

Private lessons I-VIII- Performance
PVT 101/102- 401/402
1 Instructional Hour / Week

Prerequisites

Students must pass their live audition and then successfully complete and pass the preceding term's private lesson course and final jury to move on to the next level of private lessons.

Course Description

Private lessons are offered to the student through private weekly instruction one time per week and 50-minute sessions. Each student will develop a well-rounded skill set according to their program. Training and instruction from a private instructor will be tailored to each student's current need and ability. Instruction will be balanced between developing a student's technique and musicianship.

Course Goals/Student Learning Outcomes

(Performance)

By the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Demonstrate** the basic and essential listening skills and technical competence for all students.
2. **Demonstrate** the abilities of respiration, vocalization, resonance and various vocal techniques for vocal students.
3. **Demonstrate** the skills essential for a professional performer, including musicianship, interpretation of repertoire, music analysis and musicality.
4. **Perform and possess** a variety of repertoire corresponding to one's major informed by a broad understanding of them.
5. **Utilize knowledge of** various eras, styles, composers, and traditions of the music to make intelligent and educated musical choices.
6. **Display** the attitude and posture necessary for professional performers.

Course Reading and Materials

1. Students should discuss their specific program pieces with their instructor.
2. Repertoire choices must fall within the requirements for the student's program and year in their program, according to the Repertoire Requirements manual.
3. Students should bring a copy of their music for their instructor to every lesson.

Major Course Evaluations

10-Minute Concert (Years 1-2 only)

Students will perform an excerpt of their recital according to their scheduled date. These begin **5 weeks into the term**. The concert must be 10-minutes in length. Students may choose any piece(s) from their recital program to perform. The 10-minute recital will be performed before their peers. Students will receive comments and feedback on their progress from their peers but will not receive a letter grade. This is a pass/fail requirement of the course. Every performance will be recorded. Repertoire must be submitted by the end of the second week of the term. 10-Minute Concerts will move to the Recital course (PVT 303/304-403/404) from Year 3 onwards.

While 10-minute concerts are not evaluated for a grade, it is expected that all students properly fulfill the requirement by performing the program they have submitted in full. Failure to complete the requirement by not performing their approved program will result in the deduction of half a grade to their solo recital grade (for 3rd-4th year students) or their course preparation grade (1st-2nd year students).

The student will then either be required to re-perform their 10-minute concert in full according to their approved program either during another available 10-minute concert date, or during a studio recital date at the end of the term if no more 10-minute concert dates remain. The Program Chair will contact both the student and their private instructor to make arrangements with the Registrar for another date.

Technical Exam

Students will take a technical exam at the end of the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th terms during finals week* and will be evaluated by their instructor, program chair, and other faculty of their program. An unexcused absence on the day of the technical exam will result in an F. Should a student miss the technical exam due to an excused absence, they will have one chance to retake it before the final according to a date decided by the instructor and Registrar. Repertoire must be submitted by the end of the second week of the term. Exact rules and guidelines on the technical exam repertoire can be found in the Repertoire Requirement manual.

*Piano program students will have their technical exam during the 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th terms.

Studio Recital (Years 1-2 only)

Students in their first and second years will perform a studio recital at the end of each term during the recital period (the last 5 weeks of the term). Students will perform before their studio peers and instructor for constructive feedback and to gain performance experience in preparation for the solo recitals in their 3rd and 4th years. Students are not graded or given points the way they are for technical exam or jury performances. Studio recital is a pass/fail component of the Private Lesson course and is calculated in the student's attendance/preparation grade. An unexcused absence could result in up to a 20% grade reduction for the course. Should a student miss their studio recital due to an excused absence, they must arrange to do it before finals week during a remaining lesson or studio class as arranged by the instructor. Repertoire must be submitted by the end of the second week of the term. Exact rules and guidelines on the studio recital requirements and repertoire can be found in the Repertoire Requirement manual. Studio Recitals become Solo Recitals and are their own course (PVT 303/304-403/404) from Year 3 onwards.

Jury

All students will have a jury examination at the end of their 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th terms and will be evaluated by a jury of comprised of their private

instructor, program chair, and other program faculty. Should a student miss the Jury due to an excused absence, they will receive an incomplete (I) for the course until they can reschedule it within the first month of the following term. An unexcused absence on the day of the jury will result in an F for the jury. Repertoire must be submitted by the end of the second week of the term. Repertoire for the jury exam can be found on the [Repertoire Requirement manual](#).

Jury Re-Evaluations

In the event that a student receives a failing grade for the final jury, the private instructor may require the student to retake the jury with permission of the Program Chair and VPAA. A date will be decided between the instructor and student, with the approval of the Program Chair and the VPAA. The retake must be done no later than one month into the following term. The student's audit and transcript will be marked with an "I" for Incomplete until the new grade is calculated. All evaluators must re-evaluate the jury for a new grade. Only one chance may be given for a retake. If the student fails to improve their final jury and receive a passing grade for the Private Lessons, then they must take a failing grade and repeat the course. The student will be charged a \$100 fee for the re-evaluation.

