Voice Studies Instruction for Non-Majors

For all questions regarding private and group voice instruction for non-majors, please contact:
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PRIVATE VOICE INSTRUCTION ELECTIVE COURSES
MPVA 300 Elective Lessons for Undergraduate Students
MPVA 301 Lessons for Music Minors
MPVA 501 Elective Lessons for Graduate Students

Beginning or continuing your music studies at USC can be a highly rewarding and fulfilling experience. All USC students are eligible to enroll in one-on-one private voice lessons, or a group voice class within the Thornton School of Music.

MPVA 300 and MPVA 501 are courses in private voice study intended for students with some prior voice study. Beginning voice students (those who have never had private voice lessons), are encouraged to register for Voice Class (MPVA 141) before taking private lessons; Intermediate Voice Class (MPVA 241) is also available for students who wish to learn voice in a group setting; (for more information, see Group Voice Instruction Elective Courses MPVA 141 And 241, below).

The final course grade for all private instruction courses (MPVA 300, 301 and 501) is based on regular weekly practice, as documented via an online practice journal, overall progress made during the semester, and from one to two public recital performances at the midterm and/or end of the semester, depending upon the number of units for which the student is enrolled. A voice instructor will be assigned to each student as soon as they have registered and their registration is viewable on GRS.

Click here for the Syllabus for Private Voice Lessons/Non-Majors.

MPVA 301 Music Minor Audition Requirements for Voice

• MPVA 301 is designed for students who have already studied voice and are at an intermediate to advanced level, and who would like to achieve a minor in music performance.
• Students may register for MPVA 301 only after they have been approved for the minor through both an application and audition process. Undergraduate students interested in pursuing a minor can apply during their first semester, but may only enroll as a minor beginning in their second semester. For more information regarding the application process, please visit: http://music.usc.edu/admission/minors/
• Students auditioning to become voice minor students are required to perform a voice audition. Auditions for Musical Theatre/Voice will take place on Wednesday, November 9 (evening) and Wednesday, April 11 (evening).
• Students are required to sing 2 different pieces of at least 2 different style periods for the minor audition. Both pieces must be memorized and only one may be in English.

For further information about music minor requirements, please visit the following webpage:
http://music.usc.edu/departments/minors-and-electives/minors/

GROUP VOICE INSTRUCTION ELECTIVE COURSES
MPVA 141/241

Course Description of Group Voice Instruction MPVA 141 and 241:
Group voice instruction offers an exploration of the physiology and acoustics of the human singing voice in a group setting. Vocal techniques are taught in a supportive group format as a healthy foundation for future solo performance applicable to both classical and non-classical singing styles. Courses are offered at the beginning and intermediate levels. The aims of these courses are to help students:

• Learn basic voice anatomy.
• Establish a healthy vocal technique for singing that is applicable to many different singing styles.
• Understand voice health and hygiene.
• Learn effective practice techniques.
• Learn basic vocal and musical vocabulary.
• Unlock the communicative and expressive power of their own voices.
• Develop techniques to address performance anxiety.

Additional Details of MPVA 141 and 241:
● Classes meet once per week throughout the semester for one hour and 50 minutes.
● There are multiple sections of MPVA 141, offered at different days and times throughout the week. Consult the Schedule of Classes, Thornton Music Performance Vocal Arts schedule http://classes.usc.edu/term-20163/classes/mpva
● Students taking MPVA 141 and 241 may register for a letter grade, as Pass/Fail, or audit the course.
● Practice rooms are available in the University Gateway Building on the northwest corner of Figueroa and Jefferson streets; students must request access through Music Operations (located in Booth Music Hall, Room 101) for registered students.
● The final course grade for MPVA 141 and 241 is based on weekly readings and journal assignments, regular weekly practice, as documented via an online practice journal, overall progress made during the semester, and live performances in class.
● A voice instructor will be assigned to each section of MPVA 141, whom you will meet on the first day of class.

Click here for the Syllabus for more information.