



# Unit Outline

## AH 611 Music Theatre Skills - Singing

---

### Objectives:

This unit is designed to enable students to:

#### *Knowledge:*

- Describe more advanced technical principles in singing, including 'legitimate' and 'mix' vocal styles as practised in contemporary music theatre.
- Identify the plot, musical style and history of a broad range of musicals from the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present.
- Identify acting choices within the musical score.

#### *Skills:*

- Adjust the positioning of the vocal mechanism to meet the technical requirements of more advanced music theatre singing styles including 'legitimate' as practiced in contemporary music theatre.
- Demonstrate deeper and more flexible breath capacity and support.
- Maintain vocal and physical strength and flexibility during rehearsal and performance.
- Further extend pitch and tonal range.
- Access a broad range of vocal colours while acting in song.
- Demonstrate versatility of characterisation through music and song.
- Memorise vocal repertoire for performance within a short amount of time.

#### *Values:*

- Take responsibility for their own vocal development.
- Develop a critical approach to vocal performance.
- Communicate a personal response to the work through discussion and practice.
- Develop problem-solving skills through a deep understanding of vocal technique and interpretation of song.
- Cultivate flexibility and openness.
- Reflect on how ideas can translate into performance.
- Reflect on the relationship between performer and audience in music theatre.
- Reflect on the role of the singer in music theatre practice and in society.

### Content:

This unit builds on skills and techniques learnt in first year. Vocal techniques will be taught in small group tutorials and repertoire skills will be taught in larger groups.

#### *Tutorials:*

*Semester 1* - will focus on the technical requirements of 'legitimate' style singing for music theatre. This vocal style is grounded in classical and operatic techniques, and learning and assessment will be sourced from these traditions.

*Semester 2* - will focus on an advanced integration of 'belt' and 'legitimate' vocal styles into mix or speech quality techniques as practiced in contemporary music theatre.

*Repertoire class* - will incorporate a broad range of solo and duet songs from musicals of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the vocal requirements of these genres through weekly class presentations in which repertoire will be learnt to performance standard. Students will be required to submit a short summary for each



song that they present in which they describe the synopsis of the show and give a brief analysis of the song.

This class will also include various games, exercises and improvisations to deepen the connection between acting and singing skills in performance especially in the areas of emotional connection, characterisation and the physical and vocal requirements of various music theatre styles.

**Learning Tasks and Assessment:**

Learning Task	Ungraded unit
<p><b>Technical work:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Demonstrate a practical understanding of the foundation principles of 'legitimate' style,</li> <li>2) Demonstrate a practical understanding of advanced principles of 'legitimate' style,</li> <li>3) Apply the technical principles of 'legitimate' style to a music theatre song,</li> <li>4) Apply the technical principles of 'mix' and 'speech quality' to a music theatre song,</li> </ol>	<p>Continuous ungraded assessment based on preparation and presentation of work in class with detailed qualitative feedback to students on satisfactory completion of the unit of work.</p>
<p><b>Repertoire and Musicianship:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Regular class presentation of memorised repertoire from a broad range of music theatre styles as chosen by the teacher.</li> <li>2) Written plot synopses and short analysis of songs studied in class.</li> <li>3) In-house presentation of songs studied in class at the end of the year.</li> </ol>	<p>Continuous ungraded assessment based on preparation and presentation of work in class with detailed qualitative feedback to students on satisfactory completion of the unit of work.</p>

**Adopted Reference Style**

- APA           
 Australian           
 MLA           
 Chicago  
 Other (please specify)

The link to the library website for more information is: [UB Library - Citation guides](#)