Course Number: MUSI 1160
Course Name: Diction for Singers: Italian
Meeting Time: TR 2:00 – 2:50 p.m.
Location: SOM 153

Course Description: A study of the phonetic sounds of Italian and their relationships to the rhythmic, melodic, and technical, and interpretive aspects of singing.

Course Objectives: As a result of taking this course, students will be able to accurately transcribe (using the International Phonetic Alphabet), speak, sing, and detect errors in a given Italian text.

Required Texts:
- Course Text/Workbook compiled by Instructor.
- Melzi, Robert C. The Bantam New College Italian and English Dictionary
  ISBN: 978-0-553-27947-7

Recommended Texts:
Cheek, Timothy & Anna Toccafondi. Perfect Italian Diction for Singers.

Attendance: As this course seeks to help the student develop skills as well as accumulate knowledge, consistent participation is essential. More than three unexcused absences will result in a progressive lowering of a student’s grade. Absences can be excused if an acceptable explanation is given to the instructor before the class to be missed. Exceptions can be made in the case of an emergency. In all cases, documentation concerning the absence is required and the student is responsible for all material covered in class. I can be contacted by phone, e-mail, etc.

Class Etiquette: Electronic devices are not allowed. If an emergency arises that should necessitate your answering a call, please quietly exit the classroom to do so. Please be respectful of your classmates in your interaction with them. Any commentary you make should always be relevant and constructive.

Quizzes: Whether given online or in class, all quizzes must be completed by the stated deadline.

Homework Assignments: All homework assignments must be submitted by the due date stated.

Course Calendar: Please note that this calendar is merely intended as a guide and that assignments and topics may be adjusted by the instructor as necessary in order to meet course goals and outcomes.

Grading: Your grade will consist of the following elements:

30% Quiz grades will consist of three types:

Written Quizzes, Performance Quizzes, and Random Lecture (in class & online) Verifications*.
* Random verifications will not be made up but you will receive one dropped grade.
Quizzes given in person and online will not be made up without prior notification and/or documentation.

20% Assignments/Homework:
Assignments/homework handed in late will receive a lowered score of no less than a letter grade. Assignments later than one additional class period will not be accepted.

15% Song Presentations:
Three songs will be intoned over the course of the semester with focus placed on diction and rhythm. The first one will be worth 5% and the second one will be worth 10%. (A third will be required as part of the Final Exam.)

10% Midterm Exam

25% Final Exam

There will be NO extra credit.

Test Policies/Procedures: Please note the following polices concerning missed/make-up testing:

- On test days, students are allowed to have only items deemed necessary by the instructor to complete the test. All other items must be placed on the floor underneath the tables behind them. (Students on the back row should place them on the back wall.)

- In the event a student misses a test or exam, in order for the instructor to consider a remediation, appropriate/approved documentation (university memo, doctor’s excuse on letterhead, etc.) will be required. **Without documentation, no make-up exam will be given.**

- If a student misses a test or exam, documentation is received, and the instructor determines that a make-up is warranted, the make-up test or exam will be scheduled at a time mutually agreed upon by the student and instructor. **If the student should cancel or fail to show for the make-up, no other make-ups will be given, and the student will receive a zero** for the test or tests missed.

- If a student misses a test or exam, **the process for a make-up must be initiated by the 3rd class after the missed test/exam date** after which no make-up will be given and the student will receive a zero for that test/exam.

Grade Appeal: If a student wishes to appeal a grade, they must submit a written request to the instructor within 72 hours of receiving the grade. In the request, the student should include their name, grade they are appealing (ex. – “grade on exam no. 3”), and items or elements they wish to be reviewed (ex. “I believe an error was made on question 7” or “I believe an error was made on line 9”).

E-mail: E-mail is recognized by the University as an official means of communication. Make sure your SFA and D2L accounts are activated. If necessary, see that these accounts are forwarded to a more active account (Hotmail, Yahoo, etc.). This can easily be done through mySFA and D2L. I use e-mail quite often—the student is responsible for all information sent by the instructor via e-mail!!
Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)

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. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

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 https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/4.1.pdf.

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

Mental Health Resources

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:

SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741