Music Department
Course Syllabus for Applied Music: Voice

Instructor: Monica Leone, Mezzo-soprano
Office: Music Building 233
Office Phone: 903-886-5295
E-mail address: Monica.Leone@TAMUC.edu
Office Hours: By appointment only
Lesson schedule: posted near office door.

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

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.

Music 149 - Restricted Applied Voice. One Semester Hour.
- is applied music at the beginner level.
- is applied music at less than advanced level.
Music 152 - Principal Applied Voice. One to four semester hours.
Private instruction for music majors in voice.
May be repeated for credit.
after passing the JLPE. May be repeated for credit.
Music 352 Recital – Half recital of 25 minutes of music from at least three foreign languages. A recital hearing must be passed 3 – 4 weeks prior to the date of the recital.

Course Content
The student’s work will be directed to three general areas of study: Vocal Production, Music Literacy, and Vocal Artistry/Creativity. In particular, attention will be given to Posture, Respiration, Phonation (including Registration and resonation), Diction, Song Analysis, and Interpretation.

The applied instructor selects literature and plans lessons in a logical sequence specifically designed to prepare each student to meet the student learning outcomes stated below. Thus, the literature and skills addressed in each lesson will vary according to each student’s experience in performance repertoire and technical strengths and weaknesses.

In practice, after assessing a student’s skill and needs in the early lessons, the applied instructor often provides a more detailed overview of the semester’s activities; however, this overview is specific to that student and the sequential activities are contingent upon that student’s continued progress.

Repertoire Requirements
Repertoire may include songs/arias in English, Italian, German, French, and Spanish, depending on the student’s major, ability level, and other factors. Consideration will be given to the study of Musical Theater (i.e. “Broadway”) literature, but on a limited basis.

Students enrolled in one credit hour will learn a minimum of three pieces for the semester. One of these songs will be performed during finals week as a jury for the voice faculty.

Students enrolled in two credit hours will follow the repertoire requirements listed below:

- Freshman are required to learn a minimum of FOUR pieces per semester; memorized
- Sophomores are required to learn a minimum of FIVE pieces per semester; memorized
- Junior/Seniors/post JLPE are required to learn a minimum of SIX pieces per semester; memorized

GRADING: The teacher’s semester grading will be based on the following criteria:

1. Effort and Application (50%)
   a. Attendance – (TAMUC - See current Vocal Studies Handbook for details) Regular attendance to your voice lessons is expected. Communication through E-MAIL is also required if you must miss a lesson due to acute illness or a true emergency. Worst case scenario: It is possible to fail voice lessons based on attendance issues.
   b. Voice Studio Class will meet Mondays 5-6 PM in a designated room which will rotate weekly as far as location. All Voice majors are required to attend all Studio Classes. Failure to attend will lower your Attendance grade by 10 points. Students who are registered for 149 and 151 are expected to attend studio class once or twice prior to singing at studio class (once per semester) to help prepare you for your performance in studio and to become acclimated to the workshop atmosphere.
   c. Attitude and Initiative
   d. Thoroughness of preparation which includes:
      i. Bringing a recording device to record each lesson (Digital recorders, smartphones with voice memo capabilities, etc.) Students must also listen to their recordings weekly and report back their observations in writing.
      ii. Completing and Turning in a practice log each week – (1-2 hours daily practice)
      iii. Coming to lessons with the notes and rhythms learned.
      iv. Preparing a word-for word translation and IPA translation for each semester piece. (IPASource.com and the Nico Castel Series of Libretto translations and IPA are wonderful resources to consult.)

Progress
   e. Technical progress
   f. Mastery over vocal issues
   g. Growth in musicianship

Performance
   h. Performances in Studio and Mock Jury- Each voice major must perform one of their jury pieces from memory and must sing a minimum of three times during the semester in Studio Class. Each student will receive a grade after each performance given. All students will be required to sing a Graded Mock Jury during the last Studio Class before juries.
      i. Performance at Departmental recital Hour Wednesday at 4pm. (All voice majors, except first semester freshman, are required to perform at
least once during each semester that one is enrolled in Applied Lessons.)

Jury Grade (40%) – This grade will be an average from the entire voice faculty. The student will perform a final exam/jury for the vocal faculty on the Monday and Tuesday during final exam week. The two credit hour students will first perform from memory one song of his choice from his prepared repertoire list and then at least one additional selection chosen by the vocal faculty from the remaining prepared repertoire.

The one credit hour student will perform a piece of his/her choice after consulting his voice teacher.

3. Recital Attendance – (10%)

a. All Vocal Majors are required to attend ALL voice recitals (student and faculty). Failure to do so will result in a ten point lowering of your grade. ***See Voice Department Handbook regarding this policy and procedures.

Cancellation Policy and Absences:
It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor at least 24 hours in advance if you are going to miss a lesson. Make-up lessons will be given at the instructor’s discretion only with proper notice. If a student no-shows for a lesson, the lesson will not be made-up and could effect the student’s grade. ***See the current TAMUC Vocal Studies Handbook for more details.

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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.)

Student Learning Outcome for Voice
1) Accurately and expressively perform classic selections from the vocal repertoire including opera arias, German Lieder, French chansons, and English art songs;
2) Accurately and expressively 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, and Latin using the International Phonetic Alphabet;
4) Demonstrate the capability of accurately singing at sight a classic selection from the vocal repertoire
Musician Health Safety
http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/music/musicianhealthsafety.aspx