



SCHOOL OF
Music

Voice Class
Mus 139 01E and 02E
Course Syllabus: Spring Semester 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Amy Canchola
Classroom Location:	Choir Room
Office Location:	Room 236
Office Hours:	TR by appointment only
Office Phone:	317-408-8049 (cell)
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Preferred Form of Communication:	Email
Communication Response Time:	24 Hours

Course Information

Course Description

This course is for instrumental music majors to learn the fundamentals of correct breathing, tone production, vocal health and vocal pedagogy to be applied for teaching, solo singing and ensemble singing.

Student Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will:

- 1) Learn basic vocal anatomy and physiology.
- 2) Establish a healthy vocal technique that is applicable to Choral and Solo singing.
- 3) Learn how to prepare, select, and learn vocal music.
- 4) Understand vocal health and hygiene.
- 5) Learn effective practice and performance techniques.
- 6) Demonstrate effective voice building exercises and their appropriate goals.
- 7) Develop the ability to critique one's own performance and the performance of others.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate functional knowledge of vocal anatomy, physiology, and technique by applying principles of respiration, phonation, resonance, articulation, and registration to produce healthy, efficient vocal tone.
2. Apply and teach healthy vocal practices including posture, breath support, hydration, appropriate warm-ups, and strategies for protecting the developing and changing voice in rehearsal and performance settings.
3. Perform vocally with musical accuracy and artistry, demonstrating appropriate tone quality, intonation, diction, phrasing, sight-singing skills, and stylistic interpretation.

4. Select and evaluate appropriate vocal repertoire that reflects age, range, tessitura, technical readiness, and stylistic considerations for solo and ensemble settings.
5. Diagnose and correct common vocal performance issues using standard musical terminology and providing clear, constructive, and developmentally appropriate feedback.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of effective vocal techniques for ensemble performance, applying rehearsal strategies that support expressive and healthy music-making in small and large groups.
7. Apply professional, ethical, and legal principles related to music education, including copyright, fair use, and policies governing the use and performance of music in educational settings.

Required Textbook

The Singing Book (Cynthia Vaughn and Meribeth Dayme 4th edition)

Recommended Course Materials

The Basics of Voice Science and Pedagogy by Scott McCoy

Notebook and Pencil

Recording Device (can use voice memos on cell phone)

Course Requirements

Instructional Methods

Voice class is a largely participation-based class. Students are expected to participate fully in class discussions about readings, voice building, ensemble singing and solo singing.

Assessments

Students are given a participation grade each week based upon participation in class singing and class discussions. Students will have quizzes and written tests based upon assigned readings and class discussions. Students are required to attend two voice recitals and submit a review. Students will have 3 singing tests throughout the semester. Students will perform a solo as part their final exam.

Grading

Class Participation- 30%

Readings, Quizzes, Practice logs, Recital Reviews-10%

Written Tests- 20%

Singing Tests- 30% (10% for each)

Final Exam- 10%

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

Students are required to alert me of absences in advance. The only appropriate reason for missing class is illness or death of a loved one. Because Voice Class is so participation based, it is in your best interest to attend class and miss as little as possible. After a student has more than 3 unexcused absences their grade will be dropped one letter. If you ever have concerns about attendance, please discuss them with me.

Late Assignments or Work

Late work or makeup assignments will not be accepted for unexcused absences. If a student has an excused absence makeup work will be accepted. Extra credit opportunities will be assigned throughout the semester.

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](#)

Additional policies at the discretion of the faculty member

Because voice class is so participation based, it is imperative that we foster a safe and supportive environment. This will benefit the growth of each student in class and their vocal growth. Disrespectful or unprofessional behaviors will not be allowed.

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, contact the Office of Student Disability Services at 903-886-5150, 903-886—5835; email studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu; online at [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#); or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

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

Campus Concealed Carry - 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 East Texas A&M 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 East Texas A&M 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

Course Calendar

Week	Content
Week 1 Jan 13 th & 15 th	Class introduction, Getting acquainted activities Read Getting Started and Chapter 1; How the voice works; Due: Larynx coloring
Week 2: Jan 20 st and 22 nd	Read Ch. 2 and 3 Vocal Exercises, Framework and Practice Selecting Music, how to use the UIL PML
Week 3: Jan 27 th and 29 th	Read Ch. 4 Learning Music Efficiently Group work on exercises for upcoming test
Week 4: Feb 3 rd and 5 th	Singing Test 1 - Vocal and breathing exercises. Review for written test.
Week 5: Feb 10 th and Feb. 12 th	Written Test 1
Week 6: Feb 17 th and 19 th	Read Ch. 8 of McCoy, Introduction to Choral Singing.
Week 7: Feb 24 th and 26 th	Read Ch. 9 of McCoy, Continue Choral singing, Solfège Practice and Use.
Week 8: Mar 3 rd and 5 th	Singing Test 2 - Choral singing and Solfege Review for next written test.
Week 9: Mar 10 th and 12 th	SPRING BREAK
Week 10: Mar 17 th and 19 th	Self-Study and Group Work Days No in-Class Meeting; work on take-home written test
Week 11: Mar 24 th and 26 th	Assign final Vocal solos Apply Performance and Practice Techniques. 1st Voice Recital Review Due
Week 12: Mar 31 st and Apr 2 nd	Vocal Pedagogy Pairs Test - Masterclass Solo Singing Continue Vocal performance techniques and practice habits.
Week 13: April 7 th and 9 th	Teaching various ages and stages of voices
Week 14: April 14 th and 16 th	Work on Final Recital Piece Masterclass Style Focus on Performance Technique
Week 15: April 21 st and 23 rd	Work on Final Recital Piece Performance Technique 2nd Voice Recital Review Due
Week 16: April 28 th and 30 th	Final Exam-Voice Class Recital
Tuesday May 5 th	TR 11:00 10:30-2:30; TR 2:00 1:15-3:15 Final Exam and Presentations

