VOICE PERFORMANCE

Program Overview

The voice performance program seeks to develop the musician by establishing a sound vocal technique and a thorough understanding of the singing voice, its literature and pedagogy. These tools are essential for the study and performance of vocal and choral literature and for training students as solo performers, professional teachers or choral conductors.

Students will build and demonstrate a healthy vocal technique, become acquainted with voice literature, and develop an understanding of the complex relationships between music and poetry. They will also learn how to sing with correct diction in English, Italian, French and German, as well as to understand both the general meaning and specific nuances of their sung texts.

As they progress in the program, students will integrate musicianship skills and use their increasing understanding of musical structure and form to communicate musically, with stylistic and textual understanding. Students will also build vocal and performance skills that equip them for the demands of solo and ensemble singing.

Policy

Performance majors must earn a minimum grade of "B-" each semester in the primary applied music field in order to make satisfactory progress. If a grade of "C+" or lower is earned, the student must repeat the semester. All other students must earn a minimum grade of "C-" each semester in the primary applied music field. If a grade of "D" or lower is earned, a student must repeat the semester.

Curriculum Overview

Every undergraduate must satisfy departmental requirements for graduation. Juries and other tests are conducted periodically for the purpose of evaluating progress; details may be obtained from the Voice Department.

Instruction for voice performance majors entails private lessons, recitals, diction, voice literature, performance/opera classes and voice pedagogy. Weekly studio and performance classes offer regular performing opportunities. Two fully-staged operas, one with orchestra, are presented each year, along with an additional undergraduate-only opera offering. Private vocal coaching is available for upperclassmen and graduate students.

The curriculum has been revised for the class entering in the fall of 2023. Current students may continue to follow their original curriculum or adopt the new curriculum.

Degree Offered

- B.M. in Voice Performance

Contact

Sharon Mirchandani, PhD.
Professor and Chairperson
Westminster Choir College
Westminster House
609-896-5000 x8313
smirchandani@rider.edu

Program Website: Voice Performance (https://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-arts-sciences/westminster-choir-college/undergraduate/voice-performance/)

Related programs

- Music Education (http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/media-performing-arts/majors-minors-certificates/bm-music-education/)
- Musical Theater (http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/media-performing-arts/majors-minors-certificates/musical-theatre-bfa/)

Faculty

Sharon Mirchandani (chair) • Professor, Music Theory/History, 1997. B.M., Bowling Green State University, M.M. Temple University, Ph.D. Rutgers University
Margaret Cusack • Professor, Voice, and Chair of Performance Studies, 1994. B.M., M.M.T., Oberlin College Conservatory of Music.
Christopher Arneson • Professor, Voice, 2003. B.A., M.M., Binghamton University; D.M.A., Rutgers University.
Susan S. Ashbaker • Associate Professor, Voice, 2006. B.M., M.M., Southern Illinois University; M.M., University of Illinois.
Victoria Browers • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2017. B.M., Ohio Wesleyan University, M.M. Westminster Choir College of Rider University; D.M.A. State University of New York at Stony Brook.
Aaron Cafaro • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2024. B.M., M.M. Westminster Choir College of Rider University.
Akiko Hosaki • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Piano, 2005. B.M., Musashino Academia Musicae; M.M., Westminster Choir College of Rider University; D.M.A., University of Minnesota.
Pamela Stein Lynde • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2024. B.M.Westminster Choir College of Rider University, M.M. Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University.
Robin Massie • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2008. B.M., Westminster Choir College of Rider University; M.M., Yale University.
Martin Néron • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2020. B.M., Université de Montrèal; M.M. Westminster Choir College of Rider University; D.M.A., Manhattan School of Music.
Kathy Kessler Price • Professor, Voice, 2012. B.A., University of Richmond; M.M., University of Maryland; Ph.D., University of Kansas, Lawrence.
Debra Scurto-Davis • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2004. B.M.E., Evangel College; M.M., Baylor University; S.M., University of Michigan.

Elizabeth Sutton • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2005. B.A., Bowling Green State University; M.M., College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati.

Todd Thomas • Adjunct Assistant Professor, Voice, 2024. B.M., M.M. Oberlin College Conservatory of Music.

