



SCHOOL OF  
**Music**

**MUS 403**

**Vocal Pedagogy**

**Course Syllabus: Spring 2025**

**Tuesday, Thursday 11:00-11:50 am**

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## Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Leanne Scaggs, Assistant Professional Track-Voice
Classroom Location:	Music Room 158
Office Location:	Music Room 237
Office Hours:	Posted outside office door, by appointment
Office Phone:	903-886-5460
University E-mail:	Leanne.Scaggs@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	Email
Communication Response Time:	48 hours

## Course Information

### Course Description

MUS 403: An examination of techniques relating to vocal registration, resonance adjustments, and breath management for the singer. Includes age specific physiological developments and instructional needs of people from childhood through senior adults.

### Student Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will:

1. Identify anatomy and physiology of the vocal instrument.
2. Evaluate vocal function related to respiration, phonation, resonance, registration, and articulation.
3. Create and adapt exercises, vocalises, and teaching methods to improve vocal efficiency related to respiration, phonation, resonance, registration, and articulation.
4. Analyze diverse interdisciplinary voice pedagogy literature.
5. Critically analyze and assess efficacy of instruction during a voice lesson.
6. Teach voice lessons in one-on-one and/or group settings.
7. Identify warning signs of voice health concerns and be able to articulate when to refer out to other disciplines.

### Required Textbook

[The Basics of Voice Science and Pedagogy by Scott McCoy. ISBN-10: 1733506020.](#)

# Course Requirements

## Instructional Methods

Students will follow outlined activities for each week that include readings, in-class discussions, and assignments. Topics of in-class discussions will focus on assigned readings, demonstrations, interactive and group activities, and audio-visual presentations pertaining to the pedagogical application of singing.

## Assessments

Assessments will include Lab Assignments (e.g. Build a Larynx), Lesson Observations, Practicum (Observed Teaching), Vocalise Notebook, Podcast/Journal Article Reflection, Response, and Analysis, Teaching Philosophy, and Exams.

## Grading

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

1. Assignments	40%
2. Attendance & In-Class Discussions	20%
3. Practicum (Observed Teaching) Project	30%
4. <u>Written Exam</u>	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL:	100%

Grading Scale:

A.....	90-100
B.....	80-89
C.....	70-79
D.....	60-69
F.....	0-59

# Course and University Procedures / Policies

## Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation are required to ensure that the student learning objectives are met. One unexcused absence will be permitted. Attendance will be taken at each class. Extenuating circumstances regarding absences must be communicated to the instructor in advance. If the student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to obtain the notes and materials missed. Each unexcused absence beyond the first will result in the lowering of the final grade by five percent.

## **Late Assignments or Work**

Late work is accepted until the assignment is closed in D2L. If a student misses class due to a University sponsored activity, they must coordinate with the instructor in advance to complete assignments beforehand.

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **AI use policy**

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

## **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

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**

East Texas A&M University  
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)  
Website: [Student Disability Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/student-disability-services/)

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## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University 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.

## **Tenets of Common Behavior**

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook);

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University 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 ETAMU 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 [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

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

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all ETAMU campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel).

## Course Calendar

Week	Day	Content
1	Jan. 14	Course Overview/Syllabus, Vocology, History of Vocal Ped
1	Jan. 16	History of Vocal Ped cont./Methods of Teaching
2	Jan. 21	Ear and Hearing
2	Jan. 23	Listening/Perception
3	Jan. 28	Body awareness/Alignment/Posture/Movement
3	Jan. 30	Respiration/Breathing
4	Feb. 4	Respiration/Breathing
4	Feb. 6	Phonation/Larynx A&P
5	Feb. 11	Phonation/Larynx A&P
5	Feb. 13	TMEA (NO CLASS)
6	Feb. 18	Registration, Sound/Acoustics
6	Feb. 20	Resonance/Singing Voice Acoustics/Psychoacoustics
7	Feb. 25	Range/Voice Classification
7	Feb. 27	Articulation/A&P
8	March 4	Motor Learning/Skill Acquisition
8	March 6	Lifespan Voice: Early through Late
9	March 11 & 13	SPRING BREAK (NO CLASSES)
10	March 18	Voice Health and Hygiene
10	March 20	Developmental Warm-Ups/Vocalises
11	March 25	Developmental Rep. Selection
11	March 27	Teaching Practice Skills/Exercise Science
12	April 1	Studio Communication/Student-Teacher Relationship/Teaching Philosophy/NATS Code of Ethics
12	April 3	Practicum
13	April 8	Online Teaching
13	April 10	Practicum
14	April 15	Research Methods

<b>Week</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Content</b>
14	April 17	Practicum
15	April 22	Technology/Voice Analysis
15	April 24	Practicum
16	April 29	Practicum
16	May 1	In-Class Study Session for Final Exam
Final Exam	May 6	Tuesday, May 6th from 10:30 am-12:30 pm