Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
The School of Arts, Media & Communication  
Department of Music  
Diction for Singers II: MUSI 3165  
Course Syllabus – Spring 2016

Instructor: Dr. Hope Fairchild Thacker  
Office Location: CA 132  
Course Location: CA 222  
Course Meeting time: TR 8-8:50 am  
Email: Hope.Thacker@tamucc.edu  
Phone: 361-825-3943

Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

I. Required text


Optional Texts/Resources:
IPA Help program – available for free download at:  
http://www.sil.org/computing/ipahelp/ipahelp_download.htm

II. Student Learning Outcomes

As a result of completing this course, the successful student will:

1. Correctly identify, speak, sing and apply use of symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) which are used in transcribing the primary singing languages (English, Latin, French, German, and Italian).
2. Transcribe Italian and French words in IPA symbols correctly, and accurately speak and sing words in these languages which have already been transcribed into IPA.
3. Know the rules of pronunciation for written Italian and French, and be able to apply those rules to correctly pronounce texts in these languages, both spoken and sung.

III. Class Activities

**Major Projects:** lengthier assignments in IPA transcription, translation, preparation and performance of French & Italian vocal literature. (2 @ 10% each = 20%)

**Chapter Quizzes:** 5 French exams, 3 Italian exams (40%)  

**Daily Quizzes:** Given at the beginning of class (10%)  

**Midterm & Final Exam:** One French and one Italian, given during midterm and end of term (10% of grade)  

**Homework Assignments:** short assignments in IPA transcription and other aspects of diction will be assigned in most class sessions or posted on Blackboard, due the following class meeting (10% of grade)  

**Blackboard:** check Blackboard frequently, as you may have assignments posted that must be completed before most class periods. This may include listening assignments.
Class Participation: very important aspect of this class! We will be practicing diction as a class and in small groups so that you can provide auditory and visual feedback to each other (10%)

IV. Grading Scale (percentage)

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = below 60

V. Course Schedule (may be adjusted slightly according to the needs of the class)

Week/Day    Topic
Weeks 1-5    Italian lyric diction
Weeks 6-15    French lyric diction
Final Exam TBA – during scheduled final exam time slot

VI. Course Policies

A. Late work will not be accepted. All work is due at the beginning of class.
B. Plagiarism and/or cheating will result in an automatic 0/F on the assignment; repeated plagiarism and/or cheating will result in removal from the course and disciplinary action for Academic Misconduct.
C. Makeups for Exams will only occur if the student has obtained prior permission from the instructor.
D. Tardy students will not be allowed to make up Daily Quizzes or other work missed. Tardy students are responsible for personally showing the instructor homework in order to receive credit.
E. Attendance is required. Students will take full responsibility for making up all work missed and bringing it to the instructor in a timely manner. (a timely manner is defined by the instructor, not the student) More than 2 absences will result in the lowering of the final grade by 10% for each subsequent absence. Students will be removed from the course with a failing grade after 6 absences.

Additional Important College of Liberal Arts and University Information

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Disabilities Accommodations

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 believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.