

**MVV 1111 VOICE CLASS  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**NAME:** James Jones  
**PHONE:** 407/230-6100  
**OFFICE HOURS:** By Appointment, before/after class  
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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**COURSE NUMBER/TITLE:** MVV 1111 Voice Class  
**CREDIT HOURS:** 1  
**TERM/YEAR:** FALL 2006

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

For instrumental music majors and students with no previous vocal study. Emphasis of repertoire. May be used for secondary instrumental credit for music majors. (Special Fee.)

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** To provide students with the tools for learning the basic foundational skills for singing or to brush up on current skills.

**VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT COMPETENCIES:**

1. Think critically and make reasoned choices by acquiring, analyzing, synthesizing and evaluating knowledge.
2. Read, listen, write and speak effectively.
3. Recognize the value of aesthetics.

**CLAST COMPETENCIES:**

1. Reading skills (literal comprehension, critical comprehension).
2. Logical reasoning skills.

## **EXPECTED STUDENT CONDUCT**

Valencia Community College is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but is concerned with the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia Community College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty. Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts that result in disruption of a class may be directed by the faculty member to leave the class. Violation of any classroom or Valencia's rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.

## **EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**

**TEXT(S)-REQUIRED:** Christy, Patton. Foundations in Singing, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. Chicago: Brown & Benchmark Publishers, 1997. (292 p.)

***\*Accompaniment CD's Available at bookstore (extremely helpful!)***

**LAB MANUAL:** None

## **EVALUATION**

### **COURSE GRADE (Method of computation):**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Classroom Attendance | 25%   |
| Concert Critique     | 15%   |
| Warmup Cards         | 15%   |
| Participation        | 15% (preparedness, attentiveness, discussion, etc.) |
| Final Exam           | 30% (15%-vocal, 15%-written)                        |

### **GRADING SCALE:**

|            |
|------------|
| A= 90-100% |
| B= 80- 89% |
| C= 70- 79% |
| D= 60- 69% |
| F= 59%- 0% |

## CLASSROOM POLICIES

### **ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK:**

1. The student is expected to attend each class meeting on time.
2. The student is responsible for all material covered or assigned during classes.
3. The student is responsible for notifying the professor of past or future absences.
4. No make-up quizzes will be given.
5. 6 minutes late is an unexcused tardy. 3 tardies equals one unexcused absence.
6. A student must be in attendance by 15 minutes from the start time of the class, in order to be counted present. If a student has a time scheduling problem (driving from work, class prior to this, driving from another school, etc.) arrangements should be made with the professor PRIOR to the start of class. Otherwise, a student will be counted as unexcused absent.
7. Leaving class early is NOT acceptable, and will result in an unexcused absence for that class.
8. It is expected that students develop a regular practice routine and learn the songs and techniques assigned in class. Each student will fill out a Student Evaluation Sheet for each song, listing what, when and how much they worked on their music.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Since 25% of a student's grade is attendance, attendance is extremely important. For each class missed (excused or unexcused), points will be deducted from the student's attendance grade. **A student will be dropped from the class on the third absence.** Please note that work related issues, vacations, out of town trips, and trainings are **NOT** excused absences, and the total number of excused and unexcused absences count toward withdrawal. Additionally, each unexcused tardy (any tardy not cleared with the professor prior to the occurrence) counts toward an unexcused absence. 3 unexcused tardys = 1 unexcused absence. Additionally, a student **MUST** be in class by no later than 15 minutes after the class starts to be counted present. If you have extenuating circumstances that may make you late, please let the professor know the 1<sup>st</sup> week of class, to avoid being counted as unexcused absence. Withdrawal deadline is: \_\_\_\_\_ (**NOTE:** Please recheck date, as the date may change!)

### WARMUP CARDS

Each student will be required to complete a set of Warmup cards. These are typically due on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week (by announcement of the instructor). One warmup with description of each warmup should be written on the back of the 5" by 7" card. Further instructions will be given in class. Additionally, each student is required to take a turn leading the class in these warm-ups. Failure to participate in this will result in a letter grade drop on your final grade.

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

Each student is expected to be in complete compliance with the college policy on academic honesty as set forth in the college catalog and the student handbook. Any student found cheating on an exam will receive a zero on that exam; the professor may also choose to withdraw the student from the class.

## **DISCLAIMER:**

Changes in this syllabus and/or schedule may be made at any time during the term by announcement of the professor. A revised syllabus may then be issued at the discretion of the professor.