Voice Performance Program Requirements

(124-126 credits)

Voice Performance Requirements (p. 2) (109-110 credits)
General Education Curriculum (p. 3) (15-16 credits)

Voice Performance Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Complete the following courses:		
Choirs and Conducting		
CR 109	Chapel Choir (2 terms)	2
CR 209	Schola Cantorum (2 terms)	2
CR 509	Symphonic Choir (4 terms)	4
CR 215	Fundamentals of Conducting	3
Applied Music and Diction		
VC 168A	Applied Voice (8 terms) [1]	16
Piano secondary (4 terms)		
PI 103	Piano Secondary I	1
PI 104	Piano Secondary II	1
PI 203	Piano Secondary III	1
PI 205	Piano Secondary VCPER	1
Diction		**8**
VC 114	Introduction to Lyric Diction	
VC 118	Italian Diction	
VC 119	French Diction	
VC 120	German Diction	
Theory and Music History		
MH 247 & MH 248	Music Historiography I and Music Historiography II	6
MH 345	Music Since 1900	3
TH 141 & TH 142 & TH 241	Musicianship I and Musicianship II and Musicianship III	12
TH 342	Contemporary Trends	3
Theory level I elective [3]		**3**
Select one of the following:		
TH 237	Composition Class	
TH 251	Analytical Studies I	
TH 253	Orchestration	
TH 255	Song Writing	
TH 259	Electroacoustic Music	
Theory level II elective [3]		**3**
Select one of the following:		
TH 424	Choral and Instrumental Arranging	
TH 431	Form and Analysis	
TH 432	Contrapuntal Techniques	
TH 433	Special Topics in Theory [2]	
TH 452	Analytical Studies II	
TH 550	Keyboard Harmony	
Music History Elective		
MH 433	Seminar in Music History	3
Professional Studies		
VC 191	Movement for the Performer	2
VC 291	The Singing Actor	2
VC 305	Singing in Italian and French	2
or VC 306	Singing in German and English	
VC 208	Voice Science	3
VC 433 & VC 434	Song Literature I and Song Literature II	4
VC 591	Performing in Lyric Theater	2
Foreign Language Proficiency: [4]		
Select one of the following options:		18
Option 1:		
ITA 100 & ITA 101 & FRE 100 & FRE 101 & GER 100 & GER 101	Italian I and Italian II and French I and French II and German I and German II	
Or Option 2:		
ITA 100 & ITA 101 & FRE 100 & FRE 101 & FRE 200 & FRE 201	Italian I and Italian II and French I and French II and French III and French IV	
OR Option 3:		
ITA 100 & ITA 101 & GER 100 & GER 101 & GER 200 & GER 201	Italian I and Italian II and German I and German II and German III and German IV	
OR Option 4:		
Select from:		
ITA 100 & ITA 101 & ITA 200 & ITA 201	Italian I and Italian II and Italian III and Italian IV	
AND		
FRE 100 & FRE 101	French I and French II	
OR		
GER 100 & GER 101	German I and German II	
Select one of the following:		**1-2**
VC 592	Opera Workshop	
VC 593R	Opera Theater (Role)	
VC 593T	Opera Theater (Tech)	
VC 593E	Opera Theater (Ensemble)	
Recitals [5]		
VC 001R	Student Recital	
VC 002R	Student Recital	

Free electives	3
Total Credits	**109-110**

1 Attendance at weekly studio classes is required during all semesters of applied study.
2 MH 433 can be repeated for credit as long as the topics are different.
3 Level 2 theory classes can be taken as a level 1 theory. Level 1 classes cannot be used for level 2.
4 Students must complete six semesters of foreign language study. Students must complete Italian I and II. They must complete additional semesters of either French or German. Semesters five and six may be of a third language (French or German) or additional semesters of Italian, French or German. If students are exempted from one or more semesters of foreign language study, they must replace the missing course credits with other Arts and Sciences electives.
5 A half recital VC 001R must be presented in the junior year. A full recital VC 002R must be presented in the senior year.

