



MUS 306
Vocal Song Literature
Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Amy Canchola
Classroom Location:	TBD
Office Location:	MUS 237
Office Hours:	By appointment
University E-mail:	Amy.Canchola@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	Email
Communication Response Time:	24 hours

Course Information

Course Description

In this course you will explore the origins of solo song, its significant composers, forms and styles from the Renaissance to the present in the four major singing languages: French, German, Italian, and English (British and American). This course is required of all vocal performance majors and recommended for all vocal music education majors.

Course Outcomes/Goals:

- 1) Gain factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
 - a. Basic knowledge of the historical and stylistic development of vocal literature in Western culture with a special focus on the art song
 - b. Aural knowledge of representative examples of all the major schools of song literature
- 2) Develop skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.
 - a. The ability to communicate publicly about song, poetry, song styles, and song composers
 - b. Knowledge of the principal resources for preparing repertoire, deepening understanding of repertoire, and stylistically correct interpretation of the repertoire
- 3) Gain a broader understanding and appreciation for vocal music through exposure and analysis as well as a stronger sense of context.
 - a. Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
 - b. Be exposed to several perspectives regarding the material through different sources and in class discussion which will allow you to begin to evaluate issues of depth and bias
 - c. Foster ready knowledge & recognition of principal stylistic traits of various composers & national schools, demonstrated via score & recording study

Text and Materials:

Required:

Kimball, Carol . *Song: A Guide to Art Song Style and Literature*. (Revised Edition)

Suggested:

Kimball, Carol . *Art Song: Linking Poetry and Music*. Milwaukee, WI: Hal Leonard Corporation, 2013.

Bernac, Pierre *The Interpretation of French Song*. New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company, 1976.

Purdy, Stephen. *Musical Theatre Song: A Comprehensive Course in Selection, Preparation, and Presentation for the Modern Performer*. New York, NY: Bloomsbury Methuen Drama, 2016.

Fischer-Dieskau, Dietrich. *The Fischer-Dieskau Book of Lieder: The Original Texts of Over Seven Hundred and Fifty Songs*. New York, NY: Limelight Editions, 1995.

Stein, Beverly. *Unlocking Meaning in Art Song*. Roman and Littlefield. 2024.

Assessments/Grading & Evaluation:

• Class Prep & Participation (including field trips)	100 points
• Style & Poetry Sheets (25 points each)	400 points
• Class Presentation	100 points
• Term Paper (Rough and Final Drafts)	150 points
• Timeline	125 points
• Final Recital Project	<u>125 points</u>
TOTAL	1000 points

A= 900-1000 B = 800-899 C = 700-799 D = 600-699 F below 600

Course and University Procedures / Policies

School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University 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.

University Mission Statement:

East Texas A&M University provides a personal educational experience for a diverse community of life-long learners. Our purpose is to discover and disseminate knowledge for leadership and service in an interconnected and dynamic world. Our challenge is

to nurture partnerships for the intellectual, cultural, social, and economic vitality of Texas and beyond.

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.

Class Attendance Policy

Your attendance is expected at each class. Two unexcused absences are allowed per semester. A student with more than two unexcused absences will receive a maximum letter grade of B. A student with more than six unexcused absences will receive an NC for the course. Two tardies count as one absence. Excused absences will require a note from an outside party explaining why class was missed. Or prior notification that you will need to miss class.

Late Assignments or Work

Assignments handed in after the due date will have 10% of the grade subtracted for each day the work is handed in late.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [13.99.99.R0.01 Class Attendance](#)
<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

School of Music Engagement Expectations

Students are expected to actively participate in all assigned components of this course. Active participation includes being present, engaged, responsive, cooperative, respectful, and professional. It may also include providing feedback, asking questions, and being supportive of class members and faculty during instruction time.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes. Notification for excused absence must be received in advance. It is the individual student's responsibility to notify the instructor of a legitimate absence in advance. It is also the individual student's responsibility to acquire any missed notes and assignments from other students and/or the instructor.

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes by coming prepared and with all assigned materials. This course is a graduate research course. Bibliographical material, repertoire, library resources, applied techniques, as well as research techniques applicable to graduate study in music specific to flute/woodwind pedagogy will be surveyed and discussed. Be prepared to spend a significant amount of time doing research and review of materials outside of class.

Students are expected to demonstrate skills in pedagogy through their observation, analysis, discussion and feedback of the performances of other students. Students are expected to gain skills in this area by the observation of teaching techniques in their own private lessons and through the observation of teaching techniques of other students in studio class, guest artist classes on campus, and optional conference attendance or optional observations of master teachers online. Students will need to submit teaching videos and acquire a waiver from the student(s) in their videos.

Texas Education Code – Music Education

This course content is aligned with the standards established by the Texas Education Code, covering areas such as Music, the Commissioner's Rules, Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities, Technology, and English Language Proficiency. To review these standards, please visit the Music Education Program D2L Shell and select "Standards and Objectives."

