FOUNDATIONS IN SINGING – MU 2104B (Section 001)
Don Wright Faculty of Music, Western University
Course Lecturer: Prof. Janet Loo
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Office: Talbot College Rm. 337
Office Hours: By appointment

CLASS SCHEDULE
Tuesdays from 7:00pm to 10:00pm in Talbot College Rm. 100

COURSE DESCRIPTION
GENERAL OVERVIEW: Foundations in Singing (MU 2104) is designed to provide an opportunity for students to develop their unique expressive skills. Students enrolled in the course must be able to read music. The anti-requisite to this course is Vocal Methods (MU 1801). Note: Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

CONTENT/LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will explore the fundamentals of techniques of singing, including (but not limited to) voice function, breath control, tone production, diction, vocal health, performance preparation, and interpretation of song.

FORMAT: The format of the class shall consist of a balance of lecture and performance. Through written assignments, students are encouraged to integrate concepts learned from lectures and their own vocal experiences through the analysis and performance of vocal solo music.

REQUIRED MATERIALS
Electronic device capable of recording video (e.g. cell phone, laptop, camera)

OWL
The syllabus and other important course documents will be available for download on the OWL site by logging on to http://owl.uwo.ca. Follow the appropriate links to the MU 2104B course link.

METHOD OF EVALUATION
Practical Performances (45%)
Solo performance #1 – 15%
Solo performance #2 – 15%
Final solo performance – 15%
Assignments (30%)
Three written assignments, each worth 10%
Written Test (20%)
Covers material from lectures, all in-class discussions, handouts, and textbook
Participation and Attendance (5%)

Because feedback from colleagues is a crucial part of this course and because each singer learns from observing and analyzing the performances of their colleagues, **attendance is mandatory**. Your colleagues depend on your full participation as much as you depend on them for a rewarding learning experience.

**PRACTICAL PERFORMANCES**

**Evaluation**

SOLO PERFORMANCES: Each solo performance will be evaluated by the instructor taking into account the following criteria: posture, breathing, tone, diction, stage presence, and interpretation. Prior to each solo, the student is required to maintain a practice log in order to monitor their own progress. This will be submitted to the instructor in the following week after the performance. In addition, the student will self-evaluate each performance after observing each one on video. The student shall fill out the evaluation form provided by the instructor and submit it along with the rehearsal log.

**Timeline/Requirements for solo performances:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>PRE-PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>POST-PERFORMANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Solo #1  | - Choose a song from LIST A (folksong, spiritual, or hymn in English)  
- **must be memorized**  
- must be accompanied by piano | - fill out rehearsal journal and hand in the following class  
- bring video recording device  
- rehearse with pianist at least once before performance | - watch video  
- fill out self-evaluation form and hand in the following class |
| Solo #2  | - Choose a song from LIST A or LIST B (folksong, artsong, or aria in English)  
- **must be memorized**  
- must be accompanied by piano | - fill out rehearsal journal and worksheet and hand in the following class  
- bring video recording device  
- rehearse with pianist at least once before performance | - watch video  
- fill out self-evaluation form and hand in the following class |
| Solo #3  | - Choose a song from LIST A, B, or C (musical theatre, jazz, folksong, artsong, or aria in English)  
- **must be memorized**  
- must be accompanied by piano | - fill out rehearsal journal and worksheet, hand in on Apr. 5 (Group A) or Apr. 12 (Group B) to the undergraduate assistant in the Music Student Services Office in Talbot College Rm. 210  
- bring video recording device  
- rehearse with pianist at least once before performance | - watch video  
- fill out self-evaluation form and submit with Assignment 5 on Apr. 5 (Group A) or Apr. 12 (Group B) to the undergraduate assistant in the Music Student Services Office in Talbot College Rm. 210 |
REPERTOIRE LIST FROM TEXTBOOK & SINGING BOOK WEBSITE**

