Course Number / Contact Hours:
152 - Lower Division / 352 - Upper Division
Office Hours: By appointment
Instructor’s Name: Dr. Martin Vasquez
Studio: 235
Phone: 903-886-5293; 917-548-0810
Email: martin.vasquez@tamuc.edu

Texts: Students are expected to purchase vocal literature as assigned. As an aspiring performer and/or vocal music educator, it is imperative that you build your knowledge of vocal literature by gradually building a vocal music library. This is not a textbook that you will sell back at the end of the semester, but rather an accumulation of music from which you will continue to study and teach. Free downloadable apps are available for metronomes, keyboards, music theory, etc. Take advantage of technology!

Course Description:
Applied voice allows the music major ample study in both vocal technique and vocal repertoire in a private studio setting. The objectives of this course are to learn why vocalizing is necessary to maintain and build a healthy voice; to learn exercises to expand range and improve tone quality; to demonstrate knowledge of breath control, tone production, diction, and posture through repertoire performed; and to learn a variety of styles and songs (and/or arias) in Italian, German, French, and English (and, if appropriate, in other languages, as well). In this course, students will demonstrate competence in performance of standard recital/concert literature, with advanced students demonstrating the same in opera and oratorio. Competencies also include IPA transcription, foreign language translations into English, strong musicianship, meaningful interpretation, and technical facility, as well as the ability to evaluate music from a variety of cultures and time periods.

Assessment and Grading Procedures:

1. Attendance: No more than three total absences from studio class and lessons will be permitted for a student to receive a passing grade. At the fourth absence, the student will have failed the course, unless the student provides a physician or official university excuse, and only if the teacher has been notified 24 hours in advance. Advance notice must be given if you are going to be absent from any lesson. This is common and professional courtesy. Failure to notify will result in a lowering of grade for each absence by one half letter grade. Twenty-Four hours notice is desirable and most convenient. In instances where 24-hour notice is not possible, please notify me as soon as possible, but no less than 2-3 hours beforehand.

   A. Studio class: Mondays@ 5:00, rotating locations. Refer to schedule. Attendance is mandatory
   B. Recitals/Concerts:
      See Vocal Handbook for convocation and recital requirements
      • I must approve outside performances beforehand.
      • All TAMUC Faculty and Student Voice Recitals are required
      Convocation: 4pm, Wednesdays, Concert Hall

2. Convocation Recital Appearance Performance: First semester freshman are exempt from performing. Second semester freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors must perform. Your grade for recital appearance is based upon your vocal preparation for the performance, getting the paperwork done (turning in complete and accurate program information no later than one week before the scheduled performance); timely notification of your accompanist, maintaining sufficient rehearsal
time with him/her, and showing up on time and *properly dressed* for your performance. Failure to turn in paperwork will result in losing your place on the program, which will affect your final grade.

**A. Recital Appearance Translations:** Along with your recital performance application, you must present English translations for your foreign language selections and performance notes. These should be submitted to your teacher along with the recital class form for signature approval.

3. **Repertoire:** All repertoire must be memorized. Works cannot be performed in public (except for studio class) that are not memorized. Moreover, students must demonstrate knowledge of text (translations, background information and correct diction), knowledge of music (keys, rhythms, notes, and composer), and musicality (phrasing and style).

4. **Practice:** Each voice student is expected to practice on a regular basis. The failure to develop a regimen of practice will negatively affect the grade. It is the student’s responsibility to master the musical and linguistic material of each song. The bulk of each lesson will be devoted to vocal technique rather than teaching notes.

5. **Juries:** All students must perform a jury at the end of the semester. Failure to perform a selection requested by the jury will result in a failing semester grade.

6. **Mock Juries:** The mock jury is, in essence, your final **jury**. All of your semester music must be sung by memory.

10. **Final Grade Calculation:**
   
   **Teacher** 60% (50% Studio work, 10% Voice Recital Attendance)
   **Jury** 40%

**Learning outcomes:** The student will

1. accurately and expressively perform classics selections from the vocal repertoire, including German lieder, French chanson, English art songs and arias
2. demonstrate proficiency in using the International Phonetic Alphabet to accurately pronounce song texts in English, French, German, Italian, as well as Latin and other languages.
3. demonstrate the capability of accurately singing, at sight, a classic selection from the vocal repertoire.
4. demonstrate knowledge of the vocal instrument at an advanced level from the previous applied level.
5. further his/her ability to assimilate knowledge through analysis of informal and creative inquiry, reflecting and articulating on the extent to which they have achieved these goals.

**Accompanist Policy:** This fee is required. Consider this fee as you might a textbook. It is a necessary resource to have if you are to be successful in this field. Please read your Accompaniment Policy very carefully!

**Note:**

1. A student who makes the grade of “C” or lower in voice for more than two semesters may be advised out of the program of study.
2. If there is a chronic medical condition that interferes with vocal progress, the student may be advised out of the program.

**Music Department Mission Statement** 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.

**University Accommodation Policy** Texas A&M University-Commerce is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations will be made in accordance with the law. To request ADA accommodations, please contact Dr. Chris White (903) 886.5327 or the Director of Disability Resources & Services, Hallady Student Services Building, Room 303D, (903) 886.5150.

**University Behavior Policy** All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).