Musician Health and Safety

As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

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:

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

[13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty](#)

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.

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.

Technology Requirements

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser

Support: https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

Access and Navigation

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

East Texas A&M University 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 <https://www.etamu.edu/counseling-center/>

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@etamu.edu; online at

[Student Disability Services](#)

or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

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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 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 [34.06.02.R1 Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) 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.

Course Schedule

- Aug 20** Course Introduction: What Is Art Song?
- Aug 25** Components of Style
Due: Read "Art Song" Forward & Ch. 1 & "Song" Part I (p. 1-37)
Complete Repertoire List
- Aug 27** Poetry for Singers
Due: Read "Art Song" Ch. 2-3; **Style Sheet 1**
- Sept 1** Working with Music
Due: Read "Art Song" Ch. 4 & 6; **Poetry Detective Exercise**
- Sept 3** Song Preparation
Due: Read Purdy Section II (p. 149-196); **Purdy Song Worksheet**
- Sept 8** Early English Song: Dowland, Purcell, Campion & other Lutenists
Due: Read "Song" p. 353-359
- Sept 10** Early Italian Song: 28 Italian Songs, Caccini, Peri, Monteverdi, Scarlatti, Vivaldi
Due: Read "Song" p. 407-425; **Style Sheet 2**
- Sept 15** German & French Baroque Composers: Bach, Handel, Telemann, Lully
- Sept 17** **No Class – Dr. Canchola Teaching at Emory and Georgia State**
- Sept 22** Early German Lieder Composers, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert
Due: Read "Song" p. 39-69; **Style Sheet 3**
- Sep 24** German Lieder: Mendelssohns, Schumanns, Brahms, Liszt,
Due: Read "Song" p. 70-110; **Style Sheet 4**
- Sep 29** German Lieder: Wagner, Wolf, Franz, Strauss, Mahler
Due: Read "Song" p. 111-138
- Oct 1** Second Viennese School (Schoenberg, Berg, Webern), Berio, Weil
Due: Read "Song" p. 139-156, 445-446; **Style Sheet 5**
- Oct 6** Italian Song: Rossini, Donizetti, Bellini, Verdi, Puccini, Menotti
Due: Read "Song" p. 426-444; **Style Sheet 6**
- Oct 8** **No Class Fall Break**
- Oct 13** French Mélodie: Berlioz, Gounod, Viardot, Bizet, Duparc
Due: Read "Song" p. 157-176; Bernac Introduction; **Style Sheet 7**
- Oct 15** French Mélodie: Fauré, Debussy, Hahn, Chausson; **Timeline Check-In**

Due: Read "Song" p. 177-21

Oct 20 French Mélodie: Satie, Ravel, Ibert, Milhaud, Poulenc, Messiaen
Due: Read "Song" p. 212-244; **Style Sheet 8**

Oct 22 English Song: Arne, Linley, Parry, Elgar, Delius, Finzi
Due: Read "Song" p. 360-390; **Term Paper Thesis Statement Due**

Oct 27 English Song: Quilter, Vaughan Williams, Britten
Due: Read "Song" p. 391-406; **Style Sheet 9**

Oct 29 American Song: Foster, Beach, Ives, Thomson Duke, Copland, Blitzstein, Barber
Due: Read "Song" p. 245-268

Nov 3 American Song - Diverse American Voices: Burleigh, Johnson, Price, Larsen, etc
Due: Read "Song" p. 269-303; **Style Sheet 10**

Nov 5 American Song: Bernstein, Rorem, Hoiby, Crumb, Argento, Hundley, Bolcom, Harbison, Musto, Laitman, Hagen
Due: Read "Song" p. 304-350; **Term Paper Rough Draft Due**

Nov 10 Spanish & Latin American Song: Granados, de Falla, Turina, Rodrigo, Ginastera, Villa-Lobos
Due: Read "Song" p. 495-530; **Style Sheet 11**

Nov 12 Russian & Scandanavian Song: Alabiev, Glinka, Mussorgsky, Rachmaninoff, Grieg, Sibelius, Nielsen
Due: Read "Song" p. 447-494; **Term Paper Final Draft Due**

Nov 17 Eastern European (Dvorak, Bartok, Kodály, Chopin), Asian and African Song;
Due: Read "Song" p. 541-544; **Style Sheet 12**

Nov 19 The Great American Songbook & Contemporary Musical Theatre Song
Due: Read Purdy Ch. 1, p. 3-78; Skim Purdy Ch. 6; **Style Sheet 13**

Nov 24 Repertoire Selection
Due: Read Purdy Ch. 2-3 & 11 (p. 79-148, 273-276)

Nov 26 **Thanksgiving Break**

Dec 1 Creating a Recital
Due: Read "Art Song" Ch. 5, Skim Ch. 7 & appendices;
Completed Timeline

Dec 3 **Class Recital (2) Constrasting Pieces each**

Finals Week Final Recital Project Due