SYLLABUS FOR APPLIED VOICE
DEEANN GORHAM, INSTRUCTOR
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Syllabus for Applied Voice

Fall 2012 – Spring 2013

Dee Ann Gorham, Instructor

Mus 152 (Majors), Mus 151 (Minors), Mus 352 (Majors)
Mus 351 (Minors) Mus 552 (Graduate, majors)

STUDIO 235 (903)886-5293
deeann.gorham@tamuc.edu

VOICE JURIES: December 10 and 11
Conf. Hrs: 9-10 M-F Performance class M 4 Recital Hall

Scope and Purpose: the intent of private lessons in voice is to enhance your ability to use your instrument in the healthiest manner possible, to encourage vocal growth and development in the bel canto style, to aid in the progression of musical style and comprehension of text and its applicability to the delivery of artistry through the marriage of beautiful sound, artistic musicianship, and poetry; to enable singers to sing and employ the healthiest processes for life and to share, through performance and teaching, those attributes. Student learning outcomes: (1) Expressively, meaningfully, and accurately perform classic songs from the vocal repertoire including Italian art songs, German Lieder, French mélodie, English and American art songs, opera and oratorio arias; (2) Expressively and accurately prepare and perform without the assistance of an applied instructor classic selections from the vocal repertoire; (3) Demonstrate the capability of accurately pronouncing song texts in English, French, German, Italian using the International Phonetic Alphabet; (4) Demonstrate the capability of accurately singing at sight a classic selection from the vocal repertoire.

Requirements: For each one hour of voice that you take (a 30 minute lesson), you are required to practice with diligence and care one hour per day. The time is doubled for an additional hour of voice (these are minimums).

All singers registered for 149 have the option of singing one time in Vocal Performance Class, or performing a Jury at the end of the term. All others are expected to perform at least once on the Vocal Performance Class (MONDAYS at 4:00), once on Departmental Recital Hour (FRIDAYS @ 1:30) (except for first semester Freshmen), and give a voice jury at the end of the term. All singers are expected to attend and to participate in the Vocal Performance Class.

VOICE JURY

At the end of each term (semester), each singer who is Mus 151, 152, 351, or 352 is required to take a jury. Those who are restricted applied (Mus 149) have the option of singing a jury and at the discretion of their instructor.

The first semester of instruction (Freshman level), the number of art songs to be prepared and memorized varies from 2 to 6 and is dependent on the instructor's decision and the student's vocal development. Every other semester, the singer will prepare vocally beautifully, musically, artistically, and memorized; a minimum of six (6) art songs/arias (three (3) songs for each credit hour of voice). At the jury in the recital hall, you will choose one song to perform, the jurors will select others (usually one other, but not limited to one).

Following the fourth semester of voice (after completing 8 hours of Mus 152), you are required to take a vocal barrier* in order to move to Mus 352 (upper division voice).

Each semester hour will focus on the best vocalism for each individual, employing appropriate vocalizes for each. At the undergraduate level, each singer is required to practice, learn, memorize and prepare for performance six art songs chosen

by the instructor from representative literature that will suit each individual instrument: Italian songs and arias, French melodie, German Lieder, English art songs, Spanish and/or Slavic songs. Each singer is to perform a jury at the end of each semester.

RECITAL PERFORMANCES

If you are seeking a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Music Degree, with or without certification, a Junior Level Joint Recital (30 minutes of music memorized) is required. After a full semester following the half recital, a full recital (at least 45 minutes of music) is required. Literature will betaken from each of the musical vocal eras, and will focus on World music styles of the Renaissance, Baroque, Classic, Romantic, Impressionistic, 20th and 21st centuries. At least four languages are required (Italian, English, German, French).

