

**MUSC 18 Course Outline as of Fall 2012****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: MUSC 18 Title: DICTION/REP FOR SINGERS

Full Title: Diction and Repertoire for Singers

Last Reviewed: 12/6/2010

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	2.00	Lecture Scheduled	1.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	17.50
Minimum	2.00	Lab Scheduled	3.00	6	Lab Scheduled	52.50
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	4.00		Contact Total	70.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 35.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 105.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 34 - 4 Enrollments Total

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

Study of the literal translation, pronunciation, and interpretation of standard operatic and art song literature in Italian, English, German, and French.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

Completion of, or Concurrent Enrollment in MUSCP 17B (or MUS 17B); OR Concurrent Enrollment in MUSCP 40.2; OR Concurrent Enrollment in MUSCP 40.8; OR by Audition.

**Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Study of the literal translation, pronunciation, and interpretation of standard operatic and art song literature in Italian, English, German, and French. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Completion of, or Concurrent Enrollment in MUSCP 17B (or MUS 17B); OR Concurrent Enrollment in MUSCP 40.2; OR Concurrent Enrollment in MUSCP 40.8; OR by Audition.

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:  
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.  
Repeatability: 4 Enrollments Total

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Spring 2011	Inactive:	Fall 2016
<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Spring 2011	Inactive:	Fall 2016

### **CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**  
Not Certificate/Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Perform art song and operatic literature with correct singing pronunciation.
2. Use vocal techniques and musical interpretations appropriate to the style.
3. Research and explain the literal meaning of song and aria texts within their historical and cultural context.
4. Produce appropriate phonetic translations for the articulation of song and aria texts according to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the broad range of repertoire constituting the standard vocal literature of the languages studied.

Repeating students will focus on a different language each semester:

1. First semester: Italian
2. Second semester: English
3. Third semester: German
4. Fourth Semester: French

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Introduction to the International Phonetic Alphabet
  - A. Symbols for vowels
  - B. Symbols for consonants - voiced and unvoiced
- II. Pronunciation Rules and Guides for Individual Languages and Dialects
  - A. Italian
  - B. English
  - C. German
  - D. French
- III. Practical Applications
  - A. Deciphering texts
    1. Translations from reference sources

2. Using the dictionary
- B. Pronunciation vs. good vocal technique
  1. Vowels and consonants in relation to tessitura
  2. Pronunciation modifications for different applications
  3. Variations with respect to the student's own native language orientation
  4. Facial postures
- C. Literature and repertoire
  1. Music of the Bel Canto era and into the present
  2. The development of opera
  3. The art song and its history in Western music
- IV. Analysis and Evaluation of Recorded and Live Performances of Vocal Repertoire
  - A. Professional recordings by various artists
  - B. Internet research
  - C. Live concerts
- V. The Artist's Process
  - A. Literature selection
  - B. Preparing the text
  - C. Researching the historical context
  - D. The role of the coach and accompanist
  - E. Procedure and practice - stylistic and technical considerations
  - F. Stage deportment and traditions
- VI. Repeating students will focus on a different language each semester:
  - A. First semester: Italian
  - B. Second semester: English
  - C. Third semester: German
  - D. Fourth Semester: French

### **Assignment:**

(Relating to the language studied that semester, students will complete the following:)

1. Reading assignments in the text by chapter (10-20 pages/week).
2. Pronunciation practice of International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols and specific language sounds for Italian, English, German, and French.
3. Completion of worksheets analyzing the style elements of the composition of study.
4. Written analysis and critique of recorded performance of the composition of study.
5. Written work translating each word of the sung text into IPA pronunciation symbols.
6. Written translation (where appropriate) of the foreign language text into literal and also syntactically correct English.
7. Library research on the background and the historical context of the composition of study.
8. Optional attendance at live concerts and recitals by vocal performers, including operatic performances for extra credit.
9. In class performance of 3-4 arias and/or art songs to demonstrate the application of proper linguistic pronunciation skills.
10. Two to three exams (multiple choice or completion) on phonetic symbols and vocal music terminology.

### **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Translations of song texts, research reports, and critiques

Writing  
10 - 20%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Phonetic translations

Problem solving  
10 - 20%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Class performances and recitals

Skill Demonstrations  
40 - 60%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Phonetics Exams (completion, multiple choice)

Exams  
5 - 20%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and class participation

Other Category  
10 - 15%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Diction for Singers: A Concise Reference for English, Italian, Latin, German, French and Spanish Pronunciation. Wall, Joan et al. Pacific Isle Publishing: 2005.

Song: A Guide To Art Song Style And Literature. Kimball, Carol. Hal Leonard Corporation: 2006.

28 Italian Songs & Arias of the 17th & 18th Century (Med. High or Med. Low Voice). Walters, Richard, ed. Piano/vocal score with CD. G. Schirmer: 2008.

15 Recital Songs in English (High or Low Voice). Piano/vocal score with CD. Boosey & Hawkes: 1970 (classic).

Gateway to German Lieder. Paton, John Glenn (High or Low Voice). Piano/vocal score with CD. Alfred: 2000.

Favorite French Art Songs - Volumes 1 & 2 (High or Low Voice). The Vocal Library Vocal Collection Series. Piano/vocal score with CD. Hal Leonard: 1992 (classic).

Instructor prepared materials.