General Education Curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
I. ESSENTIAL COMPETENCIES:		
Reading and Writing		**6**
CMP 120	Seminar in Writing and Rhetoric	
or BHP 100	Honors Seminar: Great Ideas I	
Select one of the following:		
CMP 125	Seminar in Writing and Research	
or BHP 150	Honors Seminar: Great Ideas II	
CMP 203	Literature and Composition	
II. DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES		
Select one course from the Scientific or Social Perspectives:		**3-4**
Scientific Perspectives		
A. 4-Credit Lecture/Lab Combination Courses		
CHE 114 & 114L	Chemistry in the Kitchen and Chemistry in the Kitchen Lab	
ENV 100 & 100L	Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Introduction to Environmental Sciences Lab	
GEO 100 & GEO 102	Earth Systems Science and Earth Materials and Processes Lab	
MAR 120 & MAR 121	Oceanography and Introductory Oceanography Lab	
B. 3-Credit Non-Lab Courses		
BHP 240	Chemistry and Conflict	
BHP 251	Idea to Innovation	
BHP 259	Honors Seminar: The Environment: a Conflict of Interest	
BHP 281	The Rhetoric of Science	
BHP 340	Nature and Nurture	
BIO 100	Life Science	
BNS 107	Life Science: Brain and Behavior	
CHE 115	Chemistry & Society	
CSC 105	Fundamentals of Computer Science	
CYB 105	Introduction to Cybersecurity	
ENV 110	Future of Natural Resources	
ENV 120	Introduction to Climate Change	
GEO 100	Earth Systems Science	
GEO 110	Geology of National Parks	
GEO 113	Environmental Geology	
GEO 168	Mesozoic Ruling Reptiles	
MAR 120	Oceanography	
PHY 180	Astronomy	
PSY 131	The Science of Mental Illness	
SOC 150	Introduction to Forensics	
SUS 100	Introduction to Sustainability Studies	
VC 208	Voice Science	
OR		
Social Perspectives		
BHP 203	Nineteen Eighty-Four in Context: George Orwell's Enduring Legacy	
BHP 205	Under the Influence: Drugs, Deviance, and Culture	
BHP 206	Honors Seminar:Politics/Literacy	
BHP 212	Children and the Media	
BHP 252	Creativity and Design Thinking	
BHP 253	A Cross-Cultural Comparison of Play	
BHP 259	Honors Seminar: The Environment: a Conflict of Interest	
BHP 261	The Online Explosion: Radical Changes in Business and Communication	
BHP 281	The Rhetoric of Science	
BHP 301	The Law and Racial Progress	
BHP 302	Mirrors of the Mind: The Interplay of Literature and Psychology	
BHP 315	Honors Seminar: 20th Century European Ideologies	
BHP 316	Modern European Ideologies: Social and Political Perspectives	
BHP 340	Nature and Nurture	
BHP 351	Genocide, Human Rights & Literature	
BHP 360	Moral Psychology	
COM 105	Communication, Culture and Media	
COM 241	Managing Conflict Through Communication	
FTV 202	Global Film & Media Industries	
GSS 100	Introduction to Gender Studies	
GSS 212	Gender, War and Peace	
MCS 110/GSS 110	Race, Class and Gender in Contemporary American Society	
MCS 210	Power and Privilege in a Multicultural Society	
POL 100	U.S. Politics in Crisis	
POL 102	Power, Politics and Justice	
PSY 102	Explorations in Psychology Honors	
PSY 110	Psychology:The Science of Well-being	
PSY 118	Psychology of Women	
SOC 101	Sociological Imagination	
SOC 110	Cultural Anthropology	
SOC 280	Social Movements Abroad	
Select one course from the Philosophical or Aesthetic Literature Perspectives:		**3**
Philosophical Perspectives		
BHP 222	Honors Seminar: Existentialism in Literature	

