

# St Andrews Vocal Pedagogy

17-23 August 2025

“Learn from Leading Voices”  
Masterclasses for singing teachers



University of  
St Andrews

FOUNDED  
1413



Lynn  
Holding



Chris  
Johnson



Jenevora  
Williams

Are you an experienced singing teacher keen to refresh your approaches and develop your practice, and/or a voice researcher keen to present your work?

I am delighted and honoured to welcome three of the most interesting and forward-thinking current voice pedagogues to the University of St Andrews to lead the third Vocal Pedagogy Course. I would be thrilled if you would join us too!

The course will be held in the beautiful and historic university town of St Andrews. The University's new Laidlaw Music Centre houses the McPherson Recital Room which boasts one of the finest acoustic environments for solo singing in the UK.

Places are limited, with full course participants benefitting from group sessions, individual sessions, lectures on specific areas of interest, group discussions, observed and coached teaching and a final concert. The course runs from 4pm on Sunday 17 August to 3pm on Saturday 23 August.

Researchers presenting their work can do so virtually or in-person on the afternoon of Thursday 21 August.

The course offers the opportunity to work alongside fellow singing teachers and researchers in a mutually encouraging environment, to make new contacts and to share experiences.

I look forward to welcoming you to St Andrews.

**Jonathan May**  
Artistic Director

"As pedagogues we can all continue to learn and grow. I've found great organisation, some affirmation and lots of new ideas from both participants and an extraordinary faculty"

**VSP** course participant 2024



# Course Details

The third St Andrews Vocal Pedagogy Course seeks to attract experienced career singing teachers and performer/pedagogues interested in learning new skills and ways of teaching in both Classical, Contemporary and Music Theatre techniques.

St Andrews Vocal Pedagogy Course offers you:

- Daily presentations by our world-class faculty (with student singers)
- A one-to-one professional development session with a member of our faculty
- 'Observed-and-Coached' teaching sessions for participants
- Public performance opportunity for participants
- Course accompanist in residence
- Closing celebration concert (Saturday)
- The chance to present and/or hear presentations from voice researchers
- An immersive, supportive and friendly environment to share common interests and challenges

## Course Fees

Teacher full course participation: £675  
(discounted to £625 until 1st April, 2025)

Teacher/Researcher full course participation including in person research presentation: £705

Researcher in person attendance and presentation 21 August afternoon session: £30

Virtual research presentation on the afternoon of 21 August: £30

Virtual observer only for research presentation on the afternoon 21 August: £15

## Accommodation

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast  
Single: £80 per night, based on single-room accommodation.

Accommodation check-in for full course participants: after 3pm Sunday 17 August.

Check-out by 10am Saturday 23 August.

It may be possible to involve full course participants practically as singing subjects. Please indicate your willingness to participate in this way on your form.

## Background Reading

It is important that course participants familiarise themselves with the work of the Faculty:

### Lynn Holding:

Book: "The Musician's Mind: Teaching, Learning, and Performance in the Age of Brain Science"  
Discount code for ebook offered to course participants upon request.

**Jenevora Williams:** Articles available at her Knowledge Centre page (free membership) via [www.jenevorawilliams.com](http://www.jenevorawilliams.com) and her book *Teaching Singing to Children and Young Adults* in the new Third Edition.

"I owe it to my students to be up to date in my pedagogy. . . I came to learn from teachers at the forefront of vocal pedagogy. It's been amazing."

**AS. England Course Participant 2024**

## Call for Research Presentations: St Andrews Vocal Pedagogy Course

In collaboration with the British Voice Association we invite researchers to submit a research abstract in any area of the singing voice for presentation either in person or online during the summer course on Thursday 21 August 2025. Presentations should be 15 minutes in total including time for questions.

Abstracts should be either

- A. Research papers
- B. Experiential papers or case studies

Deadline for submissions: 1 May 2025  
Please include:

1. An abstract of 300 words (+/- 10%)
2. A brief biography 100 words max

An acknowledgement will be sent on receipt

The best presentation will be invited give an hour presentation for the British Voice Association 'Talk Voice' series for a fee of £100.

Further questions and submissions to:  
[r.moseley-morgan.14@alumni.ac.uk](mailto:r.moseley-morgan.14@alumni.ac.uk)  
Address all attendance and booking enquiries to:  
[jhm22@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:jhm22@st-andrews.ac.uk)