Jury Evaluation Criteria

1. Technique -

- a. Clear intonation,
- b. Proper articulation,
- c. Effective dynamics
- d. Excellent tone quality,
- e. Precise rhythm and tempo,
- f. Careful listening,
- g. Correct breathing,
- h. Correct vocalization and diction,

2. Musicality -

- a. Good phrase shape,

- b. Sufficient expressiveness,
- c. Understanding the character of the music,
- d. Proper interpretation,
- e. Passion

3. Performance Factor -

- a. Outstanding memorization,
- b. Proper level of repertoire,
- c. Mastery of the music,
- d. Collaboration with the accompanist,
- e. Resonation with the audience,

4. Attitude -

- a. Proper stage manner,
- b. Exudes confidence,
- c. Professional performance posture,
- d. Sheet music prepared,

Changes to Repertoire Submissions

Students wishing to change their repertoire after submission should refer to the [Repertoire Submissions Policy](#). Each performance evaluation has its own form to fill out and deadline to submit as indicated on the Academic Calendar.

Changes to your repertoire can be made prior to the final submission deadline for that evaluation. After the deadline has passed, only in certain circumstances and by a certain date will changes to your repertoire be approved. Please note that the following reasons will NOT be accepted:

- 1. A lack of memorization or preparation.
- 2. A misunderstanding or misreading of the repertoire requirements.

Final Grade Calculation

10-Minute Concert*	Pass/Fail
Development throughout the course	20%
Attendance, Preparation, Studio Recital**	30%
Technical Exam or Final Jury	50%
Total	100%

*10-Minute Concerts only fall under this course for 1st and 2nd year students.

**Studio Recitals are only required for 1st and 2nd year students.

Grade Scale

4.0	95-100%	A
3.7	90-94%	A-
3.3	87-89%	B+
3.0	83-86%	B
2.7	80-82%	B-
2.3	77-79%	C+
2.0	73-76%	C
1.7	70-72%	C-
1.0	66-69%	D+
1.0	60-65%	D
0.0	Below 60%	F/ Fail
P/ NP		Pass/No-Pass
I		Incomplete

Attendance Policy

Students are allowed up to two excused absences per term without effect to their grade. If a student should miss a lesson due to an unforeseen emergency (i.e. health, family-related, etc.) or a school-sponsored event, they must give up to 24 hours prior notice. A makeup lesson or chamber coaching can be scheduled during the term through discussion between the instructor and Registrar. Any unexcused absence will result in a 5% reduction to the student's final grade. Please see the school catalog for a detailed definition of excused absences and emergencies.

Course Responsibilities

Students are responsible for all assignments, even if they are absent. With the exception of the first lesson on a new work, the student must have all pieces prepared and memorized at a relatively fluid level before each lesson.

Academic Support:

The **Academic Excellence Center** or **AEC** is your “one-stop” academic center that supports your co-curricular learning. The physical location of the AEC (the Mahanaim Library) contains all academic services, support, and resources, located in a single area where you can study, collaborate and create. The AEC offers the following services:

- **Writing Center**, which aims to guide you to become a proficient writer who is able to effectively understand and use standard American English.
- **The Tutoring Center** aims to foster students’ academic success by providing one-on-one tutoring and quality resources. The AEC staff provides help to students by guiding them to think critically and introducing them to learning strategies. Students can utilize Tutoring Center services by walking into the AEC or making an appointment for a 30-minute session. Sessions can be extended if time allows. The AEC accepts walk-ins during school hours. Alternatively, students may book appointments through the AEC’s calendar or email aec@mahanaim.com if a tutor is unavailable for a walk-in.
- **Mahanaim Library** currently has an extensive selection of drama, art history, music history & scores, Spanish, public speaking, theology, and English literature books. As our collection grows, the library is striving to add books that explore the topics of philosophy, psychology, cognitive science, as well as data and computing. You can check out items using your Mahanaim ID, or you can access course reserves in the library.

Visit us in the AEC (in the Mahanaim Library) or email aec@mahanaim.com for services.

Disability Services:

The Disability Services Coordinator is ready to provide equal opportunities to students with disabilities who would like to request accommodations in order to perform and accomplish their coursework successfully. Reasonable requests that do not pose an undue burden for the school will be accommodated including test-taking and note-taking accommodations. Other requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact the Disability Services Coordinator, Sollip Kim, at sollip.kim@mahanaim.com.

Academic Integrity Policy:

Mahanaim insists on academic honesty and integrity. Unless the assignment explicitly is a group project, all of the work in an assignment must be done individually. Proper citations on writing assignments and presentations must be used, whether it is a quotation, paraphrase, summary, idea, concept, statistic, picture, or anything else copied from any source other than your own immediate knowledge. A listing of books and articles at the end of an essay is not sufficient in crediting the original writer/contributor of the information. Credits through other means include a parenthetical citation, footnotes, or endnotes, accompanied by a bibliography.

Plagiarism is defined as passing or stealing another's ideas and words as one's own, with no credit given to the source. This is considered literary theft and will not be tolerated in an academic setting. It is your responsibility to understand and follow the rules governing plagiarism, fraud, and cheating. The full text of the policy is found in the Student's Handbook.