The Contemporary Voice  
(MUCP4910/5910)

Instructor:

Dr. Kirsten Broberg  
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Office hours: Wednesdays 12-1pm; Fridays 3-4pm

Basic Information:

• Time and place—Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-1:50pm in MU1001.

Course Overview:

This course will be a historical survey of currents in contemporary vocal music with emphasis on repertoire composed within the past fifty years. It will include score study and analysis, listening, papers and presentations. The lectures and activities will cover a broad spectrum of contemporary musical styles, genres and techniques.

Required Materials:

• A computer and access to Blackboard  
• Library reserves—various texts, scores and recordings on the fourth floor of the music library  
• Selected scores, recordings, articles, chapters and reviews provided

Required Texts:


How to Read a Poem: And Fall in Love with Poetry by Edward Hirsch ISBN-10: 0156005662

Homework:

• All work is due on the date indicated in the course schedule. It must be turned in, printed out (not in digital form or handwritten) on or before its due date. Turning in homework late will lower the grade you earn on assignments and projects.
Listening, Score Study and Readings:

• You will be required to listen to and study an extensive list of pieces covering a wide range of contemporary repertoire and complete readings as assigned by the instructor. You are required to write journal entries based on the assigned pieces and readings on Blackboard for each class period and be prepared to discuss these assignments during the class period. Not completing these entries or being unprepared for class discussion will negatively impact your journal and participation grade.

Analysis Papers and Presentations:

• You will be required to write one paper/present one piece to the class during the semester. The paper will be due the first day of class presentations. Please give an overview regarding background information about the composer and how the piece fits into the composer’s work list as a whole, various influences of other composers/musical styles that informed the composition and a detailed analysis of the piece itself. On the day of your presentation bring to class at least one recording and a complete, projectable score (hard copy or PDF).

Projects:

• You are required to complete two creative projects during the semester. The first project will pertain to contemporary art song (due mid-semester) and the second will be regarding vocal ensemble writing. Your options for the first project (art song) are to 1) compose a piece for a vocal soloist (with or without accompaniment) or to 2) perform a piece composed within the past fifty years for solo vocalist (with or without accompaniment). Your options for the second project are to compose a piece for vocal ensemble or to curate a program of pieces for vocal ensemble primarily (at least 80%) composed within the past fifteen years and write accompanying program notes. All performed projects will be recorded for your professional archive.

Punctuality and Professionalism:

• All assignments, projects, presentations and written work are due on the dates specified below. If an assignment is late it will earn a lower grade (a 10% reduction for each class period it is late).
• All commentary and criticism of your classmates’s work must be specific, constructive and respectful.
Evaluation and Grading:

- Journal Entries 15%
- Attendance and Class Participation 15%
- Analysis Project 30%
- Mid-Semester Project (art song) 15%
- Final Project (vocal ensemble/choir) 25%

Grading Scale:

A: 90-100 C: 70-80 B: 80-90 D: 60-70

Academic Integrity:

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term “cheating” includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

LINK: [http://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity](http://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity)

Student Behavior:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. *(Also see below, UNT Care Team)*

Link: [https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct)
Access to Information—Eagle Connect:

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.
LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA Statement:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation.
LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

2017-2018 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates):

Link: http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=17&navoid=1737

Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2017-2018:

Link: https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2017-18/calendar

Final Exam Schedule:

Link: http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress:

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.
Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being do so.

LINK:  http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

LINK:  http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

Retention of Student Records:

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university’s policy in accordance with those mandates.

Link: http://ferpa.unt.edu/
Responding to Students in Distress—UNT Care Team:

Please visit the CARE Team website to tips to recognize students in distress and what you need to do in cases of extreme behavior or references to suicide.
Link:  http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care