



**MUS 144-01E**  
**Italian Diction**  
**Course Syllabus: Fall 2025**

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## Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Matthew Schloneger
Classroom Location:	MUS 214
Office Location:	MUS 233
Office Hours:	Posted Outside of Office
Cell Phone:	316-772-0726
University E-mail:	Matthew.schloneger@etamu.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 Italian and Latin languages. 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. Learn the basics of phonemes and International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
2. Transcribe Italian and Latin texts into IPA symbols
3. Accurately read and sing Italian and Latin text with IPA symbols
4. Accurately read and sing Italian and Latin text without IPA symbols, relying on the rules of Italian lyric diction learned throughout the course of the semester
5. Prepare word-by-word translations of Italian into English using resources discussed in class, focusing on understanding vocabulary and basic Italian grammar
6. Work to develop basic conversational Italian

### Required Materials

Italian Lyric Diction Workbook by Cheri Montgomery (STM Publishers)  
Free Duolingo Classroom Subscription

### Recommended Course Materials

Webster's New World Italian Dictionary

# 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 Italian to English.

## Grading

A = 900-1000 pts

B = 800-899 pts

C = 700-799 pts

D = 600-699 pts

F = 599 and below

Final grades will be based on the following:

• Class Attendance & Participation:	85 points
• Homework Worksheets (22 @ 10 pts)	220 points
• Weekly Duolingo Assignments (15 @ 8 pts)	120 points
• Song Transcription Projects (2 @ 50 points each):	100 points
• Class performances (2 @ 50 points):	100 points
• Quizzes (5 @ 30 pts):	150 points
• Tests (2 @ 75 points each):	150 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. For more information about the university's attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and Procedure:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalinformation/attendance.aspx>

### **Late Assignments or Work**

Students needing extra time to complete an assignment must communicate with the instructor in advance. A moment of forgetfulness is not a valid reason for a due date extension.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M University 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 POLICIES

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

### **Students with Disabilities**

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, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: <https://www.etamu.edu/student-disability-services/>

### **East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit <https://www.etamu.edu/counseling-center/>

### **Student Conduct and 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.

The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Current University Student Guidebook

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement:**

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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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.

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Technology Requirements**

#### **LMS**

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser

Support: [https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

### **Access and Navigation**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

### **Communication and Support**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### **Health and Wellness**

As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

## Course Calendar

<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>Quizzes/Exams/Performances</b>	<b>Chapters/Units Covered</b>
<b>Aug 26</b>	Course Introduction		Introduction to International Phoenetic Alphabet (IPA)
<b>Aug 28</b>	Bookmark <a href="http://ipa.typeit.org/">http://ipa.typeit.org/</a> ; <i>Italian Workbook</i> p. 8, Worksheet; IPA for Singers Ch. 4 Worksheet (Handout & D2L); Weekly Duolingo		Wall, Introduction, p. 1-11; <i>Italian Diction</i> Unit 1 - Vowels Vowel Quadrilateral;
<b>Sep 2</b>	IPA for Singers Ch. 5 Worksheet (Handout & D2L); Articulator phoneticsworksheet (D2L only); Plan Italian & Latin Semester Rep with your Applied Teacher		<i>Italian Diction</i> Unit 1 - Consonants – Manner & Place of Articulation
<b>Sep 4</b>	<i>Italian Workboook</i> p 7 Worksheet IPA for Singers Ch. 7 Worksheet); Weekly Duolingo	IPA Quiz	Phoneme Practice
<b>Sep 9</b>	Consonant worksheet TBD		Review for IPA Test
<b>Sep 11</b>	Study for IPA Test); Weekly Duolingo	IPA Test	Intro to Latin, Wall p. 125-135
<b>Sep 16</b>	Handout <i>Transcription Workbook</i> : pages 178-185		Latin Vowels Wall p. 137-142
<b>Sep 18</b>	Handout <i>Transcription Workbook</i> : Latin unit 27); Weekly Duolingo	Latin Performance Class	Latin Consonants, Wall p. 142-154 Study for Latin Quiz

<b>Sep 23</b>	Handout <i>Transcription Workbook</i> : Latin unit 28	Latin Quiz Latin Performance Class	
<b>Sept 25</b>	Intro to Italian); Weekly Duolingo		Wall, p. 51-56, <i>Italian Workbook</i> , p. 2-6
<b>Sept 30</b>		Vowel quiz	Unit 2: [i] and [j], <i>r</i>
<b>Oct 2</b>	Unit 2, pages 13-20 ); Weekly Duolingo		Unit 3: [e] and [ɛ], <i>s</i>
<b>Oct 7</b>	Unit 3, pages 24-31		Review
<b>Oct 9</b>	Study for quiz, p. 32); Weekly Duolingo	Transcription quiz	Unit 4: [o] and [ɔ], <i>h</i>
<b>Oct 14</b>	Unit 4, pages 39-46	Performance Class	Unit 5: [u] and [w], <i>z</i>
<b>Oct 16</b>	Unit 5, pages 50-57); Weekly Duolingo	Performance Class	Review
<b>Oct 21</b>	Study for quiz, p. 58	Transcription quiz Performance Class	Unit 6: [a], [ɲ], [ŋ], [ʎ]
<b>Oct 23</b>	Unit 6, pages 61-68); Weekly Duolingo	Performance Class	Unit 7: <i>c</i> , <i>g</i> , and <i>sc</i>
<b>Oct 28</b>	Unit 7, pages 72-79	Performance Class	Review
<b>Oct 30</b>	Study for quiz, p. 80); Weekly Duolingo	Transcription quiz Performance Class	
<b>Nov 4</b>	Performances Song Transcription 1 Due	Performance Class	
<b>Nov 6</b>	<b>No Class – Regional NATS)</b> Weekly Duolingo Due		
<b>Nov 11</b>	Performances	Performance Class	Unit 8: Phrasal diphthongs
<b>Nov 13</b>	Unit 8, pages 82-90); Weekly Duolingo	Performance Class	Unit 9: Phrasal triphthongs
<b>Nov 18</b>	Unit 9, pages 92-105	Performance Class	Review
<b>Nov 20</b>	Study for quiz, page 106); Weekly Duolingo	Transcription quiz Performance Class	Unit 10: Phrasal doubling, Review
<b>Nov 25</b>	Unit 10, art song assignment Review pp. 127-130 Song Transcription 2 Due		Appendix: Word structure/dictionary Review pp. 127-130
<b>Nov 27</b>	<b>No Class – Thanksgiving Break</b>		
<b>Dec 2</b>	Review); Weekly Duolingo	Make-Up Performance Class	Study for final, pp 127-130
<b>Dec 4</b>	Final Written Exam		
<b>Tues, Dec 9</b>	<b>10:30-12:30</b> (Final In-Class Performances)	Final Exam	