

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES & ARTS: DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
APPLIED MUSIC: VOICE

MS. LEANNE SCAGGS, INSTRUCTOR

Music Building: Room 235
Office Hours: Posted outside office door; by appointment
Class Schedule: Posted outside office door

Phone: Office 903-886-5293
Cell 940-222-5008
Email: Leanne.Scaggs@tamuc.edu

COURSE SYLLABUS
Spring 2018

GENERAL INFORMATION

Music 149. *Restricted Applied Voice.* 1 semester hour. Applied voice at the remedial or beginner level, usually for students not majoring in music.

Music 151/351/551. *Minor Applied Voice.* 1 semester hour. Applied voice at the intermediate/ advanced/ graduate level for voice minors and those studying voice as a secondary instrument.

Music 152. *Principal Applied Voice.* 1-4 semester hours. Applied voice for lower-classmen music majors in voice.

Music 352. *Principal Applied Voice.* 1-4 semester hours. Applied voice for upper-classmen music majors in voice.
All Students must pass the upper division barrier examination ("Junior Level Proficiency Exam"/ "JLPE") prior to enrollment.

Music 552. *Principal Applied Voice.* 1-4 semester hours. Applied voice for graduate-level music majors in voice.

All courses may be repeated for credit.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Each student is required to purchase **music books** for their individual use. Books may vary by student and may be as few as one or as many as four or five books each semester. The student should budget \$100 per semester for the purchase of music books and other materials relevant to this course. (This amount is much less than the average cost of books for other courses and is very reasonable, considering that books may be used for several semesters and kept for future use in your future teaching and singing endeavors. This amount does not include accompanist fees.) I do try to assign as many songs as possible from the books you already have, but sometimes that is not possible.

One notebook/3-ring binder, containing both music staff paper and regular notebook paper must be brought to each lesson for inspection and grading. (More information on this later.)

An **audio/video recording device** (i.e: cell phone) must be brought to each lesson for recording and playback of your lessons.

A **pencil** with eraser must be brought to each lesson, for note taking.

An **accompanist** (for lessons, rehearsals, and performances) must be secured each semester. (See [Vocal Accompanist Handbook](#) for more detailed information.)

COURSE CONTENT & STRUCTURE

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 resonance), Diction, Song Analysis, Music Scholarship, 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.

Students enrolled in one credit hour will receive one 25-minute private lesson per week. Students enrolled in two credit hours will receive one 50-minute private lesson per week. Additionally, all students enrolled in this course will meet in a weekly joint class ("Studio") in the form of a masterclass. This means you will sometimes participate as a performer and at other times as an audience member. We will speak about topics involving everyone and each student will be scheduled to sing several times throughout the semester, thereby practicing the art of solo performance. **Each student is required to dress appropriately for performances when scheduled to sing.** (Business, business-casual, or "Sunday best" and dress shoes are expected; absolutely **NO JEANS or ATHLETIC SHOES** will be permitted.) Any student not in compliance with the performance dress code will not be allowed to perform.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

Repertoire may include songs and/or arias in English, Italian, Latin, German, French, and/or Spanish, depending on the student's major, skill level, and other factors. Consideration will be given to the study of Musical Theater (i.e. "Broadway") literature on a limited basis. **All pieces must be memorized and "performance-ready" before the end of the semester.**

- a) Students enrolled in **one credit hour** will learn a minimum of **THREE pieces** for the semester.
- b) 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.
 - **Sophomores** are required to learn a minimum of **FIVE pieces** per semester.
 - **Junior/Seniors/Graduate Students (Upper divisional Applied Voice)** are required to learn a minimum of **SIX pieces** per semester.