## Meet your instructors



### Lynn Holding

is the author of the book **The Musician's Mind: Teaching, Learning and Performance in the Age of Brain Science**, deemed "a unique and outstanding contribution to pedagogy" by Voice and Speech Review and "ground-breaking ... an invaluable contribution to the field of music pedagogy" by opera star Renée Fleming. Her pedagogy honours include the 2005 Van Lawrence Voice Fellowship, membership of the prestigious American Academy of Teachers of Singing, and recognition as a "legendary figure in the field of voice pedagogy" by the Contemporary Commercial Music Vocal Pedagogy Institute at Shenandoah University, receiving their 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award. A thought-leader in the movement toward science-informed voice pedagogy, Holding is a co-founder of the NATS Science-Informed Voice Pedagogy Institute. Her stage credits include leading roles in opera, oratorio and musical theatre, and recitals featuring commissioned works and contemporary American music performed on multiple tours throughout the United States, Australia, England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Iceland where her performances were broadcast on Icelandic National Radio. She currently serves as Professor of Voice in Vocal Arts and Opera and coordinator of Vocology and Voice Pedagogy at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. [www.lynnholding.com](http://www.lynnholding.com)



### Chris Johnson

West End leads, backing vocalists, major label singer/songwriters and vocal coaches all put their trust in Chris to take good care of their voices. Chris also thoroughly enjoys the work he does with singing teachers all over the world, through his training company **TeachVoice.com**, to help them up-skill and navigate the overwhelming amount of pedagogical options. Chris has trained in laryngeal manual therapies and studied extensively with scientists in vocal acoustics, physical and somatic therapy, and laryngology. Through his popular podcast and blog, The Naked Vocalist, he has also had the opportunity to connect and share with many progressive voice researchers and pedagogues. "In the end", he says "the vocal instrument is incredibly complex involving the body, mind and soul. This complexity leads to new discoveries made and infinite variations seen, for which we need to allow when training someone. Despite this world of infinite nuance, there is a real simplicity to be found in both coaching and in singing, starting with being authentically YOU!"



### Dr Jenevora Williams

is an expert in the fields of vocal health and singing teaching. After a successful career in opera, Jenevora turned her attention to investigating healthy and efficient vocal function. The combination of academic study and practical experience has resulted in a unique perception for understanding the human voice. She was the first singing teacher to be awarded a PhD in voice science in the UK, and won the 2010 BVA Van Lawrence Prize for her outstanding contribution to voice research. Her book, *Teaching Singing to Children and Young Adults*, has been enormously popular with singing teachers throughout the world. The substantially updated third edition is available now from **Full Voice Music**. Jenevora is well-known for her imaginative and rigorous international training courses for singing teachers and voice professionals. She is director of **Vocal Health Education** and **Evolving Voice**, training the first generation of Voice Rehabilitation Specialists worldwide. As a teacher of singing, she works with professional singers of all ages in both voice rehabilitation and career mentoring. More details about Jenevora and her work can be found [here](#).

# Getting here

Leuchars Railway Station is a ten-minute journey from St Andrews by bus or taxi. Direct bus services to St Andrews operate from Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

## Accommodation

St Andrews Vocal Pedagogy Course participants enjoy simple, comfortable accommodation on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis at Agnes Blackadder Hall, a modern residence commended by the Scottish Tourist Board. It is situated

15 minutes' walk from the town and a 25-minute walk from the Laidlaw Music Centre. Each room contains a double bed, en-suite bathroom with shower, wash-hand basin and toilet, television and tea and coffee making facilities.

## Catering

Special dietary requirements can be accommodated with advance notification. Please advise us of any such requirements on your application form.

## General conditions

- 1a) These general conditions, together with the Registration Form, comprise the contract between the client and the University of St Andrews.
- b) A deposit of £100 is required to secure your place. Places are limited and are allocated strictly in order of receipt of deposit.
- c) The balance must be paid by Friday 31 May, 2025. Failure to pay by this date will result in the forfeiture of the deposit paid and the booking will lapse.

## 2. Cancellation

The University of St Andrews Music Centre Office must be notified in writing of all cancellation.

In addition to the deposit, non refundable charges:

<b>Prior to 31 May:</b>	25% of the total cost
<b>Prior to 1 July:</b>	50% of the total cost
<b>After Wednesday 1 July:</b>	100% is non-refundable

## 3. Liability

The University maintains a public liability policy covering legal liability for bodily injury and property damage arising out of the University's business. Any loss, damage to property or injury not resulting

## 4. General

- a) The University of St Andrews reserves the right to cancel the course, up to four weeks in advance if numbers enrolled have not reached the minimum required.
- b) The University of St Andrews reserves the right to cancel, or amend the delivery of, the course for reasons outwith its control, including but not limited to Force Majeur, Royal Demise or restrictions imposed due to the prevailing public health situation.
- c) The University of St Andrews reserves the right to replace the advertised staff or amend the programme where it is found to be unavoidable.

## 5. Insurance

Participants are strongly advised to take out travel insurance or adequate cover for the duration of their course and journey. The University does not provide insurance to cover cancellation costs, loss of baggage, injury, money etc.

