Applied Voice Syllabus, Fall 2015
MUS 152/352/552
MUS 151/351/551
MUS 149

Brock Johnson, Voice Instructor
Studio 233, office phone 903-886-5460

Contact Information:
Brock Johnson
brock.johnson@tamuc.edu
580-747-0153 (cell)

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.

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
A student will study and memorize a minimum of three songs for each semester hour credit for which he/she is enrolled. 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:

Freshmen are required to memorize a minimum of FOUR pieces per semester.
Sophomores are required to memorize a minimum of FIVE pieces per semester.
Juniors/Seniors/Transfer Students are required to memorize a minimum of SIX pieces per semester.

Final Performance Exam (a.k.a. Juries)
The student will perform a final exam/ jury for the vocal faculty during final exam week. The student first will perform from memory one song of his/her choice from his/her prepared repertoire list and then at least one additional selection chosen by the vocal faculty from the remaining prepared repertoire.

GRADING: The teacher's semester grading will be based on the following criteria:
1. Effort and Application (40%)
    - **a.** Attendance – (TAMU-Commerce attendance policies apply. See catalog)
    - **b.** Attitude and Initiative
    - **c.** Thoroughness of preparation that includes:
        - **i.** Bringing a recording device to record each lesson (Digital recorders, phones with Voice memo capabilities, etc.) Students must also listen to their recordings weekly and report back their observations.
        - **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.)
        - **v.** Attendance at Voice Performance Class, Mondays at 4:00 PM in the Recital Hall, is **mandatory for all students**.
        - **vi.** Johnson's studio class will be Mondays at 5:00-6:00pm location TBA and is **mandatory for all students**.

The student's final grade is assigned solely by his/her instructor, but with input from the vocal faculty in response to the jury performance.
2. Progress (20%)
a. Technical progress
b. Mastery over vocal issues

c. Growth in musicianship

3. Performance (40%)

a. Performances in Studio and Mock Jury- Each student 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.

b. Performance at Departmental recital Hour Wednesday at 4pm. (All students, except first semester freshman, are required to perform at least once during the semester.)

c. Performance at Voice Performance Class. (All students, except first semester freshman, are required to perform at least once during the semester.)

d. Final Exam/Jury

4. Recital Attendance - Make sure you take care of your recital credits.

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. If a student no shows for a lesson, the **lesson will not** be made-up. A student can only have **two** unexcused absences. After three unexcused absences you will be dropped from the class roster.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO)

Applied Vocal Students will be required to take a Barrier Exam after 8 credits of voice has been completed.

1) Accurately and expressively perform classic selections from the vocal Repertoire (min. 6 songs, Ita., Fr., Gr., and Eng. must be represented;

2) Accurately and expressively prepare and perform without the assistance of an applied instructor a selection from the standard 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.

Junior/Senior Level Recitals

If you are seeking a BS or BM 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. At least four languages are required and selections are chosen from the Standard Vocal Repertoire.

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.)