

Welcome to the Music Department at California State University, Sacramento.

The purpose of this handbook is to guide you in your career as a voice major at California State University, Sacramento. The voice faculty is happy to help you with any university problems, and we urge you to consult regularly with your teacher to assure your completion of requirements on schedule.

Read the Music section in the university catalog. If you plan to go into teaching, please pay particular attention to the Teaching Credential section and refer to the School of Education Section as well.

The Music Department offers the following degrees for the Voice Major: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music and Master of Music. The Single Subject Teaching Credential may be obtained in conjunction with the BM or BA.

CHOICE OF VOICE TEACHER: The members of the voice faculty are:

ROBIN FISHER
Soprano

CLAUDIA KITKA
Soprano

MICHAEL SOKOL
Baritone

Student preferences will be taken into consideration in assigning the major performance professor.

ENTRANCE AUDITION PROCEDURES - ALL DEGREE PROGRAMS

All new students must schedule an entering audition in voice at the beginning of their first semester to determine their performance level for purposes of admission to the program, advising, and placement. The student should present **three** copies of the AUDITION APPLICATION FOR NEW STUDENTS form at the audition. Information required includes a repertoire list, academic background, public performance experience, past vocal study, etc. After being assigned a level of proficiency, it is expected that the student will progress step by step through the program.

Audition forms and scheduling of audition appointments: **Capistrano Hall, Room 145, 916-278-6543.**

ENTRANCE AUDITION LITERATURE REQUIREMENTS

**BACHELOR OF ARTS
BACHELOR OF MUSIC (MUSIC EDUCATION)
BACHELOR OF MUSIC (JAZZ STUDIES)**

The student will be expected to perform **from memory** two (2) solo songs in contrasting styles selected from the standard classical art song and/or aria repertoire in English (foreign languages optional).

One selection must be a composition set to English text, not a translation from another language. The student must supply copies of the music for the accompanist.

PLEASE NOTE: Repertoire from Musical Theatre, Pop, Rock, or Contemporary Christian categories is not acceptable.

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (VOICE)

The student will be expected to perform **from memory** four (4) solo selections from the standard classical repertoire in the following categories:

- 1 art song in English
- 1 art song or aria in Italian
- 2 songs or arias of the student's choice (foreign languages optional)

One selection must be a composition set to English text, not a translation from another language. The student must supply copies of the music for the accompanist.

PLEASE NOTE: Repertoire from Musical Theatre, Pop, Rock, or Contemporary Christian categories is not acceptable.

MASTER OF MUSIC DEGREE (VOICE)

Applicants must:

- (1) present evidence of an undergraduate performance experience equivalent to the minimum for the Bachelor of Arts degree in voice at California State University, Sacramento
- (2) perform **from memory** an audition of vocal repertoire representing a minimum of three different style periods, consisting of five (5) solo pieces (including one aria from opera or oratorio) in four languages: English, French, German, and Italian.

One selection must be a composition set to English text, not a translation from another language. The student must supply copies of the music for the accompanist.

DEPARTMENTAL REGULATIONS and COMMON COURSE REQUIREMENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS and BACHELOR OF MUSIC DEGREES

Please refer to the university catalog online for current course requirements
aaweb.csus.edu/catalog

CONCERT ATTENDANCE: Each music major is required to attend a minimum of ten concerts and/or recitals each semester. Music 100 meets this requirement.

SOLOIST APPEARANCE: Each student in the BA, BM (Music Education), or BM (Jazz Studies) program of sophomore standing or above should appear as a soloist in at least one student recital or repertoire class each semester. Students in the BM (Voice) program must do either a repertoire class performance or one student recital each semester.

ACCOMPANIST: Each student is responsible for acquiring an accompanist. The music department has staff accompanists who are available to the students for accompanying.

SEMESTER JURIES: At the close of each semester of study in singing, the student will sing a jury before the voice faculty. This jury provides the student with a regular evaluation of his/her performance ability by faculty in addition to his/her major professor and also gives the student experience in performing before the faculty each semester. This jury will be considered by the major performance professor in determining grades in voice.

