



GRADUATE PRINCIPAL APPLIED VOICE

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SUMMER 2016

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 Description

This course is designed to enhance students' ability to use their singing voices in the healthiest manner possible, to develop their communication and performance skills, and to expand their knowledge of vocal literature.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course, the student will:

- understand the workings of the vocal instrument,
- be able to sing in a manner consistent with healthy use of the voice, including respiration, phonation, resonance, and diction,

- be able to describe with accurate terminology the physiology of respiration, phonation, and resonance,
- accurately and expressively perform at least six classic songs from the vocal repertoire, which may include English or Italian art songs, German Lieder, French chansons, operatic arias, sacred works, or musical theater,
- demonstrate the ability to perform vocal selections in front of an audience in a recital setting.

Requirements

All students are expected to:

- study and memorize a minimum of six songs
- translate all foreign language pieces word-for-word, and write IPA symbols in music
- practice with care and diligence at least one hour per day
- perform in a recital setting

Required Materials

Basics of Singing, sixth edition, by Jan Schmidt and Heidi Counsell Schmidt with accompaniment CD's (ISBN-10: 0495115312 | ISBN-13: 978-0495115311)

The student will organize a three-ring binder and dividers, labeled:

1. Syllabus
2. Foundations of Good Singing
3. Respiration (motor)
4. Phonation (vibrator)
5. Resonance
6. Articulation (diction)
7. Vocal Health
8. Repertoire

Bring your notebook to each class session, an instrument for taking notes (paper or a laptop), and the music for pieces being studied. Please have this notebook ready by the second class session.

It is strongly suggested that students use a recording device for their individual practice sessions. This aid will be invaluable in detecting errors and improving performance.

Students Requesting Accommodations Due to 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
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Musician Health and Safety

Valuable information and resources are provided on the Music Education website to assist the musician in the prevention of injury and to provide a resource for discovering information about injury assessment and injury recovery.

For more information, go here:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/music/musicianHealthSafety.aspx>

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

((<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) 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.

Attendance Policy

It is expected that voice students arrive to every class on time, with music fully prepared.

Each class period, an attendance count will be taken. Absent students will, by default, earn a grade of zero for that day's work. **Due to its performance nature, CLASS WORK CANNOT BE MADE UP. The instructor reserves the right to drop any student who misses more than one class, regardless of the reason.** Tardiness or leaving early will affect the daily classwork grade.

Students who miss a class when an assignment is due are expected to email the homework assignment in Word format as an attachment to an email to the instructor by 11:59 p.m. **on the due date**, with this subject line: MUSIC 531 Assignment #_, Student Name, Due Date. **No late assignments will be accepted.** If you are absent, it is your responsibility to retrieve the information you missed, and to prepare your assignments, if any, for the following class.

In-class assessments and assignments missed because of absence cannot be made up. This policy will be strictly enforced. Please do not ask me to make an exception.

Class Expectations

All students are expected to follow the Tenets of Common Decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. These tenets are outlined in the *Student's Guide Handbook* under "Policies and Procedures: Conduct." The tenets also apply to all communication to me outside the classroom.

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.

A student demonstrates commitment to his or her course of study by contributing thoughtfully to class discussions, turning in assignments in a timely manner, being prompt and dependable, supporting peers and instructor, and accepting critiques graciously. Be open-minded about other's opinions and thoughts, encouraging them to stretch their boundaries and take risks, and listen attentively to their performances. Failure to arrive to class with all necessary materials will result in a lowered classwork grade.

Cell phones should be turned off before class begins, and should be concealed from view throughout the duration of the class period. Please take care of any necessities (food, drink, restroom) before coming to class so that we may proceed without interruption. If you need to bring a bottle of water, please take care keep the cap secured. Dispose of all food and chewing gum before class begins.

Failure to conform to these expectations of behavior will result in a lowered classwork grade. Daily grades will be given according to the instructor's discretion:

- An A will be earned by the student who arrives early with all materials, exhibits superior attentiveness, is fully prepared for class, participates with enthusiasm, and acts as a leader and role model to others.
- A B will be earned by the student who exhibits excellent attentiveness, is prepared for class, participates with enthusiasm, and is a valued asset to the ensemble.
- A C will be earned by the student who exhibits average attentiveness, preparation, and class participation.

- A D will be earned by the student who exhibits little attentiveness, preparation, and participation.
- An F will be earned by the student who exhibits no attentiveness, preparation and participation. This student will be removed from the cohort.

Assignments

In order to effectively convey your message when singing foreign language songs, you will need to know every word you are singing. Oftentimes, an English translation can be found printed underneath the foreign language text in a piece of music. Though this translation will help you understand the overall meaning of the original text, it will not be enough to ensure that you understand each and every word you are singing.

For this reason, **you will write a word-for-word translation for each song** you are assigned, IN your music.

