Course Number: MUSI-1160  
Instructor: Dr. Tod Fish
Course Name: Diction for Singers: Italian  
Office: 126b
Meeting Time: MW 3:00 - 3:50 (Class time remains the same if we go virtual)
Email: fishtod@sfasu.edu
Phone: 936.468.1148  
Office Hours: appointment

Location: Music Building Band Hall

***Instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus as deemed necessary***

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**Course Description**

1) One semester hour of Italian Diction 
2) A study of the phonetic vowel and consonant sounds of Italian and their relationship to one another

**Course Objectives**

As a result of taking this course:

1) Students will be able to transliterate and sing a given Italian text  
   (Transliterate: write or print (a letter or word) using the closest corresponding letters of a different alphabet or language) 
2) Students will be able to read, write, and pronounce the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as it applies to the sung Italian language 
3) Students will have a head start on singing expressively with idiomatic Italian diction

This course is new to all of you; please be patient. You will understand it in time. I am demanding in my grading, but always fair. I want you ALL to succeed and will do everything within my power to ensure that you do. You will earn your grade in this class. Don’t worry; the class is fun. Never hesitate to seek help when needed.

**Required Texts:**

All texts may be found at one of our three campus bookstores. Please feel free to get the book from Amazon!

Textbooks: Colorni, Evalina, *Singer’s Italian: A Manual of Diction and Phonetics*
Webster’s *New World Italian Dictionary*
Materials:
To mitigate the spreading of COVID - 19, the following materials will be assigned to you:
- One portable whiteboard (9x12)
- One dry erase marker
- One eraser

Protocols for class time:
- Check your temperature prior to entering (if it is above 99.9 you MUST NOT attend class) Thermometers are your responsibility
- Masks are mandatory and your responsibility
- Face shields (provided for you)
- You will be spaced out at least 10 feet from one another
- You will wipe down the chair upon which you are sitting before and after each class

SFA Covid-19 Mask Policy
MASKS (CLOTH FACE COVERINGS) MUST BE WORN OVER THE NOSE AND MOUTH AT ALL TIMES IN THIS CLASS, AND APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL DISTANCING MUST BE OBSERVED. STUDENTS NOT WEARING A MASK AND/OR NOT OBSERVING APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL DISTANCING WILL BE REPORTED TO THE OFFICE OF STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. STUDENTS WHO ARE REPORTED FOR MULTIPLE INFRACTIONS OF THE AFOREMENTIONED MANDATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS.

Grading:
Your overall grade will be dependent upon the number of points earned over the course of the semester. Points will be earned from:
- IPA quiz - (no notes allowed)
- Small quizzes - normally 5-10 questions (all open note)
- Two in-class transliteration projects (possibly delivered virtually)
- Two outside of class IPA transliteration projects
- Final Exam Written
- Final Exam performance
- There will be extra credit for those who need it

QUIZZES:
There will be small quizzes given at least once a week. They will be announced in the class before. A small review will also take place. Quizzes occur during the first minute of class and you will have 10 minutes to complete them. If you are ill, I will deliver the quiz to you virtually. These grades are small, so please do not panic if you are not doing well on them.
initially. You will make those points up after the midterm when the larger projects start to happen.

**IPA Quiz:** You will memorize the International Phonetic Alphabet and complete the quiz given to you. You must earn 100% on this quiz. You will take/retake the quiz as many times as needed.

**Written Final:** *Il combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda* by Monteverdi - Transliterate the text into IPA. Electronic delivery is mandatory.

**Transliteration projects:** The class will be given four transliteration projects (two outside of class and two in-class) over the course of the semester.

**Performance Final:** You will self-prepare *O del mio dolce ardor* by Gluck. Each performance will be scheduled individually and intoned (chanted) on a single pitch. The location of this portion of the final is TBD.