LARGE PERFORMING ENSEMBLE PARTICIPATION: As an ensemble experience, each student must participate in at least one large performing ensemble each semester. The following groups meet this requirement for voice majors: Concert Choir (Music 142C), Opera Workshop (Music 142O), Opera Theater (Music 142T), University Chorus (Music 142U), Vocal Jazz Ensemble (Music 143J - for Jazz Studies majors only).

DEGREE RECITAL REQUIREMENTS:

BACHELOR OF ARTS - one recital

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (MUSIC EDUCATION) - half recital

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (JAZZ STUDIES) - one recital

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (VOICE) - two recitals

PIANO PROFICIENCY: Students must demonstrate the required basic facility in piano either by examination or by continuous enrollment in Music 14, Basic Piano for Majors, until successful completion of Music 14D.

SEMESTER RATINGS IN VOICE

The student will be classified according to one of the levels of accomplishment outlined below as an indication of his/her progress toward graduation requirements. It is assumed that, in addition to the memorized performance of required literature, the student will demonstrate continually increasing mastery of the singing process. It is the policy of the voice faculty that a student once placed at a level shall remain in sequence until graduation if requirements are met.

LOWER DIVISION LITERATURE REQUIREMENTS

BACHELOR OF ARTS

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (MUSIC EDUCATION)

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (JAZZ STUDIES)

Freshman Level 1 & 2: Literature memorized **each semester:** 3 songs; Language: English (foreign language optional)

Sophomore Level 1: Literature memorized: 5 songs; Languages: English and Italian (other foreign languages optional)

Sophomore Level 2: JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

The JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION will be taken normally during the regular final examination time of the semester in which the student is classified as Sophomore Level 2. Should the student not pass the JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION, s/he may take it once again, and must pass it on the second attempt. For the JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION the student will be prepared to sing **from memory** at least 5 songs in English and Italian (other foreign languages optional). Arias may be performed at the discretion of the teacher.

The student will be expected to furnish his/her own accompanist thoroughly rehearsed for the examination. The performance must be artistically convincing and must display a marked degree of technical proficiency.

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (JAZZ STUDIES)

After successful completion of the JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION, Bachelor of Music (Jazz Studies) majors will continue vocal study with a professor in the jazz curriculum to prepare for the senior recital requirement and completion of the degree.

**UPPER DIVISION LITERATURE REQUIREMENTS
BACHELOR OF ARTS
BACHELOR OF MUSIC (MUSIC EDUCATION)**

Junior Level 1 & 2: Literature memorized: 5 songs/arias; Languages: English, Italian, French or German (other foreign languages optional)

Senior Level 1: SENIOR RECITAL AUDITION PREPARATION

The proposed recital program must contain literature representing a minimum of three different style periods and three languages (including English). The Bachelor of Arts recital must be at least 25-30 minutes in length. The Bachelor of Music (Music Education) half recital must be at least 20 minutes in length. For the SENIOR RECITAL AUDITION the student will be prepared to sing **from memory** at least 7 songs from the program. Each group on the program must be represented by at least one memorized selection for the audition.*

*Memorization requirements may be waived for literature to be performed by ensembles of three or more (including the singer).

Languages: English, Italian, French and/or German (other foreign languages optional)

Each student must pass this audition in order to qualify for Senior Level 2, Senior Recital (Music 185), and complete the degree.

Senior Level 2: SENIOR RECITAL PERFORMANCE

This is the completion of the undergraduate course of study for the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music (Music Education) degree with a major in Voice. In addition to being enrolled in Music 137, the student upon recommendation of the voice faculty must satisfactorily complete Music 185.

**LITERATURE REQUIREMENTS
BACHELOR OF MUSIC (VOICE)**

Freshman Level 1 & 2: Literature memorized **each semester**: 5 songs; Language: English (foreign language optional)

Sophomore Level 1: Literature memorized: 5 songs; Languages: English and Italian (other foreign languages optional)

Sophomore Level 2: JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

The JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION will be taken normally during the regular final examination time of the semester in which the student is classified as Sophomore Level 2. Should the student not pass the JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION, s/he may take it once again, and must pass it on the second attempt. For the JUNIOR QUALIFYING EXAMINATION the student will be prepared to sing **from memory** at least 7 songs in English, Italian, French or German (other foreign languages optional), including at least one aria from opera or oratorio.

