

Voice 101 - Syllabus

Voice 101 – The Art and Technique of Singing

Instructor: Krisangela Washington

Level: Beginner to Intermediate

Course Description:

Voice 101: The Art and Technique of Singing is designed for beginner to intermediate students who are looking to build a strong foundation in vocal technique and performance. Over 8 weeks, students will explore the fundamentals of singing, including vocal health, breathing techniques, pitch accuracy, tone development, and expression. Each session will include hands-on exercises, group practice, and individual feedback to help students improve their vocal skills and gain confidence in their singing ability.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Understand the basic anatomy and physiology of the voice.
2. Gain control over breath support and proper vocal alignment.
3. Develop vocal tone and resonance for clear and warm sound production.
4. Improve pitch accuracy and ear training.
5. Learn to express emotion through dynamics, phrasing, and articulation.
6. Receive constructive individual feedback on vocal technique and performance skills.

Required Materials:

- Notebook for taking notes and tracking progress
- Email for correspondence and assignments
- A recording device (smartphone or webcam) for weekly assignments

Assignments:

- Daily vocal warm-up & Practice
- Record yourself singing once a week. Email link to the professor (You Tube or google drive) Email: krisangelaofficial@gmail.com
- Weekly vocal Analysis

Course Breakdown

Module 1: Introduction to Singing and Vocal Health

Lesson 1: Vocal anatomy: diaphragm, vocal cords, and resonators

- Vocal Analysis: Jill Scott

Lesson 2: The importance of vocal health: hydration, rest, and avoiding strain

- Vocal Analysis: Mariah Carey

Lesson 3: Introduction to warm-up and cool-down exercises

- Vocal Analysis: Stevie Wonder

Module 2: Breathing Techniques and Posture

Lesson 1: Understanding the role of posture and support in sound production

- Vocal Analysis: Tamia

Lesson 2: Diaphragmatic breathing and its role in singing

- Vocal Analysis: Whitney Houston

Lesson 3: Breathing control exercises for sustained notes

- Vocal Analysis: Yolanda Adams

Module 3: Tone and Resonance

Lesson 1: Understanding vocal tone quality

- Vocal Analysis: Luther Vandross

Lesson 2: Exploring vocal resonance and its role in sound production

- Vocal Analysis: Aaliyah

Lesson 3: Techniques for warming up and resonating sound in the head and chest

- Vocal Analysis: John P. Kee

Module 4: Pitch and Ear Training

Lesson 1: Understanding pitch and intonation

- Vocal Analysis: Denise Williams

Lesson 2: Interval training to recognize and sing different pitches

- Vocal Analysis: India Arie

Lesson 3: Ear training exercises to improve pitch accuracy

- Vocal Analysis: John Legend

Module 5: Dynamics and Expression

Lesson 1: Understanding dynamics: soft to loud singing

- Vocal Analysis: Gladys Knight

Lesson 2: Emotional expression through vocal tone and volume

- Vocal Analysis: Chaka Khan

Lesson 3: Using phrasing to tell a story in a song

- Vocal Analysis: Beyonce

Week 6: Articulation and Diction

Lesson 1: Importance of clear articulation in singing

- Vocal Analysis: Michael Jackson

Lesson 2: Exercises for improving diction and enunciation

- Vocal Analysis: Anita Baker

Lesson 3: Tongue twisters and lyrical enunciation practice

- Vocal Analysis: Tweet

Module 7: Performance Skills and Confidence

Lesson 1: Overcoming stage fright and gaining confidence

- Vocal Analysis: Brandi

Lesson 2: Using body language and connecting with an audience

- Vocal Analysis: Tina Turner

Lesson 3: Microphone technique for stage and studio

Module 8: Final Performance and Feedback

Final student performances (solo or group)

Constructive feedback from the instructor and peers

Tips for continued vocal growth post-course

In-Class Activities:

Final student performances with peer and instructor feedback

Q&A session to address any remaining questions or concerns

Discussion on next steps for vocal improvement

Grading and Assessment:

Attendance: 10%

Participation in Class Activities: 30%

Weekly Assignments and Practice: 30%

Final Performance: 30%

Note: Students are encouraged to actively participate in class, ask questions, and engage with the material outside of class hours for optimal progress.

Instructor Contact:

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