



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CONTINUING EDUCATION

COURSE SYLLABUS/OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT FORM

1. **Name of Course:** Foundations of Singing (*as led by Adam Roberts*)

2. **Number of Clock Hours:** Varies- up to 18 hrs

3. **Course Description:**

This course provides an introduction to vocal technique for the beginning to advanced-beginning singer. Students will have the opportunity to sing both individually and as part of a group. This class is ideal for anyone who desires to gain a foundational knowledge of singing, including stage and film actors. Students are encouraged to focus on the musical styles that most interest them, with support from the instructor in identifying specific song choices. By the end of the course, participants will have become better acquainted with the unique qualities of their individual voices. For optimal results, Foundations of Singing should be repeated multiple times prior to proceeding to the next level in our Singing Voice sequence. No prior singing experience necessary.

4. **Course Objectives:**

Students will improve their technical and stylistic skills with regard to the singing voice, acquiring and building on foundational skills as the course progresses.

5. **Rationale: State the reason for offering the course:**

Kristin Linklater notes in *Freeing the Natural Voice*, "everyone possesses a voice capable of expressing... whatever gamut of emotion, complexity of mood and subtlety of thought he or she experiences."

Singing voice work is especially useful for a variety of professional pursuits, including film and television, musical theatre, and other live performance contexts. My philosophy for training the singing voice is two-pronged: first, one should develop fundamental skills that promote healthy, sustainable use of the vocal instrument. Second, the natural colors, shadings, and acoustic parameters particular to the individual's instrument should be honed, so that the performer retains his or her versatility while also possessing the ability to offer unique interpretations.

6. **Required Materials:** Sheet music as decided upon with the instructor.

7. **Course Outline: What topics and sub-topics will be covered in this course?**

- 1) Address commonalities shared by all vocalists
- 2) Discover qualities unique to each individual's instrument and stylistic pursuits
- 3) Explore an acting-centered approach to singing
- 4) Explore vocal expression as a means of communicating specific choices
- 5) Implement healthy techniques for use of the singing voice at the beginner level