Syllabus

Course number and title:  MUAP 4364.001 – Performance Theory and Materials: Vocal Pedagogy

Instructor:  Richard Berry, DMA
Professor of Music
rberry@sfasu.edu; Wright Music Building, room 270

Class meeting time and place:  8:00-8:50, MWF; Music Recital Hall (M 160)

Contact hours and study hours:  This course meets three hours per week and it is expected that you will spend six hours per week on the material of the course outside of class time.

Purpose of course:  The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the information, tools, and skills necessary to teach singing.  Topics covered will include acoustics of the singing voice; the physiology of respiration, phonation, resonance, and articulation; the coordination of the elements of singing; the psychology of teaching voice; how singing technique impacts the artistry of singing.  This course is essential for anyone who plans to work with singers – performers, studio teachers, public school and university teachers, and conductors.

Program Learning Outcome:  This course will contribute to the following Program Learning Outcomes for the Bachelor of Music degree –

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic elements of music, including sight-singing, analysis, and error detection.

2. Students will develop and demonstrate comprehensive capabilities in rehearsing and preparing instruction, and high-level engagement and performance in classroom and ensembles.

3. Students will demonstrate proficiency in their degree track by completing projects, preparing performances, creating original content, and mastering skills as appropriate for their field.

4. Students will successfully complete both an academic and area of study capstone project. The academic project will demonstrate written language skills, citations, analysis, musical examples, and organization. The area of study capstone project
will demonstrate the applied skills commensurate with the degree track requirements.

5. Students will demonstrate a critical thinking and application of knowledge in music history and literature from the Western art tradition, with supporting related studies in non-western traditions, practices, and cultures.

6. Students will demonstrate functional keyboard proficiency including scales, techniques, basic accompanying, and sight reading.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** This course will achieve the following Student Learning Outcomes –

The student will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the acoustics of the singing voice; the physiology of respiration, phonation, resonance, and articulation; the coordination of the elements of singing; the psychology of teaching voice; and how singing technique impacts the artistry of singing. The student will also demonstrate methods of guiding students into a sound singing technique that equips them to perform the standard repertoire securely and artistically.


Other books, articles, and materials will be referenced and recommended during the semester.

**Organization of the course:** Delivery of the course will include lecture, class discussion, outside reading, listening assignments, writing assignments, special assignments, online activities, demonstration teaching, quizzes and tests, and a final examination.

**Grading:** Final grade will be based on special assignment grades, test grades, and final examination grade. The categories will be weighted in calculation of the final grade as follows:
Quizzes – 10%
Test grades – 30%
Special assignment grades – 30%
Final examination grade – 30%

**Withheld Grades:** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the coursework because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

**Attendance:** You must attend class meetings in order to pass the course. Quizzes will be unannounced and special assignments will be done in class. If you miss more than about four class meetings, you probably will not pass the course.

**Academic Integrity:** The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated in this class. This includes engaging in plagiarism, copying assignments, receiving help on a test or quiz, and other such activities. If you cheat and I find out, you will receive an F in the course, subject to processes outlined in University Policy 4.1: Student Academic Dishonesty. You may read this policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf). If you have questions about this topic, please ask me.

**Students with disabilities:** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

**Student Wellness and Well-Being:** SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.
On-campus Resources:
The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936.468.1041

The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:
• Health Services
• Counseling Services
• Student Outreach and Support
• Food Pantry
• Wellness Coaching
• Alcohol and Other Drug Education
www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
• Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
• National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
• Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
• johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741