**Extra Credit:** You may submit a transliteration of Mozart's *Dalla sua pace* from *Don Giovanni*. 10 points maximum

**All:** This semester is going to be different, so I beg your forgiveness if things do not always go smoothly. We are all navigating through uncharted territory at this point in time. There will be times where we will go outside to check some sounds with the masks off. We will continue to follow appropriate social distancing protocols outdoors. Class outside sounds fun!

**EMAIL:**
Check your email multiple times a day. It is how we all will communicate with you. Make sure your D2L account is activated.

**Attendance:** There will be no attendance requirement this semester. All classes will be delivered in person and on Zoom. If you miss, you can catch the lecture in its webinar form. I must say this, if you miss class, you cannot ask questions and gain further understanding. This is on the honor system. I am trusting you to attend class in our hybrid situation. If you are too ill to watch online, communication is needed.

**Cell Phones:** NOT ALLOWED

**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, and 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
Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

**Academic Integrity:**

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

**Withheld Semester Grades**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Week 1 - 8/24, 8/26:**
Course introduction  
IPA introduction and practice  
Importance of diction course

**Assigned Reading:**

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<th>Week 1 - 8/24, 8/26</th>
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**Week 2 - 8/31, 9/2**
Vowels sounds in detail

**Assigned Reading:**

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**Week 3 - 9/7, 9/9**
**Wednesday, 9/9 - writing the letters quiz (open notes)**
Vowel sounds in detail continued

**Assigned Reading:**

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**Week 4 - 9/14, 9/16**
**Wednesday, 9/16 IPA QUIZ(NO NOTES)!!!**
Semiconsonants/semivowels

**Assigned Reading:**

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<th>Week 4 - 9/14, 9/16</th>
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Diphthongs/triphthongs

**Week 5 - 9/21, 9/23**
**QUIZ 1**
Consonants overview  pp. 7 - 8
Consonants in detail  pp. 45 - 50

**Week 6 - 9/28, 9/30**
**Wednesday, 9/30 QUIZ 2**
Consonants in detail  pp. 51 - 54
pp. 65 - 80

**Week 7 - 10/5, 10/7**
**Wednesday, 10/7 QUIZ 3**
Consonants in detail  pp. 80 - 97

**Week 8 - 10/12, 10/14**
**WEDNESDAY, 10/14 COMPREHENSIVE MIDTERM EXAM**
Consonants and vowel sounds review  pp. 97 - 101

**WEEK 9, 10/19, 10/21**
**MONDAY, 10/19 - Pass out O, mio babbino caro**
**TAKE HOME TRANSLITERATION PROJECT #1**
Due Wednesday, 10/21
Putting it all together  pp. 120 - 126

**WEEK 10 - 10/26, 10/28**
**Monday, 10/26 - Pass out Voi che sapete**
**TAKE HOME TRANSLITERATION PROJECT #2 - Voi che sapete**
Due Wednesday, 10/28
**Wednesday, 10/28 QUIZ 4**
PASS OUT - SE TU M'AMI for performance final
Putting it all together  pp. 126 - 139
Practice pronunciation

**Week 11 - 11/2, 11/4**
**Monday, 11/12 - In class transliteration project #1 - O del mio dolce ardor (20 minutes to complete)**
**Wednesday, 11/14 Quiz 5 - Transliteration project due**
Practice pronunciation  pp. 139 - 144

**Week 12 - 11/9, 11/11**
Monday, 11/9 - In class transliteration project #2 - *Laudi alla Vergine Maria* (25 minutes to complete)
Wednesday, 11/11 Quiz 6
Review for next week

**Week 13 - 11/16, 11/18**
**MONDAY, 11/16 REVIEW!**
Pass out: *Il combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda* (written final)
Wednesday, 11/18 - PERFORMANCE EXAM - *Se tu m'ami*

**WEEK 14**
THANKSGIVING BREAK!!!

**WEEK 15 - 11/30, 12/2**
REVIEW FOR WRITTEN FINAL
TIE Together all loose ends

**FINAL EXAM**
Due Friday, 12/11 10:00 a.m.