BHP 307	Presence of Mind — Artificial Intelligence and Human Creativity
BHP 318	Honors Seminar: The Bible as Literature and Philosophy
BHP 360	Moral Psychology
PHL 100	Plato and Aristotle
PHL 102	Philosophical Thinking
PHL 110	Logic and Language
PHL 115	Ethics
PHL 120	American Philosophy
PHL 125	Philosophies of Education
PHL 130	Political Philosophy
PHL 202	Social Philosophy
PHL 207	Asian Philosophy
PHL 210	Symbolic Logic
PHL 215	Environmental Ethics
PHL 225	Modern Philosophy
PHL 230	Philosophy of the Sexes
PHL 304	Medical Ethics
PHL 310	Problems in 20th-Century Philosophy
PHL 320	Philosophy of Science
PHL 334	Theories of Knowledge
PHL 336	Philosophy of Mind
PHL 343	Theories of Reality
PHL 348	Indian Philosophy
PHL 358	Chinese Philosophy
PHL 360	Contemporary Ethics
PHL 368	Japanese Philosophy
OR	
Aesthetic Perspective: Literature	
AMS 210	American Memoir and Autobiography
AMS 306	Poetry and Poetics in American Culture
AMS 308	Kurt Vonnegut's America
BHP 201	Age of Shakespeare: A Study in Cultural History
BHP 203	Nineteen Eighty-Four in Context: George Orwell's Enduring Legacy
BHP 205	Under the Influence: Drugs, Deviance, and Culture
BHP 206	Honors Seminar:Politics/Literacy
BHP 208	The Fantastic in Literature, Art, and Media
BHP 217	Music and Literature
BHP 222	Honors Seminar: Existentialism in Literature
BHP 227	Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Age of Empire
BHP 290	Shakespeare: Page, Stage & Screen
BHP 302	Mirrors of the Mind: The Interplay of Literature and Psychology
BHP 305	Inclusive Education and Representations of Disability
BHP 311	Visions of the Future
BHP 315	Honors Seminar: 20th Century European Ideologies
BHP 318	Honors Seminar: The Bible as Literature and Philosophy
BHP 327	Latinx in the 21st Century
ENG 205	Understanding Literature
ENG 208	Arthurian Legends in Literature
ENG 210	Major American Authors
ENG 211	Major British Authors
ENG 213	Literature and Mythology
ENG 214	Monsters in Literature
ENG 215	Satire and Comedy
ENG 217	Introduction To Shakespeare
ENG 218	Literature and the Environment
ENG 219	Literature and Violence
ENG 220	Literature & Society
ENG 221	Literature and Psychology
ENG 222	Crime and Literature
ENG 224	Science Fiction
ENG 228	Black American Lit
ENG 229	Multi-Ethnic Literature in America
ENG 230	Women In Literature
ENG 270	Introduction to Poetry
ENG 290	The Short Story
ENG 295	Human Relationships in Literature (HONORS)
ENG 337	Global Literature
GSS 320	Sex, Gender, and Fairy Tales
LIT 250	Masterworks of Western Literature I
LIT 251	Masterworks of Western Literature II
SPA 320	Introduction to Spanish Literature
SPA 325	Introduction to Latin-American/Latino Literature
SPA 413	The Hispanic Short Story: Transatlantic Connections
SPA 416	The Spanish Golden Age
SPA 420	From Colonies to Nations
SPA 426	Latin American/Latino Film and Fiction
Historical Perspectives:	**3**
Select one of the following:	
HIS 150	Pre-Modern World: Evolution to Revolution
HIS 151	World in the Modern Era: Exploration to Globalization
or HIS 152	Contemporary World: Historical Perspectives
or HIS 153	Cold War: A Global History
Total Credits	**15-16**

Academic Plan of Study

The following educational plan is provided as a sample only. Rider students who do not declare a major during their freshman year; who are in a Continuing Education Program; who change their major; or who transfer to Rider may follow a different plan to ensure a timely graduation. Each student, with guidance from their academic advisor, will develop a personalized educational plan.

Course	Title	Credits
Year 1		
Fall Semester		
CR 109	Chapel Choir	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
PI 103	Piano Secondary I	1
VC 114	Introduction to Lyric Diction	2

