

**University of Central Florida
School of Performing Arts**

Italian and French Lyric Diction

Course Number: MUS 3254
Class time and location: MF 11:30-12:20 – M263
Instructor: Dr. Jeremy Hunt

Contact Information:

Instructor's Office: PAC M124
Instructor's Phone: (407) 823-3366
Instructor's E-Mail: Jeremy.Hunt@ucf.edu
Instructor's Office Hours: Posted on office door

Catalogue Listing:

PR: Major in Music or C.I. The study of Italian and French lyric diction as applied to art song and opera. CAH 2 (1,1)

Course Description:

Through the study and application of the International Phonetic Alphabet, (IPA) students will gain an understanding of the correct sung pronunciation of the Italian and French languages. As sung or lyric diction is often quite unique from the spoken language, this course is necessary for the classical vocalist wishing to sing in Italian and French.

Course Objective:

This course will enable the classical vocalist to sing in Italian and French with a high level of proficiency. There will be written, spoken, sung and auditory exercises for a proper understanding and implementation of the sung language.

Required texts:

Diction for Singers: A concise reference for English, Italian, Latin, German, French, and Spanish pronunciation – Joan Wall, Robert Caldwell, Tracy Gavilanes, Sheila Allen. Second Edition.

Grading:

Students will be graded on attendance, written tests, song assignments, and song presentations. Attendance is expected at every class session and a student will be considered 'tardy' if he or she should arrive more than 5 minutes late. Two 'tardy' classes will equal one absence. **After three unexcused absences, your grade will drop one letter with each subsequent unexcused absence.** Written work will not be accepted late unless there is an excused absence. There will be daily take home tests and two cumulative final exams to be done in class. Students will prepare four songs this semester.

Grading will be divided into the following percentages:

50% Homework assignments (Webcourses – Files)

10% Comprehensive written exams

10% Song assignments, speaking songs

10% Recording assignments

20% Final sung exam

Recording assignments:

You will record yourself speaking a text I provide and submit it on Webcourses.

Songs:

Each student will learn **two** Italian songs/arias and **two** French songs/arias to be presented in class during the semester. These songs should be chosen with the advice of your studio teacher. One Italian song and one French song will be sung in class and each must be memorized. The other songs will be spoken in class. For each song, students will make a copy of the music and write in the IPA (above) and word-for-for translation (below). UCF has a subscription to www.ipasource.com and it is available on campus. (Double check everything found here, as there are often errors.) Students must present one digital copy to the professor prior to performing the song. Note that the 'translations' often found in the music are for singing purposes only and are not truly word-for-word translations. **Students will sing 2 songs for the final exam; it is the students' responsibility to provide a pianist for this final exam.**

Email:

Check your "knights.ucf.edu" email every day!

MUS 3254 Italian and French Lyric Diction Tentative Schedule

Italian

- Jan 8** – Intro to course, go through chart of Italian sounds, find 2 Italian songs for singing/speaking portion of class, discuss pp. 56-67,
Jan 12 – **No class, FMEA**, Tests 1&2 for homework* (**recording assignment 1 due**)
Jan 15 – **MLK, No class**
Jan 19 - Discuss pp. 68-75, Test 3 for homework*
Jan 22 – Discuss pp. 76-87, Test 4 for homework* **IPA, translations due for Song 1**
Jan 26 – Discuss pp. 87-102, Test 5 for homework*
Jan 29 – Discuss pp. 103-113, Test 6 for homework*
Feb 2 – Discuss pp. 113-124, Test 7 for homework* Speak through song texts
Feb 5 – **Speak song 1**, Test 8, 9 and 10 for homework*
Feb 9 – **No Class, (recording assignment 2 due)**
Feb 12 – **Speak song 1**, Review for final written exam
Feb 16 – **Final comprehensive written exam, Italian**
Feb 19 – **IPA, translations due for Song 2**, Speak Italian texts, listening
Feb 23 – Speak Italian texts, listening
Feb 26 – **Speak song 2**
March 2 – **Speak song 2**

French

- March 5** – Go through chart of French sounds; find 2 French songs for singing portion of class, Discuss pp. 236-240, 249, Test 1 for homework*
March 9 – Discuss pp. 251-256, Test 2 for homework*
March 12 - **Spring Break**
March 16 - **Spring Break**
March 19 – Discuss pp. 241-243, Test 3 for homework* (**recording assignment 3 due**)
March 23 – Discuss pp. 245-249, Test 4 for homework*
March 26 – Discuss pp. 243-245, Test 5 for homework* **IPA, translations due for Song 1**
March 30 – Discuss pp. 256-258, Test 6 for homework* **Speak song 1**
April 2 – Discuss pp. 259-264, Test 7 for homework* **Speak song 1**
April 6 – Discuss pp. 264-273, Test 8 for homework* (**recording assignment 4 due**)
April 9 – Discuss pp. 273-285, Test 9 for homework* **IPA, translations due for Song 2**
April 13 – Discuss pp. 286-293, test 10 for homework* **Speak song 2**
April 16 – Discuss 293-304, test 11 for homework* **IPA, Speak song 2**, Speak French texts, listening, Review for final written exam
April 20 - Speak French texts, listening, Review for final written exam
April 23 – **Final comprehensive written exam, French**

April 27 – **Final Exam 10:00 – 12:50, Sing 1 Italian and 1 French song from memory**

*(all homework assignments are due at the beginning of the next class session and are available on Webcourses in “files”)

Students are expected to adhere to conduct rules established in The Golden Rule, available at <http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

The UCF Creed

Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

Integrity

I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.

Scholarship I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.

Community I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.

Creativity

I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.

Excellence

I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

This syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor.
Changes will be discussed in class and/or via email.