

Peabody Preparatory Voice Certificate Program Syllabus 2024-2025

Students must be referred by their Peabody teacher to participate in the Certificate Program, and are encouraged to begin in their Sophomore or Junior year of high school; seniors may be accepted on a case-by-case basis. To earn the Certificate, students must complete the following elements:

- Students must be enrolled in **weekly 45- or 60-minute private lessons** at Peabody Preparatory for all semesters they are part of the Certificate Program.

Special consideration may be given for students who live outside the region to take bi-weekly lessons; this will only be granted in the case of significant commuting distance on a case-by-case basis, and must be approved by the student's teacher and the Chair.

- Students must perform regularly in **Repertoire Classes** and **Departmental Recitals**
- **Music Theory:** Students must demonstrate basic musical literacy as a certificate requirement. There are multiple ways to meet this requirement:

1. **Preferred:** Peabody Prep Music Fundamentals, Ear Training and AP Music Theory
2. **Demonstrated equivalent study.** This must be approved by the student's teacher and Voice Department Chair in advance. Students will be asked to demonstrate proof of enrollment/completion, and/or complete a theory test administered by Peabody faculty. Acceptable possible alternatives:

- High school Music Theory/AP Music Theory
- ABRSM Grade 5 theory or higher etc.
- Community College first year theory
- Passing a theory test administered by Peabody faculty to demonstrate competence in required skills.

- **Juries**
In addition to performing in departmental events, students must perform and pass a jury (performance exam) each year they are enrolled in the Certificate program. See below for requirements. The Music Certificate jury requires 3-5 prepared pieces (depending on level), to be performed for a panel of faculty before the end of the Academic Year. See repertoire information below.
- **Senior Recital** Advanced Certificate students must perform a Senior Recital (shared or solo) in their final semester. Students are encouraged to invite family and friends in celebration!
- Students are encouraged to audition for **Vocal Performance Academy**
- Certificate students are encouraged to participate in additional classes and workshops that may be offered by the department, eg Acting for Singers, Musical Theater etc.
- **Piano (optional)**
Certificate students who do not already play the piano are encouraged to take lessons or classes to become familiar with the instrument as a support to their vocal and theory studies.
- **Choir (Optional)** Participation in Peabody Children's Chorus or the Peabody Hopkins Community Chorus may be beneficial. Please contact the choirs directly for audition information.

JURY SCHEDULE

January (dates tbd): High School Seniors and Retakes

May (dates tbd): all other students

Students will be graded on:

Tone production and tone quality	Technical skill
intonation	musical accuracy
foreign language diction	memory
musical expression	dramatic expression
Stylistic understanding	Overall impression

- Students should be prepared to sing all pieces, and must earn an overall grade of 80% or higher to pass. Grading will be rigorous.
- If a student does not pass their jury, they may re-apply the following semester; any student who does not pass their jury at the second attempt may jeopardize their place in the Certificate program.
- Students may not repeat pieces performed in a previous year's jury (re-take juries may use the same repertoire.)

ANNUAL JURY REQUIREMENTS

Juries will be scheduled in January for HS Seniors and re-take candidates, and in May for all others. In addition to performance requirements below, the panel may ask students questions about texts, poetry, and characters, as well as historical, theoretical, and stylistic elements pertaining to their selections.

Intermediate Certificate (sophomore/junior)

1. Vaccai exercises (sung in Italian) #1 & #7
2. **Three** Songs or Arias in three different languages – student's teacher must approve all repertoire. One piece must be in English.
 1. 1 song or aria in Italian
 2. 1 song or aria in English, German, French, Spanish or other European language.
 3. 1 song or aria by a composer from an under-represented group

Pre-College Advanced Certificate (junior/senior)

1. Vaccai exercises (sung in Italian) #1 + one chosen from #5, #6, #9, #11
2. **Five** Songs or Arias in at least three different languages – student's teacher must approve all repertoire. One piece must be in English.
 1. 1 song or aria in Italian
 2. 1 song or aria in English, German, French, Spanish or other European language.
 3. 1 song or aria by a composer from an under-represented group
 4. **Two** additional songs or arias. One of these may be musical theater.