



GRADUATE ELEMENTARY PEDAGOGY I

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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

The purpose of this course is to bridge theory with practicality through studying the theoretical basis of different teaching approaches, observing demonstrations, actively participating in lessons, and then creating and teaching lessons for use in a classroom setting. This course focuses on grades K-3.

Course Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course, the student will:

- understand the differences and similarities between the major approaches to music education, including Orff Schulwerk, Kodaly, Music Learning Theory, and Dalcroze Eurhythmics.
- demonstrate skills in singing, playing instruments, creative movement, dancing, improvising, and composing.
- be able to successfully engage children in playing instruments, listening, chanting, singing, moving, and reading notation.
- be able to apply an understanding of individual differences among children, including English Language Learners, and to be able to create music lessons that cater to these differences.
- have a collection of original lessons, and a year-long teaching plan, for grades K-3.
- be able to articulate an understanding of how general music contributes to a school music program, and to develop lessons that integrate music with other disciplines.
- be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world because of their experiences with music and dance from a variety of cultures.
- have a plan to evaluate student achievement through the use of appropriate tests and performance measures.
- be able to teach elementary music to children with special needs using appropriate methods and materials.
- have a collection of visual aids for use in teaching music and movement concepts to elementary children, including the use of technology.
- understand and be able to implement effective procedures for classroom management.
- be able to play simple Appalachian folk songs on a dulcimer while reading notation.
- be able to sing simple Polynesian folk songs with up to three chords while accompanying him/herself on the ukulele.
- demonstrate competency with the soprano recorder. Students are expected to practice daily.

Required Texts

- Steen, Arvida. (1992) *Exploring Orff: A Teacher's Guide*. Schott Music Corp. (ISBN 0930448766)
- Houlahan, Michael and Tacka, Philip (2008) *Kodaly Today: A Cognitive Approach to Elementary Music Education*. Oxford University Press (ISBN: 0195314093)
- Burakoff, Gerald & Hettrick, William E. (1980) *The Sweet Pipes Recorder Book*. (Book One, Soprano) Sweet Pipes, Inc. (6722 Brentwood Stair, Ft. Worth, TX 76112)

Required Materials:

- 2.5" three-ring notebook with 38 dividers
- Materials for creating visuals and manipulatives
- One Yamaha YRS-24B Soprano Recorder (ivory plastic)
- A = 440 tuning fork
- Dulcimer, or dulcimer kit (There are some available for checkout.)
- Ukulele (There are some available for checkout.)

- In order to be successful in this course, you will need to have access to a computer, email, notation software, and the Elementary Music Dropbox.

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, as working professionals, graduate music education students arrive to every class on time, with assignments completed.

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.

Classroom 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.

In this course, you will be very active...singing, moving, playing instruments, dancing, improvising, and more. All students are to be actively participating in each lesson, just as your students will be when you are teaching in a public or private school. Please wear comfortable but modest clothing in which you can move around easily.

Please be careful with our classroom materials, and use them only when instructed.

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.

Developing Musicianship

You will need to have excellent musicianship skills as a music educator. During this course, we will work daily on singing, instrument, and movement technique.

One of the highest priorities of the semester will be developing an excellent singing voice, with good vocal tone, clarity, articulation, and intonation. If singing is not a strength for you, use the vocal warm up exercises on the class Dropbox so that you can practice daily.

Throughout the semester, you will be evaluated on sight-singing with solfege and hand signs. Develop the habit of practicing each day for a short period of time. In order to receive full credit, hand signs must be placed in the correct position in front of the body:

- do': arms above head
- ti: hands at forehead
- la: hands eye level
- sol: hands at chest
- fa: hands at diaphragm
- mi: hands waist level
- re: just below waist
- do,: arms at lower abdomen

You will also learn to play the soprano recorder, and to develop lessons for teaching recorder to your students. Your recorder skills will be assessed periodically. Develop the habit of practicing each day for a short period of time.

Resource Notebook

For this course you will begin to gather a collection of songs and other activities for children. You will categorize them in several ways, melodically, rhythmically, and according to other skills taught.

Please keep your notebook organized at all times, and to bring it to each class meeting. A "Notebook Check" will be provided. Please cross-reference any lessons that have more than one use.

You may also make visual aids to help children be successful in the classroom. These may include charts, games, icons, tone ladders, class sets or rhythm strips. Please plan to use notation software, and create power point/SmartBoard presentations.

Purchase a three-ring binder and 38 dividers. Label the dividers in this order:

1. Syllabus and Class Agendas
2. Graded Assignments and Tests
3. Readings
4. Resource List
5. Teaching Children with Special Needs
6. Teaching English Language Learners
7. Lesson Planning
8. Classroom Management
9. Singing with Children
10. Greeting Songs and Canons
11. Name Games for Younger Children
12. Vocal Warm-Ups/Vocal Exploration Activities
13. Singing Games & Dances
14. Global Songs
15. Steady Beat
16. High/Low
17. Fast/Slow
18. Long/Short
19. Loud/Quiet
20. Strong/Weak
21. Smooth/Jerky
22. Quarter Note and Quarter Rest
23. Eighth Notes
24. Half Note
25. Triple Meter
26. Same/Step/Skip/Jump
27. mi-sol
28. mi-sol-la

29. do-mi-sol
30. do-mi-sol-la
31. do-re-mi
32. do-re-mi-sol
33. do-re-mi-sol-la (do pentatonic)
34. high do (extended pentatonic)
35. Listening Lessons
36. Children's Book Lessons
37. Recorder Lessons
38. Miscellaneous

Borrowing Materials

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.

Assignments

You will usually have at least one assignment due every class meeting. If it is a reading passage, I strongly urge you to highlight important points in your book and jot questions or comments in the margins. Be prepared to present your knowledge of the readings in class. Assignments should be thoroughly and neatly prepared.

All written work must be typewritten. Assignments that require music notation may be neatly printed, though notation software is preferred. Please use university-level spelling, punctuation, and grammar, and head your papers with your name, the assignment number, and the due date. Students are expected to print out their own homework and turn it in during class. Asking the instructor to print out your assignment for you will result in a reduction of 20 points.

In many cases, homework assignments will consist of creating short lessons, and teaching these lessons to your peers in class. You will teach these lessons as if you were teaching elementary-aged children. You will write a lesson plan in the correct format for every lesson

you teach in class. The typed lesson plan is your homework grade, and the actual teaching of the lesson is your class work grade.

KEEP ALL ASSIGNMENTS ON YOUR COMPUTER. You will turn in a copy of your assignment on the day it is due, and I will add any corrections or ideas. You will then correct your assignment, so that it is ready to be shared with your classmates and placed in their resource notebooks.

Over the course of the semester, you will be required to observe three area elementary music instructors working in their classrooms with children for **one hour each**. You will be given access to the Music Education YouTube Channel. Please do NOT share this channel with anyone. It is for TAMUC Music Education students only. You will complete a Lesson Observation and Reflection Form for each teacher you observe.

FINAL PROJECT: You will present one 20-minute lesson for your colleagues, as if teaching to children in a public school setting. You will develop this lesson, using the template provided, and using lessons from class as models.

Grading System

In-Class Performance and Discussion: 30% of total grade

Homework Assignments: 30% of the total grade (including teacher observation reports)

Sight-Reading and Recorder Tests: 20% of the total grade

Resource Notebook: 10% of the total grade

Final Lesson Preparation and Teaching = 10% 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.

