Stephen F. Austin State University

School of Music

Spring Semester 2016

Syllabus

Course number and title: MUP 465 – Advanced Vocal Pedagogy

Instructor: Richard Berry, DMA
Professor of Music; Dean of the Graduate School
rberry@sfasu.edu; 468-2807; Vera Dugas Liberal Arts North, room 425

Class meeting time and place: 8:00-8:50, MW; Wright Music Building room 108

Purpose of course: The purpose of this course is to develop to a high degree of proficiency in each student the skills necessary to be a successful studio voice teacher and to establish a basic knowledge of current thinking about the teaching of singing. Areas emphasized will include techniques of establishing a normal quality of the singing voice; methods for coordinating respiration, phonation, resonance, and articulation; the psychology of teaching voice; and hints on how to enhance the artistry of singing. This course is important for anyone who plans to work with singers –studio teachers, public school and university teachers, performers, and conductors.

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

3. Applied music

   The student will demonstrate knowledge of applicable solo materials, an orientation to the fundamentals of pedagogy as pertaining to the instrument or area of study, and comprehensive capabilities in preparing and performing a solo at a high level.

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.
Textbooks and other media: There will be no required textbooks to purchase. There will be a number of required readings from selected books and periodicals, available either as handouts, online, or in Steen Library. In addition, there will be required listening.

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

Grading: Final grade will be based on special assignment and class discussion grades, test grades, practice teaching grades, and final examination grade. The categories will be weighted in calculation of the final grade as follows:

- Special assignment and class discussion grades – 30%
- Sample teaching – 40%
- Final examination grade – 30%

Attendance: You must attend class meetings in order to pass the course. If you miss more than about four class meetings, you probably will not pass the course.

Academic Integrity: 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. If you have questions about this topic, please ask me.
TENTATIVE Semester Calendar

January 20  Introduction to Advanced Vocal Pedagogy
January 25  Review of concepts and terminology
January 27  Evaluating materials: *Vocal Wisdom* (Lamperti)
February 1  “Educational psychology” (Ross)
February 3  *JOS* articles by Austin, McCoy, Robertson, and LeFevre
February 8  Example teaching; building a toolbox
February 10  Teaching quality
February 15  Teaching support
February 17  Teaching flexibility
February 22  A CAPPELLA CHOIR TOUR
February 24  A CAPPELLA CHOIR TOUR
February 29  Practice teaching
March 2    Practice teaching
March 7    Practice teaching
March 9    Summary of observations
March 14   SPRING BREAK
March 16   SPRING BREAK
March 21   Other resources
March 23   Special assignments
March 28   EASTER HOLIDAY
March 30   Example teaching
April 4    Lab teaching
April 6    Lab teaching
April 11  
Lab teaching  

April 13  
Lab teaching  

April 18  
Lab teaching  

April 20  
Lab teaching  

April 25  
Lab teaching  

April 27  
Lab teaching  

May 2  
Summary of observations  

May 4  
Review for Final Exam  

May 9  
FINAL EXAM (8 a.m. – 10 a.m.)