EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

MUSIC

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Music Department

FA / MUSI 2054G 3.0 SECTION A
JAZZ VOCAL
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

Last Modified Date: 08/11/2017

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Focuses on performance dealing primarily with the tradition of solo jazz singing. Practical instruction in jazz vocal performance includes an emphasis on developing stylistic fluency and repertoire competency. Prerequisite: Permission of the course director, by audition. Open to majors and non-majors but not intended for beginners. Basic technical ability and theoretical knowledge is required.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

TBD

SPECIAL FEATURES

Time / Location: Students enrolled in 3.0 sections receive 12 lesson hours. Students in 6.0 sections receive 24 hours. Lessons are scheduled in various rooms in ACE. Scheduled times are to be agreed upon by student and private lesson instructor.

Course Consultation Hours: By appointment.

Expanded Course Description: This course focuses on performance techniques dealing primarily with the tradition of solo jazz singing. Private instruction includes an emphasis on developing stylistic fluency and repertoire competency. In addition, accurate musicianship and an ability to communicate the lyrics will be required.

Prerequisites

FA/MUSI 1054G 3.0 and 6.0 Prerequisite: By audition and permission of the Jazz Area Coordinator.
FA/MUSI 2054G 3.0 and 6.0 Prerequisite: 1054G 3.0 or 6.0
FA/MUSI 3054G 3.0 and 6.0 Prerequisite: 2054G 3.0 or 6.0
FA/MUSI 4054G 3.0 and 6.0 Prerequisite: 3054G 3.0 or 6.0

2. TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Course Text / Readings: Varies by individual instructor. Generally, a variety of recorded repertoire and jazz scores/transcriptions are suggested for listening and analysis. A music manuscript book is recommended.

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES WITH EXAMPLES

This course features goals in technical proficiency, repertoire development and improvisation abilities. Minimum course requirements are below; additional requirements necessary to the student’s musical growth will be determined by the instructor during the year.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
Repertoire Requirements:

- 1054G 3.0 - 6 songs in total
- 2054G 3.0 - 8 songs in total
- 3054G 3.0 - 10 songs in total
- 4054G 3.0 - 12 songs in total
- 1054G 6.0 - 8 songs in total
- 2054G 6.0 - 10 songs in total
- 3054G 6.0 - 14 songs in total
- 4054G 6.0 - 15 songs in total

Repertoire list should reflect a variety of styles including blues, swing, bossa, etc. All repertoire selections **must be memorized**. Upper level students should be able to demonstrate improvisation or advanced phrasing rather than simply singing the piece once through the form.

Other Requirements

Other requirements necessary to the student’s musical growth will be determined by the instructor during the year. Emphasis of the materials below may vary between individual instructors and students over the course of a four-year program.

**Jazz conception (articulation, phrasing, dynamics):** The student should demonstrate some degree of competence in jazz articulation and phrasing. Often an instructor may assign solo “transcriptions” (not necessarily notated) to aid in the student’s development in this area. In this case transcription refers to imitation and performance of a master vocalist’s recording. While not required for the final jury, it is recommended that students complete at least one solo transcription under the guidance of their instructor.

**Concert Reviews:** Vocal Jazz students in full hour lessons should attend a minimum of 4 professional performances (including jazz instrumental) of approved concerts by your instructor. Students in half hour lessons should attend a minimum of 2 professional performances. Guidelines will be provided to you for written reports, which must be submitted in response to these performances. Your instructor may require a listening journal of other live and audio performances that you have experienced.

**Listening Journal:** Students are encouraged to keep a notebook of other live and audio performances that you have experienced. Each active listening entry should be accompanied by a paragraph about the artist, your experience of the song and other relevant information such as the song’s composer and/or lyricist. This exercise prepares the student for the viva voce portion of the jury.

**Scales/Modes:**
- all major scales and melodic minor (ascending form) scales starting from their root, sung over two octaves
- possible scale patterns and variations (e.g., 3rds, diatonic triads)
- all modes starting from their root, ascending to the ninth and descending back to the root
- chromatic scale, ascending and descending

4. **GRADED ASSESSMENT**

The final grade will be based on the following breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor Fall Term</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructor Winter Term</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juried Performance</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Please Note: Students MUST be available to perform their final jury exam, scheduled within the York University final exam period.

Instructor’s Evaluation (60% of final mark)
The instructor’s mark will reflect the student’s competence in meeting the following:

- Listening / concert requirements: 20
- Repertoire development: 20
- Overall musical conception: 10
- Attendance, lesson preparation, performance level: 10

TOTAL 60

Half of the instructor’s mark will be given at the end of the fall term, the remainder at the end of the winter term.

Performance Jury (40% of final mark)
At the conclusion of each year the student will be examined by jury. Students must come prepared with an accurate song list based on the repertoire requirements listed above. This repertoire list must be submitted on the jury form and signed by the student's instructor. One legible and accurate lead sheet copy of each tune on the repertoire list must be submitted to the jurors. Adjudicators may ask questions about the composer/lyricist, the form of the piece, definitive performances, or other relevant musical matters.