TH 141	Musicianship I	4
ITA 100	Italian I	3
CMP 120 or BHP 100	Seminar in Writing and Rhetoric or Honors Seminar: Great Ideas I	3
	Semester Credit Hours	**16**
Spring Semester		
CR 109	Chapel Choir	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
PI 104	Piano Secondary II	1
VC 118	Italian Diction	2
TH 142	Musicianship II	4
ITA 101	Italian II	3
VC 191	Movement for the Performer	2
CMP 125 or CMP 203 or BHP 150	Seminar in Writing and Research or Literature and Composition or Honors Seminar: Great Ideas II	3
	Semester Credit Hours	**18**
Year 2		
Fall Semester		
CR 209	Schola Cantorum	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
PI 203	Piano Secondary III	1
TH 241	Musicianship III	4
FRE 100 or GER 100	French I or German I	3
MH 247	Music Historiography I	3
VC 291	The Singing Actor	2
	Semester Credit Hours	**16**
Spring Semester		
CR 209	Schola Cantorum	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
PI 205	Piano Secondary VCPER	1
VC 119 or VC 120	French Diction or German Diction	2
MH 248	Music Historiography II	3
FRE 101 or GER 101	French II or German II	3
Theory Level I elective		3
	Semester Credit Hours	**15**
Year 3		
Fall Semester		
CR 509	Symphonic Choir	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
CR 215	Fundamentals of Conducting	3
MH 345	Music Since 1900	3
VC 591	Performing in Lyric Theater	2
GER 100 or FRE 100	German I or French I	3
Theory Level II elective		3
	Semester Credit Hours	**17**
Spring Semester		
CR 509	Symphonic Choir	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
MH 433	Seminar in Music History	3
VC 208	Voice Science	3
VC 119 or VC 120	French Diction or German Diction	2
GER 101 or FRE 101	German II or French II	3
TH 342	Contemporary Trends	3
Junior Recital		0
	Semester Credit Hours	**17**
Year 4		
Fall Semester		
CR 509	Symphonic Choir	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
VC 433	Song Literature I	2
VC 305	Singing in Italian and French	2
HIS 150 or HIS 151 or HIS 152 or HIS 153	Pre-Modern World: Evolution to Revolution or World in the Modern Era: Exploration to Globalization or Contemporary World: Historical Perspectives or Cold War: A Global History	3
Free Elective Credits		3
	Semester Credit Hours	**13**
Spring Semester		
CR 509	Symphonic Choir	1
VC 168A	Applied Voice	2
VC 434	Song Literature II	2
Select one of the following:		1-2
VC 592 or VC 593E or VC 593R or VC 593T	Opera Workshop or Opera Theater (Ensemble) or Opera Theater (Role) or Opera Theater (Tech)	
General Education Credits		6-7
Senior Recital		0
	Semester Credit Hours	**12-14**
	Total Credit Hours for Graduation	**124-126**

Courses and Descriptions

CR 109 Chapel Choir 1 Credits

Comprised of undergraduate students in their first year of study, Chapel Choir focuses on music for men's, women's, and mixed chorus. The ensemble provides the fundamentals of artistic choral ensemble singing and a foundation for all Westminster choral ensembles. Placement hearing required.

CR 209 Schola Cantorum 1 Credits
Comprised of undergraduate students in their second year of study, Schola Cantorum focuses on music for mixed chorus and continues to build and refine the skills developed in Chapel Choir. This ensemble presents campus, community, and regional performances. Placement hearing required.

CR 509 Symphonic Choir 1 Credits
A large mixed chorus comprised of students above the lower division, including graduate students from all disciplines. The ensemble regularly performs in the region and focuses on the major choral/orchestral repertoire along with a wide variety of repertoire for large mixed chorus. Placement hearing required.
Prerequisite(s): CR 209 with a minimum grade of D.

FRE 100 French I 3 Credits
Conversational French is taught through basic vocabulary and grammar building. Students will enjoy an immersion-style method emphasizing real-life situations and vocabulary in authentic cultural context, through an interactive textbook, videos, on-line resources, and oral/aural skill building using the technology in the Foreign Language Media Center to enhance learning. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): Placement test if French has been studied elsewhere.

FRE 101 French II 3 Credits
Building on learning in French I, students will begin to converse using more complicated grammatical structures within immersion-style classroom interactions. While the focus is still on conversation and aural skill building, composition skills receive greater emphasis. Students will enjoy an interactive textbook, Internet usage, and authentic videos shot on location in France. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): FRE 100 or placement test.

FRE 200 French III 3 Credits
This course builds on linguistic skills previously acquired through an emphasis on conversation and oral comprehension, and through vocabulary building. Grammar study is continued at a more advanced level, and students begin to read short passages focusing mainly on francophone culture and civilization. Film clips, Internet resources, and other computer-aided learning tools are used to create a dynamic immersion-style learning experience. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): FRE 101 or placement test.