## Costs

### Course Fees:

**Teacher full course participation:** £675  
(discounted to £625 until 1 April, 2025)

**Teacher/Researcher full course participation including in person research presentation:** £705

### Researcher in person attendance and presentation

Thursday 21 August afternoon: £30

### Virtual research presentation

Thursday 21 August afternoon: £30

### Virtual observer only for research presentation

Thursday 21 August afternoon: £15

### Accommodation (Dinner bed and breakfast):

Single: £80 (per night)

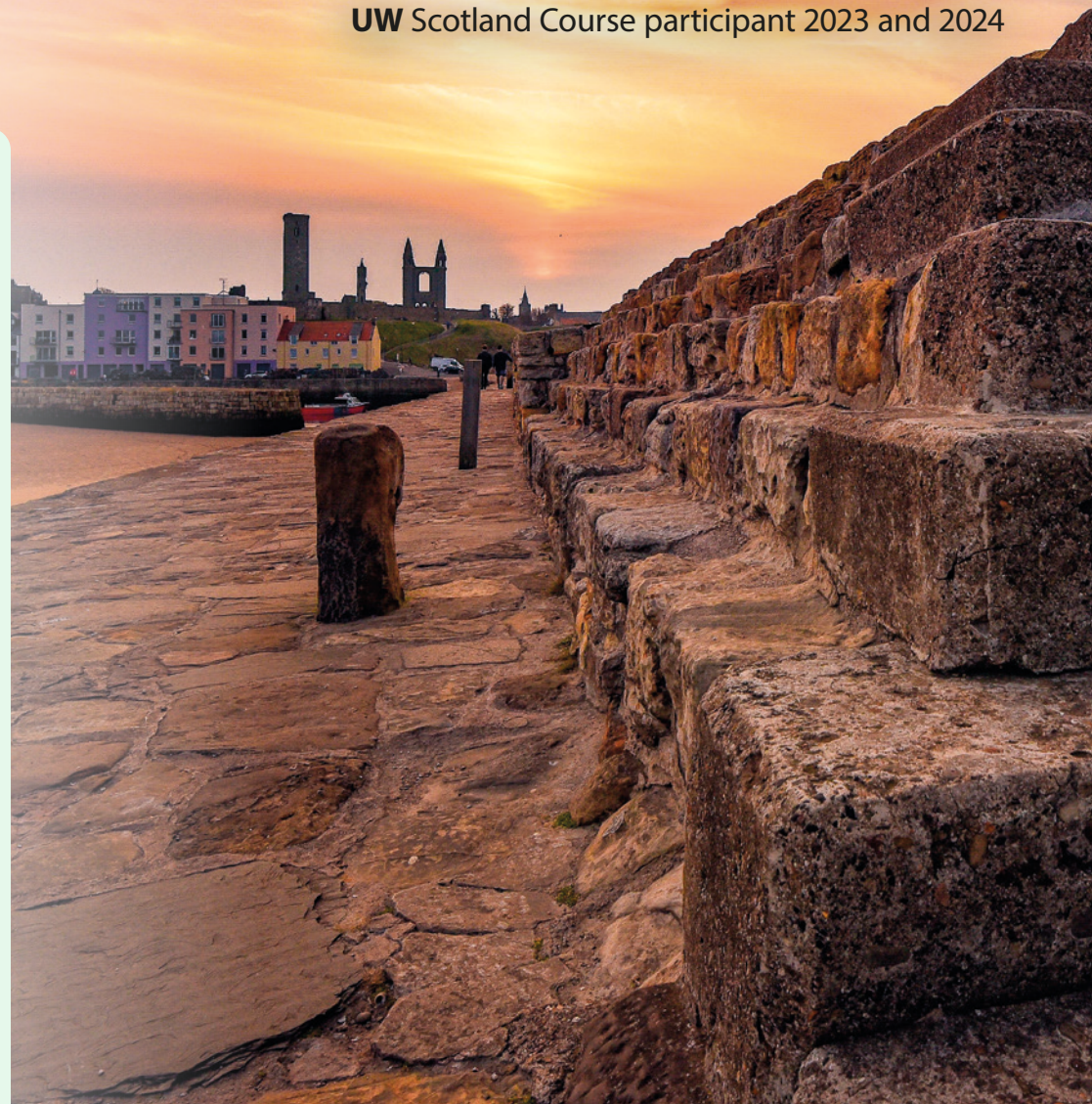
Costs include:

- Single Dinner, Bed and Breakfast accommodation for 6 nights arriving afternoon of Sunday 4 August, departing afternoon of Saturday 10 August
- An individual mentoring session with a member of Faculty
- Admission to all masterclasses, lectures, presentations, workshops, rec and concert

Use [this link](#) to make your deposit and/or your final payment.

"Last year was hugely inspiring – it transformed my teaching. I'm still curious and there's a fabulous international mix of science, research and experience."

UW Scotland Course participant 2023 and 2024



Apply now

Please register for this course using [this link](#).

To make your deposit and/or your final payment please use [this link](#).

If you have questions regarding course details or arrangements please contact:

**Jonathan May**, Head of Vocal Studies  
University of St Andrews, Laidlaw Music Centre

Email: [jhm22@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:jhm22@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Telephone: 01334 462226

