Illinois Wesleyan University Voice Department Policies

Policies and Procedures

Attendance Policies

Studio Lessons

Studio lessons are an academic course. Students are expected to attend all scheduled voice lessons and accompanist sessions. Absences without a valid excuse are considered unexcused and may affect the final grade. Individual studio teachers will establish their own attendance policy.

Registration

Register online by Friday at midnight of the first week of classes. Late registration incurs a $25 fee. Check the assignment list (posted by Noon on Tuesday) and confirm the course/section number with your teacher. Example: MUS 181 B

Performance & Repertoire Classes / Departmental Recitals

Attendance is required for all voice majors. Attendance will be taken at all departmental recitals.

Scheduling:
- Studio performance classes: typically once per week (usually Monday evenings).
- Departmental recitals: 2–3 times per semester, Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium (unless noted).
- General recitals: 3–4 times per semester during Convocation Hour.

Students are urged to perform at least once per semester, excluding the first semester of the first year.

Grading Policy for Private Voice

The final grade in Applied Voice is based on two components:
1. Weekly vocal work in the studio (⅔ of grade).
2. Voice jury (final exam) (⅓ of grade).

Voice Jury

Held at the end of each semester. Each student must perform at least two songs: one chosen with the teacher and one chosen by faculty. Both must be memorized unless otherwise approved (exceptions: oratorio arias may use music).

Juniors or seniors giving a recital within 6 weeks of juries are exempt.

Performance Expectations for a Superior Grade:
- Correct physical alignment
- Good stage presence
- Excellent preparation
- Clear and correct diction
- Good vocal technique
- Artistic expression

Dress Code & Concert Etiquette

Students are expected to dress appropriately for performances. Departmental recitals are more formal than repertoire classes. Dress guidelines may vary – check with your studio teacher.

Etiquette:
- Cell phones: OFF
- Applause: Avoid whooping/whistling; show respect for all performers.
- Stage deportment: find crook of piano, walk on/off stage gracefully, acknowledge accompanist.

Master Classes

Guest professionals may be invited to conduct master classes. Participation requires a teacher recommendation. Critiques from experts outside IWU are an important part of development.

Upper-Division Study

At the end of sophomore fall semester, students will be reviewed for upper-division study. Faculty recommendations may be acceptance, probation, or non-acceptance. Probationary students will be reviewed again the following semester.

Note: 014x/015x requirements must be completed for acceptance.

Repertoire

Over the course of four years, voice majors study a wide variety of repertoire—including art song, oratorio, opera, and popular music—in at least four languages: English, Italian, German, and French. Studio professors have full discretion in selecting repertoire, ensuring choices support both sound pedagogical practice and the development of each student's unique artistic voice.

Repertoire Recommendations – BM & BME

Course	Requirement
Voice 181	5 songs memorized
Voice 183	6 songs memorized
Voice 281, 291	6 songs memorized
Voice 283	6 songs memorized
Voice 293	7 songs memorized
Voice 381, 383	6 songs memorized
Voice 391	7 songs memorized
Voice 393	8 songs memorized
Voice 481, 483	6 songs memorized
Voice 491, 493	8 songs memorized

Repertoire Recommendations – BA

- Voice 171: 3 songs (30-min lessons)
- Voice 173–473: 4 songs (30-min lessons)
- Voice 173–473: 6 songs (60-min lessons)

Repertoire Recommendations – Voice Minors

- Voice 100: 3 songs (jury required)
- Voice 100X: 3 songs (jury optional; no Arts Gen Ed credit)
- Voice 300: 4 songs (jury required)
- Voice 300X: 4 songs (jury optional)

Vocal Practice

Recommended Weekly Practice Hours:

Year/Degree	Hours

First-years (all degrees)	6 hours per week
Sophomores (BME & BA)	7 hours per week
Sophomores (BM)	8 hours per week
Juniors (BME & BA)	6–7 hours per week
Juniors (BM)	10 hours per week
Seniors (BME & BA)	6–7 hours per week
Seniors (BM)	10–12 hours per week

Practice should be divided into shorter sessions to avoid vocal fatigue. Include non-singing practice such as research, translations, diction, and memorization.

Accompanists

Each student is assigned an accompanist (staff or student). Sessions should focus on ensemble and musicality, not learning notes/diction.

Time Allocations:
- BM & BME: 30 min with accompanist + 30 min in lesson weekly
- BA: 30 min weekly
- BA (with one-hour lessons): same as BM

Policies:
- Inform accompanist of absences (failure to notify may forfeit services).
- Provide scores promptly so accompanists can prepare.

Coordinator of Accompaniment Program:
Prof. Logan Campbell, Interim Director of SOM
Presser Annex 262, x3028

Voice Faculty

Dr. Parrott – Presser 211
Prof. Mangialardi – Presser 213, x3219
Dr.. Kammin – Presser 210, x3194

Repertoire Class Schedule

Dr. Parrott – Mondays, 6–7 p.m., Westbrook, Presser Hall
Dr. Kammin – Mondays, 6–7 p.m., Westbrook, Presser Hall
Prof. Mangialardi – Mondays, 7–8 p.m., Westbrook, Presser Hall