FRE 201 French IV 3 Credits
While continuing the emphasis on aural/oral production and grammar and vocabulary building, short passages of greater complexity taken from literary texts, newspapers, and magazines will become the focus of conversation/composition activities. Technological resources will continue to enhance the immersion-style learning experience consistent with a course in advanced French. Successful completion of this course, or its equivalent, serves as a prerequisite for French courses at the 300 and 400 level. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): FRE 200 or placement test.

GER 100 German I 3 Credits
An introduction to German stressing the spoken language and the fundamentals of grammar. Students are required to work extensively with audio CDs. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): placement test if German has been studied elsewhere.

GER 101 German II 3 Credits
A continuation of German 100. Communication skills are broadened, fundamental grammar is studied in more depth, and basic vocabulary is expanded. Students are required to work extensively with audio files. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): GER 100 with a minimum grade of D or placement test.

GER 200 German III 3 Credits
Intensive review of German grammar and syntax with a systematic approach to oral expression and composition. Readings on contemporary German life and selections from modern literature. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): GER 101 or placement test.

GER 201 German IV 3 Credits
Continuation of grammar review and readings. Special emphasis on oral expression and composition of increasing sophistication, proceeding from concrete observations to theoretical and abstract discussion. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Essential Competencies element of the CLAS general education curriculum.
Prerequisite(s): GER 200 or placement test.

ITA 100 Italian I 3 Credits
The language program objectives of our department are based on the premise that students must be able to demonstrate increased proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communication skills as well as growth in cultural, literary and interdisciplinary knowledge as they move through a sequence of study. This course is the first part of the first year experience in Italian during which the development of communicative and cultural competencies are at the center of this experience. At the end of the course, successful students will be able to communicate short messages on highly predictable, everyday topics that affect them directly. They will also develop a sense of the cultural aspects of people who speak the target language. Cultural components include the importance or regions in the construction of Italian identity; differences in American and Italian school and university systems; the role of the family in Italian life. The course is conducted in Italian. This course fulfills LAS Core Curriculum Requirement I. Essential Competencies: Foreign Language.

ITA 101 Italian II 3 Credits
The language program objectives of our department are based on the premise that students must be able to demonstrate increased proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communication skills as well as growth in cultural, literary and interdisciplinary knowledge as they move through a sequence of study. This course is the second part of the first year experience in Italian during which the development of communicative and cultural competencies are at the center of this experience. At the end of the course, successful students will be able to handle successfully a variety of uncomplicated communicative tasks in straightforward social situations. They will also develop a sense of the cultural aspects of people who speak the target language. Cultural components include differences between American and Italian cuisines, sports, routines, and healthcare systems. The course is conducted in Italian.
Prerequisite(s): ITA 100 or LL 145 or Placement Test.

ITA 200 Italian III 3 Credits
The language program objectives of our department are based on the premise that students must be able to demonstrate increased proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communication skills as well as growth in cultural, literary and interdisciplinary knowledge as they move through a sequence of study. This course is the third part of the four-semester sequence in Italian. At the end of ITA 200, successful students achieve proficiency in Italian at the intermediate level in oral expression, listening comprehension, reading of short texts, and writing. Students will be able to successfully navigate conversational and written Italian in cultural contexts related to course themes: personal relationships, Italian communities, hobbies and free time activities, the value of social and political ideas, the Italian family across the generations. The course is conducted in Italian. This course fulfills LAS Core Curriculum Requirement I. Essential Competencies: Foreign Language.
Prerequisite(s): ITA 200 or LL 247 or placement test.

ITA 201 Italian IV 3 Credits
The language program objectives of our department are based on the premise that students must be able to demonstrate increased proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communication skills as well as growth in cultural, literary and interdisciplinary knowledge as they move through a sequence of study. This course is the fourth and final part of the four-semester sequence in Italian. At the end of ITA 201, successful students achieve proficiency in Italian at the intermediate level in oral expression, listening comprehension, reading of short texts, and writing. Students will be able to successfully navigate conversational and written Italian in cultural contexts related to course themes: societal changes in Italian culture, science and technology, Italian contributions to the arts, media, and the culture of business in Italy. The course is conducted in Italian.
Prerequisite(s): ITA 200 with a minimum grade of D or LL 247 with a minimum grade of D. This course fulfills LAS Core Curriculum Requirement I. Essential Competencies: Foreign Language.

