



**MUS 145-01E**  
**German Diction**  
**Course Syllabus: Fall 2024**

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## Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Matthew Schloneger
Classroom Location:	MUS 214
Office Location:	MUS 233
Office Hours:	Posted Outside of Office
Mobile Phone:	316-772-0726
University E-mail:	Matthew.Schloneger@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	Email
Communication Response Time:	24 hours

## Course Information

### Course Description

Teaches voice students the proper pronunciation and articulation of the German language. The students learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and application of this tool in the preparation and performance of solo vocal repertoire.

### Student Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will:

1. Transcribe German text into IPA symbols
2. Accurately read and sing German text with IPA symbols
3. Accurately read German text without IPA symbols, relying on the rules of German lyric diction learned throughout the course of the semester
4. Prepare word-by-word translations of German into English using resources discussed in class, focusing on understanding vocabulary and basic German grammar
5. Work to develop basic conversational German

### Required Textbook

German Lyric Diction Workbook by Cheri Montgomery

### Recommended Course Materials

Subscription to Spotify or Apple Music Streaming  
German/English Diction

## Course Requirements

### Instructional Methods

Instructional methods include lectures by the instructor and in-class coaching and performances.

### Assessments

Assessment will be based on attendance and participation, quizzes, in-class coachings and performances, assignments, and the final exams. Attendance is required. Quizzes will cover material from class and assigned readings. Quizzes missed due to unexcused absences will not be made up. Assignments will include listening/comprehension worksheets, worksheets prepared by the instructor, assignments from the required workbook, preparation of IPA transcriptions, and preparation of translations from German to English.

## Grading

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 59% and below

Final grades will be based on the following:

• Class Attendance & Participation:	75 points
• Homework Worksheets:	300 points
• Song Transcriptions (2 @ 50 points each):	100 points
• Class performances (2 @ 50 points):	100 points
• Quizzes (10 @ 20 pts):	200 points
• Tests (2 @ 75 points each):	225 points
• Final Performance	<u>75 points</u>
TOTAL	1000 points

## Course and University Procedures / Policies

### Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance

### Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation are required in order to insure that the course objectives will be met. One unexcused absence will be permitted. Attendance will be taken at each class. Extenuating circumstances regarding absence must be communicated to the instructor in advance. In the case of absence, it is the student's responsibility to find out what he or she missed. Each unexcused absence beyond the first will result in the lowering of the final grade by five percent. Missed exams and quizzes will only be made up if prior arrangements are made with the instructor.

## Late Assignments or Work

Late work is accepted but will result in a 50% deduction

## Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures: [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

## Additional policies at the discretion of the faculty member [optional]

### Classroom Etiquette:

The majority of our work in class will stem from information in Cheri Montgomery's book. The student must have the book with them at every class period. Diction is a complex subject, as it requires an understanding of phonetic sounds. Due to the complexity of the subject's nature, unnecessary or distracting use of electronic devices including laptops, tablets, and cell phones will not be tolerated.

### Etiquette/Procedure for Performance Days

On coaching/performance days, singers will perform their assigned repertoire for their peers. All students are required to attend and actively participate/remain engaged in their colleague's performances. Please note that this is not a time to complete work for other classes or to do work on your computer or cell phone. It is important that an encouraging and supportive environment is created.

### On Student's Assigned Singing Day:

Students must be prepared to sing in class on their assigned date. Please treat this like a true performance: wear appropriate attire (jury/professional attire). At the beginning of a performance, the student will clearly announce their name, their song or aria, and the composer. Additionally, before they sing, the student will read their text as a poem. Student's must email the instructor a word document (not a PDF) containing the text of their song/aria (see course schedule for date). The student must bring a clean copy of their music (double-checking that all of the notes in the piano and voice part are on the page) in a binder for the accompanist. Students should refrain from using plastic page protectors.

## Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, contact the Office of Student Disability Services at 903-886-5150, 903-886—5835; email [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu); online at [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#); or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

## Tenets of Common Behavior

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook);

## Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedure/s/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## Course Calendar

Date	Assignment	Quizzes, Exams, and Performances	Units Covered
Aug 27			Unit 1: Articulatory Phonetics Review
Aug 29	Unit 1: pages 7-8, 44	Consonant voicing quiz	Unit 2: [r] and [ʀ]
Sep 3	Unit 2: pages 12-19, 20	Vowel quiz	Unit 3: [ç] and [χ]
Sep 5	Unit 3: pages 24-31, 56	Points of articulation quiz	Review, page 32
Sep 10	Study for quiz, page 32	Units 2 and 3 quiz	Unit 4: [i:], [ɪ], [h], and [ʔ]
Sep 12	Unit 4: pages 36-43, 68	Manner of articulation quiz	Unit 5: [e:], [ɛ], [ə], [v] and [f]
Sep 17	Unit 5: pages 48-55		Unit 6: [u:], [o], [ʃ], [s], Eszett
Sep 19	Unit 6: pages 60-67		Unit 7: [o:], [ɔ], [z] and [ts]
Sep 24	Unit 7: pages 72-79		Review, page 80
Sept 26	Study for quiz, page 80	Units 4-7 quiz	Unit 8: [y:], [ʏ], [j], final <i>-ie</i> and <i>-ik</i> , page 92
Oct 1	Unit 8: pages 84-91, 92	Performance Class	Unit 9: [ø:], [œ], [ŋ] and [k], page 104
Oct 3	Unit 9: pages 96-103, 104	Singing quiz	Unit 10: [ɑ:], [a], [ɛ] and <i>th</i> , page 116
Oct 8	Unit 10: pages 108-115, 116	Exception words quiz	Unit 11: Diphthongs [ao], [æ], and [ɔø]
Oct 10	Unit 11: pages 120-127 Song Transcription 1	Performance Class	Review, page 128
Oct 15	Study for quiz, page 128	Units 8-11 quiz	Review for Midterm
Oct 17	Study for midterm	Midterm	
Oct 22		Performance Class	Unit 12: Multiple elements
Oct 24	Unit 12: pages 131-138	Performance Class	Unit 13: Open vowel prefixes
Oct 29	Unit 13: pages 141-148; Song Transcription 2	Performance Class	Unit 14: Closed vowel prefixes
Oct 31	Unit 14: pages 151-158	Performance Class	Unit 15: Suffixes
Nov 5	Unit 15: pages 161-168	Performance Class	Review, page 169; Unit 16: Inflectional endings
Nov 7	<b>No Class – Regional NATS</b>		
Nov 12	Study for quiz, page 169	Units 12-15 quiz	Unit 17: Truncated words

	Unit 16: pages 173-180		
<b>Nov 14</b>	Unit 17: pages 183-190	Performance Class	Unit 18: Compound words
<b>Nov 19</b>	Unit 18: pages 193-199	Performance Class	Review, page 200
<b>Nov 21</b>	Study for quiz, page 200	Units 16-18 quiz	Unit 19: Transcription within the phrase
<b>Nov 26</b>	Unit 19: pages 204-210	Performance Class	Unit 20: German art song literature
<b>Nov 28</b>	<b>No Class – Thanksgiving</b>		
<b>Dec 3</b>	Unit 20: pages 213-230 German art song		Review, pages 225-230
<b>Dec 5</b>	Study for final: pages 225-230	German Written Final	
<b>Thurs, Dec 12</b>	<b>10:30-12:30</b> Song Performance Final	Final Performance Exam	