The student will be expected to furnish his/her own accompanist thoroughly rehearsed for the examination. The performance must be artistically convincing and must display a marked degree of technical proficiency.

Junior Level 1: JUNIOR RECITAL AUDITION PREPARATION

The proposed recital program must contain literature representing a minimum of three different style periods and three languages (including English). The recital must be at least 30-40 minutes in length. For the JUNIOR RECITAL AUDITION the student will be prepared to sing **from memory** at least 7 songs from the program. Each group on the program must be represented by at least one memorized selection for the audition.*

*Memorization requirements may be waived for literature to be performed by ensembles of three or more (including the singer).

Languages: English, Italian, French and/or German (other foreign languages optional)

Each student must pass this audition in order to qualify for Junior Level 2, Junior Recital (Music 175).

Junior Level 2: JUNIOR RECITAL PERFORMANCE

In addition to being enrolled in Music 137A & B, the student upon recommendation of the voice faculty must satisfactorily complete Music 175 in order to progress to the Senior Level in the Bachelor of Music program.

Senior Level 1: SENIOR RECITAL AUDITION PREPARATION

The proposed recital program must contain literature representing a minimum of three different style periods. The recital must be at least 45-50 minutes in length. For the SENIOR RECITAL AUDITION the student will be prepared to sing **from memory** at least 7 songs from the program. Each group on the program must be represented by at least one memorized selection for the audition.*

*Memorization requirements may be waived for literature to be performed by ensembles of three or more (including the singer).

Languages: English, Italian, French, German (other foreign languages optional)

Each student must pass this audition in order to qualify for Senior Level 2, Senior Recital (Music 185), and complete the degree.

Senior Level 2: SENIOR RECITAL PERFORMANCE

This is the completion of the undergraduate course of study for the Bachelor of Music degree in voice. In addition to being enrolled in Music 137A & B, the student upon recommendation of the voice faculty must satisfactorily complete Music 185.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN VOCAL PERFORMANCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students applying for admission to the graduate programs in music must consult the Graduate Studies Advisor and the Graduate Studies Handbook, Parts 1 and 2 for the appropriate guidelines for entrance into the programs, courses of study, general degree requirements, and procedures for completing the degree. Refer to page 2 of this **Handbook for Voice Majors** for entrance audition literature requirements. Students must demonstrate proficiency in French, German, and Italian diction in addition to languages represented in the entrance audition repertoire for admission to the Master of Music vocal performance degree program.

APPLIED MUSIC REQUIREMENTS: The requirement for the major performance study in voice must be taken in the major courses Music 219, Graduate Applied Music, and Music 220, Performance Techniques, as listed in the catalog. The units required in the major performance field represent the minimum requirements.

LARGE PERFORMING ENSEMBLE PARTICIPATION: Each Master of Music vocal performance major must participate in at least one large performing ensemble for a total of two units. The following groups meet this requirement for voice majors: Concert Choir (Music 142C), Opera Workshop (Music 142O), Opera Theater (Music 142T), or University Chorus (Music 142U).

MASTER OF MUSIC IN VOCAL PERFORMANCE PLAN OPTIONS: Two options are available: Plan B, a recital and written project, and Plan C, a comprehensive examination of performance skills consisting of two full-length graduate recitals. Plan C is reserved for outstanding performers, and students must be approved for this concentration by the voice faculty in the semester before the first recital. Refer to the Graduate Studies Handbook, Parts 1 and 2 for detailed descriptions of both plans.

MASTER OF MUSIC RECITAL AUDITION PREPARATION: The proposed recital program(s) will be designed by the student and the major professor. Music 285, Graduate Recital, is required under both Plan B and Plan C. Graduate recital auditions will be scheduled during the regular jury audition times. Each graduate recital audition will be a presentation of selections totaling a minimum of 20 minutes, representing all sections of the program. Each student must pass this audition in order to qualify for Graduate Recital: Music 285 (2 units), and, for students approved for the Plan C option, Music 500C (second recital, 1 unit).