



## MUS 144-01W, Italian Diction

COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2020

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Barrett Radziun, DMA

Office Location: MUS 233

Office Hours: Available by Appointment: M-F 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

University Email Address: barrettradziun@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: 24 hours

Course Time and Location: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00-11:50 a.m. – All classes via Zoom Conference (Links will be sent out weekly)

### COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: *Italian Lyric Diction Workbook* by Cheri Montgomery (STM Publishers): Available for purchase through the Choral Office

Software Required: Music/Podcast Streaming Service, *Spotify* is recommended

Optional Texts and/or Materials: *Webster's New World Italian Dictionary*

### Course Description

**Student Learning Outcomes** (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. Transcribe Italian text into IPA symbols
2. Accurately read and sing Italian text *with* IPA symbols
3. Accurately read Italian text *without* IPA symbols, relying on the rules of Italian lyric diction learned throughout the course of the semester
4. Prepare word-by-word translations of Italian into English using resources discussed in class

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students must be enrolled in applied voice lessons, and they must be willing to take the time to write clearly with neat penmanship. A basic understanding of D2L is required to be successful in this course, as it has transitioned to an online format due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Instructional Methods

Students are required to purchase a copy of Cheri Montgomery's *Italian Lyric Diction Workbook*. A major part of the course will be centered on mastering the material within the workbook. We will be holding class via Zoom conference, and the course will begin primarily lecture based. Eventually, students will be required to submit video recordings of themselves singing their Italian repertoire, which will be watched by the class and evaluated by the instructor. Assignments will be submitted through D2L.

### Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

#### **Classroom Etiquette:**

The majority of our work in class will stem from information in Cheri Montgomery's book. Please have the book with you at every Zoom lecture. Diction is a complex subject, as it requires an understanding of phonetic sounds. Due to the complexity of the subject's nature, **unnecessary or distracting use of electronic devices including tablets, laptops, and cell phones will not be tolerated.** Generally, it is requested that you do not use your cell phones during a Zoom lecture. Please refrain from using distracting "virtual backgrounds" during course lectures, and mute your microphone upon entering the Zoom lecture, unless otherwise instructed.

#### **Etiquette/Procedure for Recording Submissions:**

On coaching/performance days, singers will be assigned to submit a high quality video recording which will be coached/viewed on Zoom. All students are required to attend and actively participate/remain engaged in their colleagues' performances. Please note that this is not a time to complete work for other classes or do work on your computer. It is important that we create an encouraging and supportive environment.

#### **On YOUR assigned Singing Day:**

Students must record and submit a high quality video recording of their song/aria at least 24 hours in advance of their assigned day to "sing in class." Please treat this like a true "in-class" performance: **wear appropriate attire** (jury/professional attire) and **test out the balance between the accompaniment and your voice** to be sure that both are clearly audible. At the beginning of your video, clearly announce your name, your song or aria and the composer.

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Additionally, before you sing, you will read your text (in character, dramatically) as a poem. I cannot stress enough to be sure that your recordings are high quality, and that they are something you feel confident in and proud of.

## GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

**A = 90%-100%**

**B = 80%-89%**

**C = 70%-79%**

**D = 60%-69%**

**F = 59% or Below**

## Assessments

Your final grade will be based on the following:

1.) Attendance and participation – 20%

Attendance and participation are required and expected in order to insure the course objectives will be met. One unexcused absence will be permitted. Daily attendance will be taken. Extenuating circumstances must be communicated to the instructor in a timely manner. In the case of absence, it is the student's responsibility to find out what he or she missed. Weekly language podcasts and various other listening assignments will be announced at the professor's discretion.

2.) Quizzes – 20%

Quizzes will be announced in advance and will cover material from class and assigned readings. Quizzes will be taken via D2L – Please note the specific time restraints – missed quizzes will not be made up.

3.) In-Class Coachings and Performances – 15%

4.) Assignments – 30%

Assignments will include IPA transcriptions, composer presentations, and listening assignments.

5.) Final Exam – 15%

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

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

LMS Requirements:

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

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## 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@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.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 TAMUC 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>

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me via email. I will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours.

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## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late work will be accepted, but the grade will be reduced by 10% per day that it is late.

Attendance and participation are required and expected in order to insure the course objectives will be met. One unexcused absence will be permitted. Daily attendance will be taken. Extenuating circumstances which result in absences must be communicated with the instructor **in advance via email**. Each unexcused absence (beyond the first, which is permitted) will result in a lowering on the final grade by 5%.

Missed exams and quizzes will only be made up if prior arrangements are made with the instructor.

### 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.

## University Specific Procedures

### Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

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

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## Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce 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](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## 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, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

## Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce 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.

## Campus Concealed Carry Statement

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Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce 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 A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

**A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students' Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct.**

**Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.**

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

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