RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

MUSC 123 -VOICE CLASS I: FUNDAMENTALS OF VOCAL TECHNIQUE

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: MUSC123: Voice Class I:

Fundamentals of Vocal Technique

B. New or Modified Course: modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2019

D. Effective Term: Fall 2020

E. Sponsoring Department: Arts & Design (A&D)

F. Semester Credit Hours: 2

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 1

Laboratory: 2

Out of class student work per week: 3

H. Prerequisites: none.

I. Laboratory Fees: none.

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II. Catalog Description

Prerequisites: none. This is an introductory level course designed to begin the development of vocal potential and to lay a foundation for proper vocal production. Materials studied may include vocal exercises, folk songs, English and Italian art songs, popular standards and musical theatre selections. Repertory will be assigned according to the student's needs, abilities and preferences. This course is designed primarily for persons with little or no singing experience (music majors with voice as their primary instrument should enroll in Applied Music/private instruction). The ability to read music is helpful but not required. Voice I is the first of a four semester sequence.

III. Statement of Course Need:

A. This course is a standard offering in the music curriculum of most community colleges. The course is a basic skills course in the performing arts and supports other course offerings in the Music, Theatre and Dance Arts degrees. The course provides individual instruction for students in these programs and encourages participation in the College's vocal ensemble and theatre productions. The course also provides training for personal enrichment and for those who participate in a community or church choir, or who wish to perform as solo singers.

B. Course transferability: Based on evaluations by the njtransfer.org website, this course transfers to most colleges as an Arts elective or a Free elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course serves as a studio arts elective for AA Liberal Arts Majors
- C. To see course transferability for New Jersey colleges and universities, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; for other colleges and universities, go to the college website.

V. Outline of Course Content:

- A. Fundamentals of vocal technique: terms and concepts, posture, breathing, relaxation
- B. Vocalizes and other vocal exercises; legato style
- C. English and Italian diction
- D. Tone quality, vowel production, diphthongs, consonants
- E. Register and ranges, resonance, vocal health
- F. Interpretation, style, deportment
- G. Ear training and sight singing skills
- H. Assigned repertory of English Art songs, folk songs, Italian songs, or popular songs

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Outcomes

The student will: study the art of singing and vocal production, and apply the techniques, musical objectives and aesthetics to a variety of song literature. (GE-NJ 1, 6, *)

B. Course Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

1. demonstrate the fundamentals of vocal technique, posture and breathing.

- 2. apply good vowel production and diction to the development of an open, relaxed and focused tone quality.
- 3. match pitch and work with a piano accompaniment.
- 4. interpret basic music notation.
- 5. evaluate the stylistic interpretation of the song texts and the musical genres.
- 6. memorize and perform a variety of songs with good tone, pitch, style and deportment.

(* embedded critical thinking)

C. Assessment Instruments:

- 1. Individual lessons, assignments
- 2. Written examinations
- 3. Oral presentations
- 4. Performance of repertoire

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Class Participation: Students will show effort and participation in class presentations, vocal exercises, repertory practice and musical discussions of style, diction and repertory.
- B. Individual voice instruction: Students will demonstrate progress throughout the semester in application of technical and interpretive details.
- C. Exams: 1. written: terms, musical concepts, diction
 - 2. performance: Students will demonstrate through the performance of memorized repertory the correct application of vocal techniques and interpretive skills.

Formats, modes and methods that may be used for teaching and learning:

- A. Lecture/discussion
- B. Guided practice of vocal exercises
- C. Group singing
- D. Independent study
- E. Student oral presentations
- F. Peer critiques

VIII. Texts and Materials

Text: (such as)

Clifton Ware, <u>Adventures in Singing</u>, latest edition, McGraw Hill, New York, NY (text and accompanying CD)

Additional repertoire may be supplied by the instructor or suggested by the student.

(Please note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

- A. Soundproof rehearsal studio/classroom with piano
- B. Stereo and media systems
- C. Accompanist