GRADING

The instructor's semester grading will be based on the following:

- Lesson Preparation and Attendance	50%
- Final Jury	40%
- Studio Class Performances	5%
- Mock Jury	5%

- a) Student's **attendance** record at voice lessons, master classes, studio class, recitals, and other required on-campus events;

- The Department has determined that each student will receive 13 lessons per semester. Students must attend a *minimum* of 10 lessons in order to receive a *passing* grade. **For each unexcused absence from a lesson, the student's final grade is reduced by 10%.**
- Voice Studio Class will meet on Thursdays 4:00-5:00 pm, together with Ms. George's Studio. Voice majors are **required to attend** all Studio classes. Non-voice majors are strongly encouraged to attend at least 6 studio classes, and will be scheduled to perform periodically throughout the semester.
- Per the [Vocal Division Handbook](#), the Departmental requirement for all music students is to attend:
 - i. 9 Wednesday Recital Meetings/ "Convocation" (EVERYTHING on Wed. at 4:00 pm counts)
 - ii. 1 "Outside" Evening Performance
 - iii. 7 Evening Performances (can substitute an additional Outside)
- Additionally, all students majoring in voice are required to attend all voice student and voice faculty recitals. These voice recitals may count toward your "7 Evening Performances" requirement above. **Save your program from each performance and keep in your voice notebook to serve as proof of attendance.**
- Student's final grade in this class will be lowered a third of a letter grade for each deficiency in recital/ required performance attendance. (Voice lesson attendance is calculated separately.)
- b) Student's **preparation** for class and learning of required repertoire;
 - Bring 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 their observations in the following lesson.
 - Warm-up the **voice, body, and mind**, mentally focusing on what you wish to accomplish in the lesson. (Also budget the amount of other singing/ speaking used in the day so that you have sufficient voice left to sing in your lesson!)
 - Come to lessons with the notes, rhythms, and texts already learned.
 - All performance indications (tempo, mood, rubato markings) should be translated and considered. Keep this information in your voice notebook.
 - Prepare a word-for word translation, idiomatic/poetic translation, and IPA transcription for each foreign language piece and keep in your voice notebook. (IPASource.com and the Nico Castel Series of Libretto translations and IPA are wonderful resources to consult.)
- c) Student's **improvement** (technical progress, growth in musicianship, and overcoming of vocal faults) shown during the semester; and
- d) Student's **performance** in Convocation, Studio class, NATS Student Auditions, voice jury, and other required on-campus events, such as the studio recital.

JURY PERFORMANCE

The student will perform a final exam/ jury for the vocal faculty during final exam week. Jury performance grades attribute 40% to your final grade for this course. Students enrolled in two credit hours will first perform from memory one song of his/her choice from their prepared repertoire list, and then at least one additional selection chosen by the vocal faculty from the remaining prepared repertoire. Students enrolled in one credit hour will perform a piece of his/her choice only. Each student must complete and print the following to bring to their Mock Jury:

- a) ONE Vocal Jury Cover Sheet ([link](#))
- b) SIX Jury Evaluation Forms ([link](#))
- c) Here is a [link](#) to the Vocal Jury Performance Scoring Rubric for your reference (no need to print)

ACCOMPANIST POLICY

Students are required to hire an accompanist each semester. To secure an accompanist, first read the [Accompanying Policies and Procedures](#). Then, fill out this [Vocal Accompanist Request Form](#) and you will be assigned a pianist based on availability. Keep in mind that you do not get to choose whether you hire a professional or student, so you should budget for the maximum fee, just in case.

Although you are only required to secure an accompanist for the amount of time specified in the Accompanying Policies and Procedures document, I **STRONGLY** encourage you to invest in extra rehearsal time with your accompanist. One 30-minute rehearsal each week, in addition to the 30 minutes together with me in your lessons can work wonders in furthering your memorization of repertoire and enhancing your musicality. This is especially important if you are preparing for your JLPE, recital, or other important performance or competition.

CANCELLATION POLICY & 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 does not show for a lesson, without contacting the instructor, the lesson **will not** be made-up. A student may only have **three** absences total (excused or unexcused) in a semester. After the third absence, the student will receive a failing grade for the semester. Please come and speak to me if you have a special circumstance before you reach your absence quota.

