SCOPE AND PURPOSE: AN EXAMINATION OF TECHNIQUES RELATED TO VOCAL REGISTRATION, RESONANCE ADJUSTMENTS, BREATH MANAGEMENT FOR THE SINGER; VOCAL HEALTH, PERFORMANCE PRACTICES, AND TECHNIQUES RELATED TO INDIVIDUAL SINGING ENHANCEMENT AND TO TEACHING VOICE. EACH STUDENT WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO TECHNICALLY UNDERSTAND AND USE HIS/HER VOCAL INSTRUMENT MORE EFFICIENTLY, MORE FREELY, AND IN A MORE SONOROUSLY PLEASANT MANNER; APPLICATIONS THEN WILL BE MADE TO BEING ABLE TO TEACH VOICE WITH A HIGHER DEGREE OF KINESTHETIC AND EMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING.


WEEK I. THE VOICE -- CHARLES NELSON VIDEO
CLASS DISCUSSION OF KNOWLEDGE BANK AND EXPERIENCES

WEEK II. BREATH MANAGEMENT VIDEO: Joan Wall
ASSIGNED READING IN MILLER (pp. 21-39 AND appendix I)

WEEK III. DISCUSSION OF PRESENTATIONS: TOPICS RELATED TO VOCAL TECHNIQUE, VOCAL HEALTH, PERFORMANCE PREPARATION FOR INDIVIDUAL SINGING; SOURCES MUST INCLUDE MILLER, NATS JOURNAL, CLASSICAL SINGER, ETC.

WEEK IV. EXAM OF BREATH MANAGEMENT
VOCAL FOLDS VIDEO

WEEK V. DISCUSSIONS OF READINGS IN MILLER AND OF VIDEO
VOCAL FOLDS EXAM

WEEK VI. DISCUSSIONS OF PRESENTATIONS, SOURCES, TOPICS
VOCAL TRACT VIDEO

WEEK VII. VOCAL TRACT EXAM
MILLER AND PRESENTATIONS DISCUSSION

WEEK VIII. VOCAL FOLD VIDEO---- REVIEW

WEEK IX. VOCAL FOLD EXAM
PRESENTATIONS BEGIN

WEEK X. PRESENTATIONS
WEEK XI. PRESENTATIONS

WEEK XII. PRESENTATIONS AND FINAL EXAM
NOTA BENE: ASSIGNED READINGS IN THE MILLER AND VIDEOS ARE ON FINAL EXAM. FOR PRESENTATIONS, A BIBLIOGRAPHY AND OUTLINE FOR
PART OF THE LEARNING IN MUS 403: VOCAL PRODUCTION WILL INVOLVE EXTENSIVE LISTENING TO DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF SINGERS. ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS INVOLVE OBSERVING PRIVATE VOICE INSTRUCTION EITHER 1. OF A FRIEND, 2. OF A COLLEAGUE, 3. OF SOMEONE YOU DO NOT KNOW. PERMISSION TO OBSERVE VOICE INSTRUCTION MUST FIRST BE GRACIOUSLY OBTAINED FROM THE STUDENT AND THEN THE PROFESSOR. ONLY FOUR HOURS OF OBSERVATION ARE PERMISSIBLE.

A REPORT OF YOUR LEARNING AND OBSERVATIONS MUST BE KEPT ON EACH STUDENT AND OF EACH LESSON. YOU WILL ALSO BE EXPECTED TO KNOWINGLY DEMONSTRATE SOME GOOD AND SOME UNHEALTHY TECHNIQUES IN CLASS. YOU ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO BE WILLING TO USE YOUR EARS TO HEAR DEMONSTRATED UNHEALTHY VOCAL CHOICES AND ATTEMPT TO CORRECT THEM.

It is expected that you will attend and participate in each class session unless you are ill. Only two absences are acceptable for each term. After two absences it is possible for your grade to be lowered by one letter. If you anticipate any difficulties with the foregoing, please visit with me.

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behaviour conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook Policies and Procedures: Conduct)

MISSION STATEMENT and SUPPORT statements: Texas A&M-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 Service, Gee Library, Room 132 (Phones: 903-886-5150 or 903-886-5853; Fax: 903-468-8148)