**Instructor**: Dr. Sandra McClain, Instructor of Music/Artist in Residence

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**Pre-Requisites:**  Must have two semesters of MVV Applied Voice at FAU and/or approval of the vocal area chair.

**Course Description:** A vocal music course in lyric diction, meeting twice weekly, covering the basic concepts of the International Phonetic alphabet and its application to English, Italian, German, French, Spanish, and Latin song literature.

**Course Objective:** In order to gain knowledge of the correct sounds of all vowels and consonants in the languages above, the students will learn the basic principles of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and how to transcribe song texts in IPA from the English, Italian, German, French, Spanish, and Latin song literature in order to facilitate proper lyric diction.

At the completion of the course students will:

1. Know the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) with corresponding sounds.

2. Be familiar with individual language sounds, their major characteristics, and common problems.

3. Be aware of accurate articulation and have the ability to write, read, and pronounce IPA transcriptions of words in the languages studied.

4. Understand the influence of the IPA on the development of the singing tone.

5. Learn to incorporate the above skills into the artistic performance of vocal literature.

**Required Texts:**

1. Wall, Joan, ed. *Diction for Singers: A Concise Reference for English, Italian, Latin, German, French and Spanish Pronunciation*, **2nd ed**. Caldwell Publishing Co., 2010. ISBN-13: 978-1934477700

2. Wall, Joan, *International Phonetic Alphabet for Singers: A Manual for English and Foreign Language Diction. , Caldwell Publishing Co., 1989* ISBN-13: 978-1877761508 (Workbook: must be NEW)

**Additional Resources:** Additional online resources and assignments will be posted on the course Blackboard website.

**Course Requirements**: Students are required to purchase the textbooks **at the beginning of the term** as they are essential to the coursework both in and out of class. Written and oral assignments will be made for each class meeting and are to be completed in order to reinforce the previous class work or prepare students for the new information. The different types of work required are outlined below under grading methods.

**Grading Methods**: The grade will be an average of the grades from the following items:

1. Tests on separate language sections
2. Comprehensive final Exam
3. Total points from daily quizzes. Each class in which there is no planned TEST/QUIZ will **begin** with a 5-point quiz taken from the homework assignments. The total points will constitute a single quiz grade at the end of the semester. Quizzes **cannot be made up** as a result of tardiness or absence.
4. Short tests on IPA sections.
5. Prepared song excerpts for intoned performance in class and assignments from text. End of chapter worksheets are to be turned in as assigned for a grade. Late homework will not receive full credit and will not be accepted unless cleared with the instructor first. No late work will be accepted after one week from the due date. Any such work will receive a grade of zero.
6. Attendance: Because of the aural and oral nature of this class, attendance is essential. The daily quiz points will ultimately reflect attendance. Class participation (being prepared when called on in class to answer questions, etc) is also expected, although it will not receive a separate grade. Being unprepared in class, however, will inevitably affect the extent to which the skills are learned and thus automatically be reflected in the final grade.

**Grading Policy:**

Grade calculation will be based on the following percentages:

50% Test grades

10% Quiz grade from daily 5-point quizzes

25% Homework assignmentsas detailed inCourse Outline posted on Blackboard

15% Final Exam

**Course Schedule:**

**DICTION FOR SINGERS**

**Part I: Learning the IPA and Introduction to Study of Diction for Singers**

Classes 1-7: Learning the International Phonetic Alphabet

**Part II: English**

Classes 8-9: The IPA and its application to the English language and song Class 10: Test on IPA and English usage

**Part III: Latin**

Class 11:The IPA and Latin language and song/choral literature

Class 12: Test: Latin

**Part IV: Italian**

Classes 13-15: The IPA and its application to Italian language and art song

Class 16: Test: Italian

**Part V: German**

Classes 17-20: The IPA and it application to German language and *lied*er

Class 21: German Test

**Part VI: French**

Classes 22-25 The IPA and it application to French language and *mélodie*

Class 26: French test

**Part VII: Spanish**

Classes 27-28: The IPA and its application to Spanish language and art song

Class 29: Spanish test

**EXAM REVIEW**: Class 30

CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM: to cover usage of IPA in all languages studied during the class. The exam will have both oral and written components.

**Additional grading policies:**

**Make up/ Late Work:** Assignments are expected to be completed by deadlines in syllabus. There will be no makeup work. Late work will not receive a grade higher than 89% and will not be accepted more than one week past the due date except in cases of documented illness or emergency. Tests and examinations must be taken on the assigned date. Only in extreme cases of documented illness or emergency will a student qualify for consideration for makeup tests.

**Attendance:**

3 unexcused absences will be allowed without penalty; however, late work resulting from an absence must follow the policy outlined above. In the case of documented illness, work will not be subject to the 89% restriction.

Every unexcused absence after the 3rd will result in one point deducted from the final average for the semester. Because of the aural and oral nature of this class, attendance is essential. The daily quiz points will ultimately reflect attendance. Class participation (being prepared when called on in class to answer questions, etc.) is also expected, although it will not receive a separate grade. Being unprepared in class, however, will inevitably affect the extent to which the skills are learned and thus automatically be reflected in the final grade.

**Grading Scale (minimum thresholds)**: A=93%=; A-=90%; B+=87%; \*B=83%; B-=80%, C+=77%,

C= 73%, C-=70%, D+=67%, D=63%, D-=60%, below 60%=F.

**Plagiarism Detection:** Each student is expected to complete his/her assignments and tests on their own.

Any essays, including possible extra credit, that are submitted will be filtered through SafeAssign or TurnitIn. Papers with an originality report of more than 25% non-original material will be referred to the Dean’s office for review. Plagiarism may result in academic warning, or in extreme cases, expulsion. In addition, the paper will be considered failed and receive a grade of zero. In the case of a possible extra credit assignment, the amount that could have been added will be taken away from the final grade.

**Classroom etiquette:**

* Students are expected to refrain from the use of handheld Internet or texting devices during class and may only use computers to aid in note taking. Should a student be found in violation of this etiquette, they will be asked to leave class and take the absence.
* Cell phones should be turned off.
* Food is not allowed in the classroom. Water is permitted.
* Out of courtesy to other students and to the professor, students are asked to arrive in a timely manner and remain for the entire class.

**Religious Holiday Accommodation:** The FAU policy of religious accommodation will be followed. Students who need such accommodation for a holiday that falls on a class day should make the request in writing in advance of the date.

**Incomplete Policy**: A grade of Incomplete will be assigned rarely and only in the case of extreme emergency or illness in accordance with the University policies.

**Course Communication:** All electronic communication must originate from a valid FAU email address. Course instructions and all materials will be posted on the course Blackboard website. Students are expected to check the site regularly between classes for instructions or other information. Not checking Blackboard does not excuse students from required work or knowledge of announcements that have been posted.

**Students with Disabilities:** Disability policy statement: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 240 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8010); or at the Treasure

Coast, CO 117 (772-873-3441) – and follow all OSD procedures. <http://osd.fau.edu/>

**Code of Academic Integrity**: *Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see* <http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/Reg_4.001_5-26-10_FINAL.pdf>