



Syllabus for MUS 26A

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2023

Course ID & Section #: E4722

Instructor's name: Annika Bäckström

Day/Time of required meetings: M/W 10:05-11:10

Location: CA 107

Course units: 1

No material is needed – Sheet music will be provided on Canvas and/or in class.

Instructor Contact Information

Office hours: By Appointment

Email address: annika-backstrom@redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

Group instruction at the beginning level in the development of solo vocal techniques. Breathing techniques, tone quality, and stage presence are covered in a variety of musical styles.

Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. Using effective posture and breathing techniques, develop a vocal range of one and a half octaves.
2. Recognize, and realize in performance, expression directions.
3. Carry a vocal part individually in an a cappella round or with piano accompaniment.
4. Sing foreign language songs with correct diction.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation

N/A

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

If you are taking online classes DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. In the case of face-to-face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the needed accommodation so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

[Should include info such as final grade calculations, rubrics, late assignment policy, and other grading practices]

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Spring 2023 Dates

- *Classes begin: 01/14/23*
- *Martin Luther King's Birthday (all campuses closed): 01/16/23*
- *Last day to add a class: 01/20/23*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 01/27/23*
- *Census date: 01/30/23 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 02/10/23*
- *Lincoln's Birthday (all campuses closed): 02/17/23*
- *President's Day (all campuses closed): 02/20/23*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 03/02/23*
- *Spring Break (no classes): 03/13/23 – 03/18/23*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 03/31/23*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 03/31/23*
- *Final examinations: 05/06/23 – 05/12/23*
- *Commencement: 05/15/23*
- *Semester ends: 05/12/23*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 05/26/23*

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct

([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/>

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](#)

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [CR Police Department- Public Safety](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergencies within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.

3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.
5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

Course Description

This is a combination beginning and intermediate voice class that will provide both group class work and solo work. The first part of the period will be spent learning vocal techniques and songs. The class will learn several songs from various genres, including folk, traditional, musical theatre, art and foreign language songs. The second part of the period will be devoted to solo singing with emphasis on improving specific vocal techniques and skills as needed for each individual. Students are allowed to bring in their own music. The song needs to be confirmed by the instructor.

MUSIC 26 A and B OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ improve and explore the voice
- ❖ demonstrate effective posture and breathing techniques
- ❖ develop a vocal range of one and a half octaves
- ❖ master the basic principles of public performance - to become more comfortable and at ease in vocal performance
- ❖ build a repertoire of songs in a number of different styles
- ❖ sing foreign language songs with correct diction
- ❖ learn about expression through singing
- ❖ communicate by using the voice as an instrument

OBJECTIVES MUSIC 27 A and B:

In addition to the above-stated objectives, Music 27 students will:

- ❖ develop a vocal range of two octaves
- ❖ master performance practices appropriate to specific vocal genres.
- ❖ demonstrate the ability to sing with sensitivity to phrasing, dynamics, and word meaning
- ❖ develop presentation and characterization skills in the context of live performance
- ❖ build a repertoire of songs for public performance and audition.
- ❖ basic understanding of IPA

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Attendance is crucial. It's a "lab" class, so you need to be present to learn, 30%

The class will be divided into two grading criteria: one for those who are beginners with solo singing (Beginning) and the other for those who have had solo singing experience (Intermediate). Weekly discussions on a variety of vocal related subjects, e.g. vocal technique, diction, performance practice, musical expression, how to read a musical manuscript, etc.

Written performance review (criteria discussed in class and posted on canvas)

One concert/vocal performance report due the last week of classes Wednesday 5/3. This can be either from a live or downloaded performance by one or more singers (any styles is acceptable in a concert, recital, opera, musical theatre or other performance setting). The review needs to be a minimum of 2 pages: 12 font, 1" margins. You will be graded on content and grammar, 15%

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

BEGINNING LEVEL (26A/B)

Two solos for 26A, one by mid-semester and the other before the end of the semester. Three solos for 26B, one or two by mid-semester and one or two by the end of the semester. You are very welcome to perform more, but it's not required, 20%

INTERMEDIATE LEVELS

(27A/B) 4 memorized solos; 2 by mid-semester and 2 solos by the end of the semester, 20%

Final Performance

Sing one song from memory with accompaniment. Present the Alternative Media Project (criteria will be discussed in class and posted on canvas). Finals week 5/8-5/12, 2023, 15%

Class Activities:

Body/Mind Warm-Ups

Group Singing

Vocal Technique

Learning how to navigate a Musical Manuscript

Working and reviewing songs learned in class while focusing on new ideas and vocal techniques talked about.

Solo work

Introducing different topics/ideas as needed, such as diction, the creative process in live performance, characterization in song.

**Come to class ready to explore and take risks. The more prepared you are,
the more you will get out of the class.**

Effort counts for a lot!