NOTE: All repertoire selections must be memorized for final jury performance

While students are expected to conduct themselves professionally please note that the jury performance is an exam (not a concert) with a time limit. Within this context jurors may sometimes stop the student before a piece is concluded. This is meant to be neither a negative nor a positive indication of the performance. While there is no dress code requirement, students are expected to wear clothing appropriate for a professional jazz performance.

First year: 3.0
Students will perform a maximum of 6 minutes of repertoire (2 songs) beginning with a song of his/her own choosing. The adjudicators will request a subsequent selection from the repertoire list (jury form).

First year: 6.0
Students will perform a maximum of 10 minutes of repertoire (2-3 songs) beginning with a piece of his/her own choosing. The adjudicators will request subsequent selections from the repertoire list (jury form).

Second year: 3.0
Students will perform a maximum of 8 minutes of repertoire (2-3 songs) beginning with a piece of his/her own choosing. The adjudicators will request subsequent selections from the repertoire list (jury form).

Second year: 6.0
Students will perform a maximum of 15 minutes of repertoire (3-4 songs) beginning with a piece of his/her own choosing. The adjudicators will request subsequent selections from the repertoire list (jury form).
Third year: 3.0
Students will perform a maximum of 10 minutes of repertoire (3-4 songs) beginning with a piece of his/her own choosing.
The adjudicators will request subsequent selections from the repertoire list (jury form).

Third year: 6.0
Students will perform a maximum of 20 minutes of repertoire (3-4 songs) beginning with a piece of his/her own choosing.
The adjudicators will request subsequent selections from the repertoire list (jury form).

Fourth year: 3.0
Students will perform a maximum of 13 minutes of repertoire (3-4 songs). Students are encouraged to view the 4th year jury as a professional performance, i.e. prepare a ‘set’ of tunes (similar to a ‘set’ in a jazz club).

Fourth year: 6.0
Students will perform a maximum of 25 minutes of repertoire (4-6 songs). Students are encouraged to view the 4th year jury as a professional performance, i.e. prepare a ‘set’ of tunes (similar to a ‘set’ in a jazz club).

Jury Accompaniment Policy
It is the responsibility of the student to bring a qualified accompanist (piano or guitar) to the Performance Jury at their own expense. A list of qualified accompanists is available through the Music Office. Lack of appropriate accompaniment will result in a lower grade. Book your accompanist early!

Third and fourth year 3.0 & 6.0: Students may hire a bassist at their own expense to supplement their piano or guitar accompaniment. Drums or other instruments are not permitted.

Fourth year 3.0 & 6.0: In addition to the above accompaniment options, students are encouraged to view the 4th year jury as a professional performance, i.e. prepare a ‘set’ of songs (similar to a ‘set’ in a jazz club), as follows:
4054G 3.0: 3-4 songs (maximum 13 minutes total)
4954G 6.0: 4-6 songs (maximum 25 minutes total)

4th yr. students may use the microphone (provided). While the choice of material will be determined by the student (and not the jury), please note that the student will be marked not only on the vocal performance, but also on:
- Overall performance of the entire ‘group’
- Choice of repertoire
- Sequencing of material
- Presentation
- Announcing
- Stage presence

Jury Evaluation
The Jury is worth 40% of the final course mark. Goals of the Jury evaluation will include the preparation and performance of musical details such as technique, phrasing, tone quality, interpretation and artistic communication. In addition, students may be asked to demonstrate some insight into why certain materials
were studied and/or chosen for performance. The Jury is designed to give the student experience performing, and therefore the jury mark reflects only the performance level at the time of the jury.

**Jury Grading Scheme:**

- Tone quality and technique: 8 points
- Melodic concept (‘head’ and soloing): 8 points
- Rhythmic concept (time-feel and phrasing): 8 points
- Harmonic concept (making the ‘chord changes’): 8 points
- Artistic communication (articulation, dynamics, creativity): 8 points

**TOTAL** 40 points

**‘Professional’ Expectations**

Up to 10 marks may be deducted if certain expectations are not met, as follows:

**Timeliness**

If student does not show up for the scheduled jury on time, up to 5 marks can be deducted from the total jury mark. If a student is using accompanists, limited set up time is available and must be executed in the most efficient manner possible. If accompanists are late or unprepared this may negatively affect the student’s mark.

**Preparation**

If student is not prepared for the scheduled jury (e.g. repertoire is not memorized), up to 5 marks may be deducted from the total jury mark.

**Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests**

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.). For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar.

Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

**Assignment Submission:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment.

**Lateness Penalty:** Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

**Missed Tests:** Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

5. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 10, 2017

Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 9, 2018
Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 9, 2018

**Academic Policies / Information**

The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:

York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
- Access/Disability
- Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants
- Religious Observance Accommodation
- Student Code of Conduct

http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust20121.pdf

Additional information:

- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
- Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling

Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy
- The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for ‘full year’ courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.

Important University Sessional Dates (you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more.

Manage my Academic record
- [http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/](http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/)

"20% Rule"

No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms.

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Many courses utilize Moodle, York University's course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

**Moodle @ York University**