- Email technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) or [My.nobts.edu](http://My.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, Faculty portal, etc.)
3. [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu) Click on the "Help" button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to [Canvas.nobts.edu](http://Canvas.nobts.edu) / [nobts.instructure.com](http://nobts.instructure.com).
4. [Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu](mailto:Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu) - Email technical questions/support requests with Bluejeans and NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus).
5. [TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu)- Email technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Nextiva Phone system.

[504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time).

## **Bibliography**

Kundis, Katharin. *Cantabile: A Manual About Beautiful Singing*. San Pedro, CA: Pavane Publishing, 2009.

McKinney, James. *The Diagnosis and Correction of Vocal Faults: A Manual for Teachers of Singing and for Choir Directors*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1994.

Peckham, Anne. *The Contemporary Singer*. Boston, MA: Berklee Publishing, 2000.

Ware, Clifton. *Basics of Vocal Pedagogy: The Foundations and Process of Singing*. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 1998.