If I am unable to teach your lesson, I will notify you via email, text, or phone call in advance, and will make it up at a later time. In the case of inclement weather, please reference the University policy and check your official school email often.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO)

All major level applied vocal students will be required to take a Barrier Exam after eight (8) credits of voice are completed. The Barrier Exam ("JLPE"), typically taken during the spring semester of your sophomore year, must prove that the student is capable of:

- a) Accurately and expressively perform classic selections from the vocal Repertoire (min. 6 songs, It., Fr., Ger., and Eng. must be represented);
- b) Accurately and expressively prepare and perform without the assistance of an applied instructor a selection from the standard vocal repertoire;
- c) Demonstrate the capability of accurately pronouncing song texts in English, French, German, Italian and Latin using the International Phonetic Alphabet;
- d) Demonstrate the capability of accurately singing at sight a classic selection from the vocal repertoire.

Students have one chance to re-take any/ all portions of the JLPE, should they fail the first time. Any failed portions must be re-taken the following semester. The student must continue to enroll in Music 152 until all portions of the JLPE are passed. Then the student may enroll in Music 352 upon the recommendation of the voice faculty. See the Vocal Divisions Handbook for more detailed information.

JUNIOR/SENIOR LEVEL RECITALS

If you are seeking a BS or BM Degree, with or without certification, a Junior Level Joint Recital (25 minutes of music memorized) is required. The recital must represent at least three languages, time periods, and styles. (See Vocal Handbook for more information.) After a full semester following the half recital, Vocal Performance majors are required to present a full recital (at least 50 minutes of music). At least four languages, time periods, and styles are

required and selections are chosen from the Standard Vocal Repertoire. No more than 25% of the recital can consist of Opera or Oratorio Arias.

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.

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

UNIVERSITY ACCOMODATION POLICY

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
Gee Library, Room 132
(903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 phone
(903) 468-8148 fax
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.

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.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the [Campus Concealed Carry Policies and Procedures](#) and/or consult your event organizer. Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

RESOURCES

For library research and articles about the voice:

- [TAMUC Libraries](#)
- [Music Research](#)
- [Oxford Music Online](#) (Encyclopedia of music; useful in defining terms and finding information on composers)
- [Scholarly Journals relevant to Voice](#) (this is where you should pick your articles from to review for your notebook)
- [NATS Journal of Singing](#) access via online or hard copies in library (may be used for your voice notebook articles)
- [Journal of Voice](#) access via online with student login credentials (may be used for your voice notebook articles)
- [Classical Singer](#) magazine available in Gee Library; good resource for singing jobs, auditions, education. (may NOT be used for your voice notebook articles, as it is not peer-reviewed)
- [Interlibrary Loan](#) – Interlibrary Loan (ILL) is a service available to all students, staff, and faculty at A&M-Commerce. ILL specializes in obtaining study and research materials needed by members of the university community that are not owned by the Libraries. This is accomplished by borrowing items, or requesting photocopies of items located at other libraries around the world. Nearly anything that has been published, including books, journals, and microforms, can be requested and obtained through ILL. For details, call the Interlibrary Loan Specialist at 903-886-5722.

For Musician Health & Awareness:

- [Vocal Health Education & Resources](#)
- [Musician Health & Safety](#)

For buying music books and/or sheet music:

- [Pender's Music Store](#) (music store)
- [Classical Vocal Reprints](#) (music store)

For Song Translations and Diction:

- [Aria Database](#)
- [Rec Music Foundation](#)
- [IPA Source](#) IPA Source.com is the web's largest library of International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) transcriptions and literal translations of opera arias and art song texts. Now with over 5340 texts including 886 aria texts. (available through library subscription once you click on the link provided)
- [LiederNet Archive](#) Poetic translations of more than 144,000 song texts.
- [Diction Resources for Singers](#) (massive list from UNT)

For vocal exercises:

- <https://wrvh.home.xs4all.nl/tputten/zangoefeningen/zangoefeningen-eng.html>
- [MusiciansWay.com](#)
- [The National Center for Voice and Speech](#) warm-ups by Dr. Ingo Titze

For vocal pedagogy:

- [John's Hopkins Peabody Conservatory Online Pedagogy Resources](#)
- [Popular Vocal Pedagogy Books](#)