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. SOLO #1: Choose a song from LIST A (folksong, spiritual, or hymn in English) – MUST BE MEMORIZED
2. SOLO #2: Choose a song from LIST A or LIST B (folksong, spiritual, hymn, artsong, or aria in English) – MUST BE MEMORIZED
3. SOLO #3: Choose a song from LIST A, B, or C (musical theatre, jazz, folksong, spiritual, hymn, artsong, or aria in English) – MUST BE MEMORIZED
4. If you would like to perform a song outside of the textbook, you must do so in consultation with the instructor. The song you choose must match the criteria for the particular solo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIST A</th>
<th>LIST B</th>
<th>LIST C</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shenandoah</td>
<td>Santa Lucia*</td>
<td>There’s a Fine, Fine Line</td>
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<tr>
<td>The House of the Rising Sun</td>
<td>Come Again, Sweet Love</td>
<td>Someone Like You (from the</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scarborough Fair</td>
<td>La Paloma Blanca*</td>
<td>musical Jekyll and Hyde, not</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danny Boy</td>
<td>When Love is Kind</td>
<td>the version performed by</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Water is Wide</td>
<td>I Cannot Sing To-Night</td>
<td>Adele)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salley Gardens</td>
<td>Gentle Annie**</td>
<td>Goodnight, My Someone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Wind</td>
<td>He Shall Feed His Flock**</td>
<td>Not While I’m Around</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red is the Rose</td>
<td>If You’ve Only Got a Moustache**</td>
<td>Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin’</td>
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<tr>
<td>Niño Precioso*</td>
<td></td>
<td>I Got the Sun in the Morning</td>
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<tr>
<td>L’hirondelle messagère*</td>
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<td>Over the Rainbow</td>
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<td>Amazing Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayfaring Stranger</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>My Lord, What a Mornin’</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I’ve Got Peace Like a River</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>How Can I Keep From Singing</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ah! simon moine voulait</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>danser!*/**</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance of Youth**</td>
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<td>Dubinushka**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit**</td>
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<td>Flor, Blanca Flor/*/**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mi Caballo Blanco/*/**</td>
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<td>Paun I Kolo/*/**</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Suo-gân/*/**</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Lark in the Clear Air**</td>
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*In English
**Found on Norton Singing Book website. Find the link on the course OWL page and download the music score. Note that before you can download and print off the music, you must download SIBELIUS SCORCH which is a free notation reader software. Instructions are found on the website.

Guidelines on choosing repertoire: Choose songs that are suitable to your voice classification, range, tessitura, and level of study. Be creative in choosing contrasting songs that you really like to sing and that will encourage a healthy vocal technique. Do not choose music that is too demanding technically or artistically for your level of study.

Sources of vocal repertoire: All songs that can be performed in the class are found in the course textbook (see below for lists of acceptable repertoire). If you would like to perform a song outside of the textbook, you must do so in consultation with the instructor. Other sources of repertoire include
the music library (second floor of Talbot College), conservatory songbooks, personal collections, www.musicnotes.com, or other sources. Listening to recordings is also a valuable resource for finding repertoire.

**Repertoire restrictions:** Time does not allow for specific vocal techniques in the “pop” idiom or “belt” style, therefore repertoire is **not** to include any “pop” songs or show pieces requiring a “belt” technique.

**Accompaniment:** All songs must be accompanied by piano. You may choose to work with the class accompanist or an accompanist from outside of the class. **You may not accompany yourself.**

**Absence policy:** Missed solos will receive a mark of zero. Please note that in the case of illness or emergency, an arrangement can be made to make up for the missed performance, but you must call and e-mail your instructor as soon as possible to alert her of your situation. You will be asked to present proper medical documentation as soon as possible to the appropriate Dean’s office.

**When will you perform?** Within the first week of the term, your instructor will designate and inform you on whether you are in Group A or in Group B. The term schedule, Appendix A, found on page 7 of the syllabus, will indicate when you are assigned to perform your solos.

**Policy on guests attending performances:** As a courtesy to those students that are particularly nervous when performing, guests from outside the class are **not** permitted to attend performances.

**Resources for Performance Preparation**

**Accompanist**
There is an accompanist TA available to accompany you on your solos during the term. Her name is **Debbie Grigg** and her e-mail address is debbiegrigg.dg@gmail.com. You must rehearse with your accompanist at least once before your song is performed in class. Rehearsals with Debbie will be scheduled online through **SignUp Genius**. You will receive an e-mail notification to inform you that sign-up times are available. You must let her know what your piece is (if it is in the text book) or give her a copy of your piece **at least two weeks** in advance of your performance date. Your accompanist TA has the right to refuse to perform your piece if you have not prepared it together beforehand, thus affecting your grade on the solo. If the song is not from the textbook *The Singing Book*, then you are responsible for providing a copy of it for your accompanist.*

Music can be given to Debbie in class or can be placed in the envelope outside of Music Building Rm. 545. Please hole-punch all music and double-side any pieces longer than three pages. Be sure to write your name and group you are in on the first page.

For further direction on how to submit music to your TA, see Appendix B of the syllabus.

If you would like to work with another accompanist other than the TA, please clear this with the instructor well in advance before your performance.

*The publisher of the textbook has provided a website on which you may change the key to any of the songs and print them out. If you choose to sing one of these songs in an altered key, then please provide a copy for your accompanist.*

**Instructor**
Your instructor is available by appointment, if necessary, to provide brief sessions of vocal coaching to aid you in the preparation of your solos.
ASSIGNMENTS
Marks are awarded for content, proper grammatical usage, and spelling. Please submit printed copies only. Electronic copies will not be accepted. Late submission of assignments for non-medical/non-emergency reasons will be assessed a penalty of 5% per day late.