MH 247 Music Historiography I 3 Credits
Historiography I begins by exploring similarities and differences between various music cultures around the world, and continues with an examination of selected genres of Western Art Music of the Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque periods. Basic information literacy skills, such as searching library catalogs, databases and reading academic articles also will be covered.
Prerequisite OR

Corequisite: CMP 125 with a minimum grade of D or BHP 150 with a minimum grade of D.

MH 248 Music Historiography II 3 Credits
Examines Western Art Music since 1750 and includes a research assignment that builds upon the information literacy skills gained in MH 247.
Prerequisite(s): MH 247.

MH 345 Music Since 1900 3 Credits
Examines controversies and aesthetic movements in 20th and 21st century music. Emphasis is placed upon critical reading and writing skills.
Prerequisite(s): MH 248.

MH 433 Seminar in Music History 3 Credits
The contents of courses carrying this number will vary with the special interests and qualifications of the instructors teaching them. Possible topics include period courses, courses from a distinct perspective, composer courses and genre courses.
Prerequisite(s): MH 248.

TH 141 Musicianship I 4 Credits
This course assists students in learning and integrating aural, performance, analytical and composition skills involving diatonic melody and harmony. Both the theoretical and the practical portion must be passed individually in order to receive a passing grade.
Prerequisite(s): TH 045 with a minimum grade of Y or TH 105 with a minimum grade of C- or passing a placement test.

TH 142 Musicianship II 4 Credits
A continuation of TH 141 involving chromatic melody and harmony with an introduction to binary and ternary form.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 141.

TH 237 Composition Class 3 Credits
Class instruction in original composition. May be taken as a level I elective.
Prerequisite(s): For non Theory/Composition majors only, minimum "C-" grade in TH 142.

TH 241 Musicianship III 4 Credits
A continuation of TH 142 with an introduction to larger musical forms and counterpoint.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 142.

TH 251 Analytical Studies I 3 Credits
An in-depth analytical study of a select body of tonal music to be determined by the instructor. The music, which will contain only the harmonic vocabulary and formal structures studied in TH 141 and TH 142, may vary each time the course is offered. May be taken as a level I theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 142.

TH 253 Orchestration 3 Credits
A study of the orchestra and its individual instruments from the standpoints of the composer, arranger and conductor. May be taken as a level I theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 142.

TH 255 Song Writing 3 Credits
Solo vocal composition in various styles. May be taken as a level I theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 142.

TH 259 Electroacoustic Music 3 Credits
An introduction to the history and literature of electroacoustic music emphasizing hands-on creative opportunities in sequencing and digital sound processing. May be taken as a level I theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 142.

TH 342 Contemporary Trends 3 Credits
An analytical study of the compositional techniques of the 20th and 21st centuries.
Prerequisite(s): TH 241.

TH 424 Choral and Instrumental Arranging 3 Credits
Arranging for various ensembles of voices and instruments. May be taken as a level II theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): TH 241 with a minimum grade of D.

TH 431 Form and Analysis 3 Credits
Study of the compositional process as observed in selected examples of music literature, predominantly from the tonal repertoire. May be taken as a level II theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 241.

TH 432 Contrapuntal Techniques 3 Credits
18th century counterpoint with an emphasis on analysis and writing of original compositions. May be taken as a level II theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 241.

TH 433 Special Topics in Theory 3 Credits
The content of the course carrying this number will vary with the special interests and qualifications of the professor teaching it. May be taken as a level II theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): minimum "C-" grade in TH 241.

TH 452 Analytical Studies II 3 Credits
An in-depth analytical study of a select body of tonal music to be determined by the instructor. The music, which will contain a more advanced harmonic vocabulary and larger formal structures than the music studied in TH 251, may vary each time the course is offered. May be taken as a level II theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): TH 241 with a minimum grade of C-.

