

Course Outline for: MUSC 1190 Diction for Singers 1

A. Course Description

1. Number of credits: 2
2. Lecture hours per week: 2
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: None

Clear and expressive pronunciation is essential for performers in voice, choral conducting, and collaborative piano. Students explore the phonetic sounds of English and Italian through the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), gaining tools to interpret and perform sung texts accurately. Course materials include selections from art song and musical theater. Students engage in speaking and singing exercises to strengthen their diction and performance skills.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: December 2025

C. Outline of Major Content Areas

1. Identify and use International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
2. Practice English pronunciation and transcription to and from source language and International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
3. Practice Italian diction pronunciation and transcription to and from source language and International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
4. Speak and sing English and Italian art song texts in class

D. Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Understand and use the International Phonetic Alphabet
2. Demonstrate the ability to transcribe written English and Italian texts in IPA symbols
3. Demonstrate the ability to read and correctly pronounce English and Italian texts written in IPA symbols
4. Demonstrate the rules of pronunciation in sung English
5. Demonstrate the rules of pronunciation in sung Italian
6. Sing one classical English song demonstrating correct diction
7. Sing one classical Italian song demonstrating correct diction

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

Methods for assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Quizzes and homework on IPA symbols
2. Transcriptions of performance song lyrics into IPA
3. In class readings of texts

4. Produce a written critique of performance songs demonstrating correct pronunciation of sung English and Italian

F. Special Information

None