Assignment 1: Personal Voice Profile/Reflection
Due: January 29, 2019 in class

Assignment 2: Concert Review
Due: March 19, 2019 in class

Assignment 3: Final Progress Report/Reflection
Due: April 5, 2019 by 4 p.m. for Group A, April 12, 2019 by 4 p.m. for Group B – submit to one of the undergraduate assistants in the Music Student Services Office in Talbot College Rm. 210 (Submit with rehearsal journal and worksheet for Solo #3)

WRITTEN TEST
A written test, worth 20% of your final grade, will assess content from the course, covering material from lectures, all in-class discussions, handouts, and textbook. If you miss the test due to non-medical or non-emergency reasons, you will receive a mark of zero. Please note that only in the case of illness or emergency, an arrangement can be made to make up for the missed test, but you must call and e-mail your instructor as soon as possible to alert her of your situation. You will be asked to present proper medical documentation as soon as possible to the appropriate Dean’s office before you will be permitted to write a make-up test.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
The university’s attendance policy may be found at:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
The following websites may be useful to you in obtaining support during your studies:
Office of the Registrar
This site provides you with information on things like course enrollment, student finances, and student records, as well as the latest updates from Student Central. http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/
The Student Development Centre
The Student Development Centre is home to a variety of services specially designed to meet the needs of undergraduate and graduate students on campus http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/
Student Services
Within this portal you will find services, application, personal information, along with connections to other services offered to help you during your time here at Western! https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm/

ACCOMMODATION FOR ILLNESS
The Policy on Accommodation for Illness found under “Rights and Responsibilities” at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html. The University has a policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness stating that “in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her
academic responsibilities. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Dean’s office.”

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON PLAGIARISM**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system.

**STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC OFFENCES**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**STATEMENT ON ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

No electronic devices are allowed in class during quizzes, tests and examinations.

**STATEMENT ON MENTAL HEALTH**

Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western at [http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/](http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Western’s Wellness Education Centre is located in the UCC, room 76, to which students in distress may be directed. [http://westernusc.ca/blog/2016/02/25/wellness-centre-and-mentalhealth-guide-created-work-to-promote-better-student-holistic-health/](http://westernusc.ca/blog/2016/02/25/wellness-centre-and-mentalhealth-guide-created-work-to-promote-better-student-holistic-health/)
# APPENDIX A:
## FOUNDATIONS IN SINGING TERM SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC/EVENT</th>
<th>TEXT READING (2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; EDITION)</th>
<th>TEXT READING (3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; EDITION)</th>
<th>DUE DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 8</td>
<td>Introduction&lt;br&gt;How is sound created?&lt;br&gt;Basic laryngeal anatomy and function&lt;br&gt;Finding vocal range</td>
<td>7-10, 279-291&lt;br&gt;300-307</td>
<td>7-11, 259-271&lt;br&gt;280-287</td>
<td>- Declare to instructor your selection for Solo 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>Posture, Breathing, Tone&lt;br&gt;Resonance, Registers&lt;br&gt;Voice classification</td>
<td>18-20&lt;br&gt;21-22&lt;br&gt;11-15, 341-344&lt;br&gt;23-25</td>
<td>18-19&lt;br&gt;20-21&lt;br&gt;12-15, 317-320&lt;br&gt;22-24</td>
<td>- Last day for Group A to inform accompanist of Solo 1 selection and submit copy of music (if applicable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 22</td>
<td>Song preparation&lt;br&gt;Practice habits&lt;br&gt;Warming up the voice&lt;br&gt;Performance anxiety</td>
<td>335-336&lt;br&gt;308-318, 337-340</td>
<td>315-316&lt;br&gt;288-298, 321-324</td>
<td>- Assignment 1 due &lt;br&gt;- Last day for Group B to inform accompanist of Solo 1 selection and submit copy of music (if applicable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>In-class solo coaching (perform eight measures from your first solo)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Declare to instructor your selection for Solo 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td><strong>Solo 1 Performances – GROUP A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation for Group A due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td><strong>Solo 1 Performances – GROUP B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation for Group B due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 19</td>
<td><strong>Reading Week – No lecture</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation for Group B due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 26</td>
<td>Interpretation &amp; Expression&lt;br&gt;Diction</td>
<td>292-299, 319-327&lt;br&gt;272-279, 299-307</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Assignment 2 due &lt;br&gt;- Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation for Group B due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td><strong>Solo 2 Performances – GROUP A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation for Group A due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td><strong>Solo 2 Performances – GROUP B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation for Group B due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>Vocal anatomy &amp; Vocal health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Assignment 3 and Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation due for Group A on Friday, April 5. Submit to Undergraduate Assistant in Talbot College Rm. 210 by 4:00pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td><strong>Written Test</strong></td>
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<td>- Assignment 3 and Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation due for Group B due</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td><strong>Solo 3 Performances – GROUP A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Assignment 3 and Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation due for Group A on Friday, April 5. Submit to Undergraduate Assistant in Talbot College Rm. 210 by 4:00pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td><strong>Solo 3 Performances – GROUP B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Assignment 3 and Rehearsal Journal/Self-Evaluation due for Group B due</td>
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</tbody>
</table>