

Vocal Pedagogy
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Course Description

Methods of voice development will be discussed. The study of psychological and physiological vocal problems, including the changing voice, the monotone and registers of all voice classifications. Attention also given to training voices for choral singing a solo performance.

Course Objectives or Expected Learning Outcomes

- Vocabulary of the voice
- References for Teaching
- Anatomy and physiology of the Vocal Instrument
- Resonance, Breathing, Alexander Technique
- Problems in teaching voice
- Vocal problems
- Formant tuning
- The changing male voice
- The ins and outs of the vocal lab

Required Materials

There is no text book as you will use many texts from the library for this class.

Recommended Materials

Richard Miller's The Structure of Singing: System and Art in Vocal Technique

Course Assignments and Grading

Find a student. Start teaching them for one hour a week starting the week of September 3rd. You will teach this student as in any applied lesson. 50 minutes per week. During mid-term week, October 9th and 11th, your students will come to our class at 9am and you will teach a "mini" lesson for your classmates. Since there are no paid accompanists, be prepared to play for your student or coerce a pianist to play for you. We will have a final recital of all of your students on November 29th at 9am.

Please record all lessons and turn them in at the end of the semester on a flash drive. You may record on your computer or your phone and transfer it to a computer. Please keep a journal

entry for every lesson that includes date of lesson, what you observed in the lesson, repertoire and vocalizes assigned, level of skill mastery and any other pertinent information.

Papers must answer the question or summarize the article/chapter thoroughly. Papers must be at least one page to 5 pages long, typed, double spaced, and with normal margins and fonts. You will receive two numerical grades, one for content, one for grammar, spelling, and clarity.

- Aug. 28th Syllabus and Vocal Pedagogy Authors
Assignment: Create a working bibliography of Vocal Pedagogy Authors
- Aug. 30th Phonation
Read: Scherer's article: Laryngeal Function During Phonation
Write: Paper summarizing the article
- Sept. 4th Discussion of the Scherer Article / Anatomy of the Larynx - Cartilages
Google: Laryngeal anatomy
- Sept. 6th Anatomy of the Larynx - Muscles
Read: Any vocal pedagogy source on the actions of the Larynx
Write: Paper summarizing the chapter
- Sept. 11th Actions of the Laryngeal muscles
- Sept. 13th Vocal Tract Resonance
Read: Sundberg's article: Vocal Tract Resonance
Write: Paper summarizing the article
- Sept. 18th Posture and Alignment
Read: Any text on the Alexander Technique
Write: Paper: Who is Alexander and what is his Technique?
- Sept. 20th Alexander Technique
Read: Vocal Pedagogy source from Bibliography
Write: Paper: How does a singer breathe to sing?
- Sept. 25th Breathing for Singing
Read: Another Vocal Pedagogy source form Bibliography
Write: Paper on another viewpoint on breathing
- Sept. 27th Breathing for Singing continued
Read: Clifton Ware's Adventures in Singing Chapter 11 Learning a song
Write: Paper summarizing the chapter
- Oct. 2nd Challenges of learning music
Read: Duke/Simmons' Article: The Nature of Expertise...
Write: Paper summarizing the article
- Oct. 4th Helping a student too afraid to sing
Read: Jangir and Govinda's article on stage fright
Write: Paper summarizing the article
- Oct. 9th and 11th MID TERM LESSONS

- Oct. 16th Formants and Formant Tuning for Sopranos (in lab)
Read: Any vocal pedagogy source on formants
Write: Paper summarizing the chapter
- Oct. 18th Falsetto vs. Head Voice (in lab)
Read: Any vocal pedagogy source on Falsetto and Head Voice
Write: Paper summarizing the chapter(s)
- Oct. 23rd The changing male voice
Read: White's article: Common Sense Training for Changing male voice
Write: Paper summarizing the article
- Oct. 25th Vocal Faults - Nodes, Polyps, Paralysis
Read: A portion of James C. McKinney's Book
- Oct. 30th Vocal Faults - Prescription and non-prescription drugs
Read: A portion of James C. McKinney's Book
- Nov. 1st Vocal Faults - Surgeries, GERD, misuse
Read: A portion of James C. McKinney's Book
Write: Summary of what you have read from McKinney's Book
- Nov. 6th Discussion: What makes a great performance
- Nov. 8th How to prepare your student for performance
Read: Ware, Chapter 12
Write: Paper summarizing the chapter
- Nov. 13th What should you require of your students?
Write: Syllabus for a college voice job
- Nov. 15th Behavioral problems of music students?
- Nov. 20th In the Vocal Lab - Singing and analysis
Sing your repertoire for computer analysis
- Nov. 27th In the Vocal Lab - Singing and analysis
Sing your repertoire for computer analysis
- Nov. 29th FINAL RECITAL - All of your students will perform while you constructively critique your students and your classmates students on paper.
- Dec 4th Discussion of your students and your classmates students
- Dec 6th Discussion: What have you learned in this class that has helped your own voice?

Remember papers, assignments, participation, and attendance are 50% of your grade while the other 50% is your grade for teaching your student. If you feel that one will drop, please get two or three students because their lack of participation affects your grade if there are no recordings or mid-terms or journal entries or Final performances. We are on a 10 point scale.

Attendance/Participation Policy

Attendance and Participation are crucial in this class. You must see your student once a week (14 times) without missing. Missing more than three unexcused or non-school functioned class periods will cause you to fail. Three tardies equals one absence.

Technology Requirements

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web. You may use any of the primary Web browsers—Explorer, Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc. When having technical difficulties, try switching to another browser.

You will need to have or have access to a computer/laptop, printer, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to purchase a USB (flash drive). You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe, Flashplayer, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course. If you encounter technical difficulties of any kind, contact the [Help Desk](#).

Netiquette

Please no plagiarism from the net or any source. Make sure to communicate more than less. I would rather know something twice than not at all.

Late Work Policy

No late work is accepted.

Drop Policy

Please drop after 3 absences.

Accommodations Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must work with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#).

Scholastic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more: [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

Student Resources

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [Military Student Success Center](#): UTEP welcomes military-affiliated students to its degree programs, and the Military Student Success Center and its dedicated staff (many of whom are veterans and students themselves) are here to help personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.