In addition, **you will write a summation for every piece**, whether in a foreign language or in English. The summation should provide an overall description of the intent of the piece, the circumstances in which it was written, perhaps the setting and the motivation of the character(s). Please include your source(s) in APA format at the bottom of the page.

If you find that very little information is given, then you, as an actor, will need to provide the motivation for singing the song. Write about how you will interpret the song, and the message you are trying to convey. Use a personal experience from your own background.

Lastly, it is very important to watch and listen to other performers, and to analyze their performances. Much can be learned through this exercise about how to make your own performances are powerful. **You will complete a Vocal Performance Evaluation Sheet for three songs performed in recital settings.** Please view three different singers. These performances may be live, on DVD, or on YouTube. **These assignments will be due before the end of the semester.**

Repertoire

Since some class members will begin this course with more experience than others, the ability to sing beautifully is not a necessity for, or an insurance of, a high grade. The ability to work to improve the abilities already possessed and to learn new skills will be the foundation of the grade received.

Each student will be assigned several pieces to prepare over the semester. All songs will have CD accompaniment, or an accompanist will be acquired. Students are expected to purchase the selected pieces. You will perform one song in English for your midterm, and one song in a foreign language for your final.

You will have about 40 minutes each day for individual practice. The Eastfield College Department of Music has been very gracious to allow us to use their practice rooms for this purpose. We will work in two groups: Group A will travel to Eastfield first while Group B works in the MMC library. Then the two groups will switch.

While at Eastfield, I will work with you one-on-one on your specific literature. Please have notes and rhythms learned before scheduling a time with me.

While in the library, you may work on your word-for-word translations of your song texts, writing in your IPA symbols, composing summaries for each piece in your repertoire, and completing your Vocal Performance Forms.

Final Performance Grade

All students will schedule one hour-long private voice lesson with me before the end of the semester. You will perform all six of your assigned pieces from memory, with excellent posture, vocal technique, diction, and stage presence.

Borrowing Resources

You have free access to all my personal books, CDs, DVDs, and teaching materials. Several of these items will be placed under reserve in the library. These items are for use in the library only. Simply present your student ID card at the front desk.

If you would like to borrow a resource overnight that I keep in my office, simply sign the ***Resource Checkout*** book in my office. Since other students may need the same item, please return any item you borrow the following class session. **You must not lend any items checked out to any other individual. You yourself must check them back in by writing the date and your initials in the resource checkout notebook.**

If a resource checked out to you is lost or damaged, you are expected to replace it as soon as possible. If you fail to return the item before the end of the semester, **a hold will be placed on your account and you will receive an Incomplete for this course.**

Please take care that you observe the copyright laws, and the limits of fair use.

Grading System

Daily Class Performance: 40% of the total grade

Written quizzes and assignments: 30% of the total grade

Repertoire Tests: 30% of the total grade

90 - 100 = A

80 - 89 = B

70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
59 ↓ = F

Academic Honesty

It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. Failure to uphold the standards of academic honesty will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.



PROPOSED SCHEDULE

CLASS ONE ~ JUNE 6

9:00 introduction and discussion of syllabus
9:30 class warm up/lecture on posture
10:00 Research Resources with Craig Wheeler
11:30 trip to Eastfield practice rooms

CLASS TWO ~ JUNE 7

9:00 class warm up
9:15 class repertoire study
9:30 lecture on respiration
10:00 individual repertoire selection
10:30 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
11:15 groups switch

CLASS THREE ~ JUNE 8

9:00 class warm up
9:30 lecture on phonation
10:00 class repertoire study
10:30 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
11:15 groups switch

CLASS FOUR ~ JUNE 9

9:00 class warm up
9:30 lecture on resonation
10:00 class repertoire study
10:30 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
11:15 groups switch

CLASS FIVE ~ JUNE 10

9:00 class warm up
9:30 class repertoire study
10:00 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
10:45 groups switch
11:30 FIRST CLASS PERFORMANCE

CLASS SIX ~ JUNE 13

9:00 class warm up
9:30 lecture on stage presence
10:00 class repertoire study
10:30 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
11:15 groups switch

CLASS SEVEN ~ JUNE 14

9:00 class warm up
9:30 lecture on vocal health
10:00 class repertoire study
10:30 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
11:15 groups switch

CLASS EIGHT ~ JUNE 15

9:00 class warm up
9:30 lecture
10:00 class repertoire study
10:30 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
11:15 groups switch

CLASS NINE ~ JUNE 16

9:00 class warm up
9:30 lecture
10:00 class repertoire study
10:30 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
11:15 groups switch

CLASS TEN ~ JUNE 17

9:00 class warm up
9:30 class repertoire study
10:00 GROUP A to Eastfield practice rooms/GROUP B to library
10:45 groups switch
11:30 SECOND CLASS PERFORMANCE