TH 550 Keyboard Harmony 3 Credits
An intense exploration of and drill in musicianship-keyboard skills, including score reading, transposition, modulation, clef reading, figured bass realization, harmonizing melodies, improvising and lead sheet accompanying. Projects may include transposition of a number of songs (perhaps a complete set) into all keys, figured bass realization for a Bach cantata, improvisation of service music (prelude, offertory, interludes, chorale preludes, postlude), multiple re-harmonizations of hymns/chorales for a service and score reduction and performance of a movement of an orchestral work. May be taken as an undergraduate level II theory elective.
Prerequisite(s): Undergraduate: TH 241 with a minimum grade of "C-" grade; Graduate: Removal of all theory deficiencies.

VC 001R Student Recital 0 Credits
25 Minute Student Recital.

VC 002R Student Recital 0 Credits
45-60 Minute Student Recital.

VC 114 Introduction to Lyric Diction 2 Credits
Introduction to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the sounds of all major sung languages through oral and written drill. Open to Voice Performance majors only.

VC 118 Italian Diction 2 Credits
Introduction to the rules for singing Italian through the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), with oral and written drill. Open to Voice Performance majors only.
Prerequisite(s): VC 114.

VC 119 French Diction 2 Credits
Introduction to the rules for singing French through the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), with oral and written drill. Open to Voice Performance majors only.
Prerequisite(s): VC 114.

VC 120 German Diction 2 Credits
Introduction to the rules for singing German through the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), with oral and written drill. Open to Voice Performance majors only.
Prerequisite(s): VC 114.

VC 168A Applied Voice 2 Credits
One-hour, 2-credit required lesson. Included in tuition – no extra charge.

VC 191 Movement for the Performer 2 Credits
Movement exercises and etudes help students develop proper alignment, physical freedom, unification of voice, breath, and body, and help them explore the body as an expressive instrument.

VC 208 Voice Science 3 Credits
Study of the physics and physiology of voice production. Musical and vocal acoustics are explored using the facilities of the Westminster Voice Laboratory. Anatomic and physiologic underpinnings of respiration, phonation, articulation, registration and hearing are explored in depth. Pre-requisite: 40 credits earned or permission of instructor.

VC 291 The Singing Actor 2 Credits
The introduction to vocal performance entails coaching of selected songs, arias or repertoire from music theater and techniques for performance preparation through intensive research. A final written project involves a musical and dramatic analysis of all chosen repertoire.
Prerequisite(s): successful completion of Level I voice jury.

VC 305 Singing in Italian and French 2 Credits
Master class and private coaching in vocal performance of Italian and French language song, recitative and opera arias. The class will focus on pronunciation, inflection and nuances of sung Italian and French.
Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Level I jury; VC 118, VC 119.

VC 306 Singing in German and English 2 Credits
Master class and private coaching in vocal performance of German and English language song, recitative and opera arias. The class will focus on pronunciation, inflection and nuances of sung German and English.
Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Level I Jury; VC 120.

VC 433 Song Literature I 2 Credits
A survey of solo literature for voice and accompanying instrument including solo vocal music of the Baroque period and German lieder.
Prerequisite(s): MH 248 (with a minimum grade of D).

VC 434 Song Literature II 2 Credits
A survey of solo literature for voice and accompanying instrument including French mélodie, songs by nationalist composers, English and American song.
Prerequisite(s): MH 248.

VC 591 Performing in Lyric Theater 2 Credits
Performing in Lyric Theater offers techniques for the preparation of lyric roles in a theatrical setting. It will develop elements of stagecraft, systematize a process for preparations and exploration, and introduce the working relationship with director and conductor.
Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates, VC 291 and the successful completion of Level II jury, or permission of the Chair.

VC 592 Opera Workshop 2 Credits
Introduction to opera performance. Acting exercises, character development, dramatic exploration and musical coaching culminating in a workshop-format presentation. It is recommended that VC 491 or 691 be taken before this course. This course may be repeated for credit.
Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates, successful completion of the level II voice test or permission of the chair.

VC 593E Opera Theater (Ensemble) 1 Credits
This course involves preparation and performance of a role or in the chorus of a fully staged opera production. Open only by audition. May be repeated for credit.

VC 593R Opera Theater (Role) 2 Credits
This course involves preparation and performance of a role or in the chorus of a fully staged opera production. Open only by audition. May be repeated for credit.

VC 593T Opera Theater (Tech) 1 Credits
This course involves preparation and performance of a role or in the chorus of a fully staged opera production. Open only by audition. May be repeated for credit.