Texas A&M University – Commerce
Department of Music
MUS 403--Graduate Vocal Production (Pedagogy)
Spring 2015
When: Tuesday 5:00-6:45 pm
Where: MUS 158

Instructor: Monica Leone, Instructor; Dr Randy Hooper, teacher of record
Office: MUS 233
Phone: 903-886-5295
Email: Monica.Leone@TAMUC.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment; email communication encouraged for appointments, questions, etc.

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.)

Students with Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination 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
Phone: 903-886-5150 or 903-886-5835
Fax: 903-468-8148
Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

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

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 ensemble to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

Course Description
A survey of the science of vocal pedagogy and the skills and knowledge needed to teach healthy, effective vocal production in school and/or private studio. Graduate students will also study the historical development of vocal pedagogy.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students will learn basic anatomy regarding the singing voice and the fundamentals of its respiratory, articulatory, and phonatory systems. The fundamental principles of voice training will be covered, and students will learn the basics of voice care and become familiar with common vocal disorders.

**Required Texts**

**Term Paper & Presentation:** Graduate students will read and report on the James Stark book, *Bel Canto: A History of Vocal Pedagogy*. This report will then be presented to the class at an assigned date (a 10 minute presentation). Further details will be supplied in class.

**Teaching Project:** This project is designed to give students “hands on” experience applying the knowledge learned in the classroom to practical situations in the studio. Each student is responsible for finding an individual, with whom they will collaborate, meeting at least three times for a 30-minute lesson. The person should NOT be an experienced singer. Thoughts, challenges, what worked, what didn’t work, etc. should be audio recorded as well as documented in a journal which is to be turned in at the time of the demonstration. It is important that the student ensures that his/her partner is available during the assigned demonstration time.

**Grading**
- Readings and assignments: 400 points (40%)
- Book Report: 100 points (10%)
- Presentation: 100 points (10%)
- Teaching Project: 200 points (20%)
- Exams - mid-term & final: 200 points (20%)

A=1000-900  B= 899-800  C= 799-700  D= 699-600  F= 599-0

**Attendance**
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and events as required by the instructor. Failure to attend mandatory events will result in the deduction of one letter grade from your semester grade. **Only one absence will be allowed:** after that, each absence will result in the deduction of 20 points from your semester grade. I reserve the right to drop a student from the course after TWO absences. Keep in mind that this course meets once a week in place of a twice a week class. Repeated lateness (after two) for class will be penalized by lowering your final grade by 5 points for each tardy. Students leaving the classroom before class is dismissed will receive an absence for that day. Medical excuses and university-sponsored trips are acceptable reasons for missing class as long as documentation is provided.

**Readings and Assignments**
For every class meeting, you will be expected to complete the assigned readings and homework. Please refer to the tentative schedule for a list of assignments and deadlines.
**Exams**  
Neither the Mid-term nor the Final Exam will be made up.

**Course Outline**  
This syllabus represents current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected. Readings from the textbook, outside articles, and readings from the assigned supplemental book will be assigned throughout.

- **Week 1:** Introduction to class; Discussion and Listening  
- **Week 2:** Chapter 1; Chapter 2  
- **Week 3:** Chapter 3; Chapter 4; **Teaching project info DUE**  
- **Week 4:** Chapter 5; Discuss Paper/Presentation Guidelines/Schedule;*  
- **Week 5:** Chapter 6  
- **Week 6:** and Review for Mid-term  
- **Week 7:** **Mid-Term Exam** (Chapters 1-6 and other assigned materials)  
- **Week 8:** Chapter 7; **Guest Lecturer**, Professor Susan Hanlon: Commercial Music Skills  
  *March 17, 2015 - NO Class meeting due to Spring break*  
- **Week 9:** Chapter 8; **All Papers DUE; 5 Presentations**  
- **Week 10:** Chapter10; 5 Presentations  
- **Week 11:** Chapter 11; 6 Presentations  
- **Week 12:**Chapter 12; Graduate Student presentation*  
- **Week 13:** Chapter 9; **Teaching Demonstrations Project DUE**  
- **Week 14:** Teaching Demonstrations Project Review and Review for Final Exam  
- **Week 15:** **Final Exam** (Chapters 7-12 and questions regarding the guest lecture)  
  (Since this is an evening class, we must complete the exam during the last class day, **May 5, 2015 from 5-6:45 PM.** per university policy.)