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

### **WEEK # AND LECTURE TOPIC\***

Just as important as singing itself, is the understanding how the vocal mechanism works and functions. Please understand that a portion of this course is lecture and discussion. The Professor will include any information (past experiences, etc.) that he feels necessary to enhance your learning experience. See note below for more details

- 1     Introductory
- 2     Chapter 1 - Freedom to Sing
- 3     Chapter 2 - Breath and the Body
- 4     Chapter 3 - Free Tone
- 5     Chapter 4 - Changing Resonances in Your Voice
- 6     Chapter 5 - Preparing a Song
- 7     Chapter 6 - Vowels and Vocal Color
- 8     Chapter 7 - Consonants and Clarity
- 9     Chapter 8 - Double and Triple Vowels
- 10    Chapter 9 - Performing a Song
- 11    Singing
- 12    Singing
- 13    Singing
- 14    Singing
- 15    Singing, written Final
- 16    Final Exams

**\*Please Note:** In order to enhance the student's learning process, the Professor reserves the right to speedup, slowdown, or deviate from the above schedule. Additionally, in order to accommodate the various levels, backgrounds, and musical interests of the students, the Professor reserves the right to discuss/lecture on various musical issues that might not be directly related to the voice. The professor may also speak from various experiences that he had, for illustrative purposes. (Experiences by the Professor and Teachers he has studied under are VERY VALUABLE to the student's learning process and should never be thought of as a waste of time.) The reason for this is to facilitate the learning of all students and there varied musical interest.

### **SPECIAL RULES**

- When using practice room pianos, observe no smoking, drinking any beverage, or eating food of any sort.
  
- Failure to be ready for performance on any periodic test (singing) will not be Excused and will result in a lower final grade.
  
- A purchase of the textbook for this course is **REQUIRED**. Failure to purchase the textbook will result in immediate withdrawal of student from this class. The CD's that are available for this book are of great value to the student and should be purchased. While it is not required that students purchase them, it will expedite your learning of the music (unless you have good accompaniment skills). Copying music or CD's is a violation of the Copyright Law, and will **NOT** be tolerated in this classroom.
  
- There will be a written final exam based upon the lecture material and textbook covered in class.
  
- You will be required to learn 3-4 songs during this course. These songs will be ASSIGNED BY THE INSTRUCTOR and are REQUIRED for this course. The songs and their key ranges, have been especially selected for the development of vocal techniques, and therefore will NOT be deviated from. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** The instructor will assist the class by doing "group singing" of the songs first, but at some point the **student will be required to memorize** the songs. Additionally, students are **NOT** allowed to use props, cheat sheets, or any other type of materials in their class performances, as these hinder and not help the student. The date of memorization will be announced by the professor in class. After that date, **no student** will be allowed to sing the song without it being memorized. This is designed to expedite and enhance the student's basic vocal skills.

-As being on time is important, each time a student is late (6 minutes after class starting time) they will be given an unexcused tardy. Emergencies, unusual circumstances will be considered, but is at the complete discretion of the Instructor.

### **CELL PHONES AND PAGERS**

All cell phones and pagers should be turned off during class. If your work requires you to have a phone or pager, please set this to vibrate, and notify your instructor prior to class. Otherwise, this will be considered a disruption of the class, and you will be asked to leave and will be counted unexcused absence!

### **CONCERT CRITIQUE**

-You **MUST** attend one concert and write a one page critique. The Critique **MUST** be typewritten, double-spaced, and fill the entirety of one single page. The critique **must** be from a legitimate (Musical Theater, choir concert, legitimate soloist, opera, etc.) vocal concert, and you **must** attach the program to the critique, in order to receive credit.

\*The Critique is **15%** of your grade. Failure to do so will result in a minimum of **one letter grade drop of your final grade!** All concert critiques **MUST** be turned in by the last class **PRIOR** to the final exam. **NO LATES** will be accepted. **Questions?** Please see instructor.

I HAVE RECEIVED THE SYLLABUS FROM MR. JONES FOR THE MVV1111 VOICE CLASS AND I HAVE READ THROUGH AND UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY THE CONDITIONS, REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES AS STATED THEREIN. I AGREE TO ACCEPT THESE CONDITIONS, REQUIREMENTS, AND GUIDELINES IN THE SYLLABUS AND DO ALSO AGREE TO LEARN AND PERFORM THE REQUIRED SONGS; MEET THE ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS AND WHATEVER OTHER SYLLABUS ITEMS THAT MAY APPLY. I ALSO REALIZE THAT IF I FAIL TO MEET THESE GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS THAT I WILL BE WITHDRAWN FROM THIS COURSE.

NAME (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (SIGNED) \_\_\_\_\_

DATED \_\_\_\_\_