Course number and title:  MUP 372, Diction for Singers: English

Instructor:  Richard Berry, DMA
Professor of Music
rberry@sfasu.edu; Wright Music Building, room 258

Class meeting time and place:  section 001 – 2:00-2:50, TR; Music Building, room 153
section 002 – 3:30-4:20, TR; Music Building, room 153

Purpose of course:  The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the information, tools, and skills necessary to sing intelligibly and beautifully in English. Topics covered will include the International Phonetic Alphabet as it applies to English pronunciation, the rules and common practices of English diction, the application of these principles to English language songs and arias. This course is important for anyone who plans to work with singers – performers, studio teachers, public school and university teachers, and conductors.

Student Learning Outcomes:  This course will achieve the following Student Learning Outcomes –

The student will be able to accurately transcribe English song and aria texts into the International Phonetic Alphabet and accurately speak and sing these texts. The student will be equipped to perform the standard English language repertoire securely and artistically.

Textbooks:  Instructor generated materials will be made available in class and online. Other books, articles, and materials will be referenced and recommended during the semester.

Organization of the course:  Delivery of the course will include lecture, class discussion, outside reading, listening assignments, writing assignments, special assignments, online activities, demonstration teaching, quizzes and tests, and a final examination.
**Grading:** Final grade will be based on quiz grades, special assignment grades, test grades, and final examination grade. The categories will be weighted in calculation of the final grade as follows:

- Quiz grades – 10%
- Test grades – 30%
- Special assignment grades – 20%
- Final examination grade – 40%

**Attendance:** This is a “skills” class. You must attend class meetings in order to pass the course. Quizzes will be unannounced and special assignments will be done in class. If you miss more than about four class meetings, you probably will not pass the course.

**Academic Integrity:** Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated in this class. This includes engaging in plagiarism, copying assignments, receiving help on a test or quiz, and other such activities. If you cheat and I find out, you will receive an F in the course, subject to processes outlined in University Policy 4.1: *Student Academic Dishonesty*. You may read this policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf). If you have questions about this topic, please ask me.

**Students with disabilities:** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.
Tentative Calendar

January 22  International Phonetic Alphabet review
January 24  IPA test; diction for singing
January 29  Silent letters; two kinds of r and when to use them
January 31  Practice on rs
February 5  Test on rs; review
February 7  Voiced and voiceless consonants
February 12  Voiced and voiceless consonants
February 14  Class will not meet
February 19  Class will not meet
February 21  Test on voiced and voiceless consonants; review
February 26  “Liquid” consonants; linking and separating
February 28  “Bedbug”
March 5  Remainder of consonants; review
March 7  Exam on consonants; review
March 12  Intro to vowel sounds
March 14  The twelve vowel sounds
March 19  SPRING BREAK
March 21  SPRING BREAK
March 26  Review of the twelve vowel sounds
March 28  Test on vowel sounds; review
April 2  Diphthongs
April 4  Diphthongs
April 9  Triphthongs
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Triphthongs</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Test on diphthongs and triphthongs; review</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>“Putting it together”</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>Practice</td>
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<td>May 9</td>
<td>Review for final examination</td>
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<td>May 14</td>
<td>Section 001 – Final Examination, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>May 16</td>
<td>Section 002 – Final Examination, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.</td>
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