HEALTH FOR SINGING

Since your body is your instrument, it is essential that you treat it as the finest instrument ever made. Hence, it is important that you

1. **keep well hydrated (drink lots of water)**
2. **avoid desiccating drinks such as sodas, or coffee, or any sugared or artificially sugared drinks (id est see #1).**
3. **get 7 to 8 hours of sleep each night**
4. **exercise: walk 30 to 40 minutes each day or evening; do crunches, begin with 5, add some each day**
5. **avoid antihistamines – the propensity is to dry the vocal folds**
6. **eat regularly (yes, breakfast!) and healthfully (id est balanced with**

protein, carbohydrates, fruits, vegetables)

7. **wash your hands frequently**
8. **keep a daily log of your activities, *plan* into each day those things that will make you more confident, successful, happy: meals, exercise, meditation, PRACTICE of voice.**

Oh yes **GRADING PROCEDURE**

I, of course, assume that you are here, seeking a degree, because you want to sing, you want to learn. Attending university is a gift, and therefore, you would always practice more than is sufficient for your own personal, vocal, musical, and spiritual growth; however, just in case you need external assistance: please do not make the faulty assumption that I do not know when you have avoided practicing

Grades are based on the following criteria, and you will receive a grade for each lesson:

Preparation prior to the lesson (vocal, technical, musical)
Growth, improvement
Attendance
Performance, voice class attendance and participation
Attitude
Jury grade
Combined lesson grade

MORE regarding health: if you have fever, or feel Terrible, or are sick……please do go to the infirmary and do not share your germs with your friends, and especially, your voice teacher…….it is so important. Get bed rest and study your other classes and your

voice music in bed, silently.

If an emergency causes you to miss a lesson, you must notify me at 886-5303 or 886-5293 or deeann.gorham@tamu.edu. No more than 3 lessons may be missed.

***STUDENT BEHAVIOR**: " ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE UNIVERSITY SHALL FOLLOW THE TENETS OF COMMON DECENCY AND ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR CONDUCIVE TO A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT."*

(SEE STUDENT'S GUIDE HANDBOOK, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, CONDUCT)

A voice performance class is provided for you, free of charge. It is your opportunity to perform for your peers and faculty. This class meets in the recital hall Monday from 4-5:00. Cogent, courteous, respectful, and helpful comments are often given to performing singers by fellow singers and faculty. There is observation of teacher guided remediation, student observation of student evaluation, observation of initiation of vocal and musical instruction.

This is an opportunity to perform, share, grow.

You are expected to attend each performance class, to support others who are performing, and to perform.

***Voice Barrier Examination: taken after 8 credits of voice;**

1. **repertoire: a minimum of 6 songs memorized—Italian, English, German, and French must be represented**
2. **sight reading**
3. **art song preparation (you will receive an art song two weeks prior to barrier exam; you will prepare the song on your own, with correct**

diction, vocalism, artistry as if you were preparing this to perform on your own future recital and/or preparing it to teach to one of your future students; you will be acquainted with sources for preparation)

4. **you will transliterate a brief passage from IPA into English**

MISSION and SUPPORT STATEMENTS

"Texas A&M University-Commerce nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality."

"THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF Texas A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE PROMOTES EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC THROUGH THE RIGOROUS STUDY OF MUSIC HISTORY, LITERATURE, THEORY, COMPOSITION, PEDAGOGY, AND THE PREPARATION OF MUSIC PERFORMANCE IN APPLIED STUDY AND ENSEMBLES TO MEET THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF AESTHETIC EXPRESSION."

"STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY: The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library, Room 132
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Phone 903-886-5150 or 903-886-5835 Fax 903-468-8148

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ABSENCES: It is assumed that you are here to learn, to grow, to sing more beautifully; hence, it is assumed that you will miss no voice lessons unless it is impossible for you to attend. PLEASE CALL (903-885-5293) as soon as you know that you can not come to a lesson. After three (3) missed lessons, it is the teacher's prerogative to drop you from the voice roster for it is truly impossible to maintain and continue learning, growth and singing more beautifully without continuity and perspicacity.

e-mail (deeann.gorham@tamuc-.edu)

Ralph Waldo Emerson:
"Excuses always replace progress"

Aldous Huxley:
"Next to silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music."

"…in a world of political, economic and personal disintegration, music is not a luxury but a necessity ~~~ not simply because it is "therapeutic", but because it is the persistent focus of man's intelligence, aspirations and good-will." Robert Shaw "This is Why"

"The man that hath no music in himself, Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds, Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils" William Shakespeare

"Music and rhythm find their way into the secret places of the soul" ~~~Plato