



**MUS 143 – 01E**  
**English Diction**  
**Course Syllabus: Spring 2026**

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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 English 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 English text into IPA symbols
2. Accurately read and sing English text *with* IPA symbols
3. Accurately read English text *without* IPA symbols, relying on the rules of English lyric diction learned throughout the course of the semester

### Required Textbooks

*English Lyric Diction Workbook, Rev. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*, by Cheri Montgomery  
*The Singers Manual of English Diction* by Madeline Marshall

### Recommended Course Materials

Subscription to Appcompanionist app

## 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:	75 points
• Homework Worksheets (20 @ 12 pts each):	240 points
• Class Presentation*	50 points
• Transcription Projects (2 @ 50 points each):	100 points
• Class performances (2 @ 50 points):	100 points
• Quizzes (7 @ 30 pts):	210 points
• Tests (2 @ 75 points each):	150 points
• Final Performance	<u>75 points</u>
TOTAL	1000 points

\* Each student will pick a chapter from Madeline Marshall's *The Singers Manual of English Diction* and will prepare to 10-minute presentation with visual aids to present to the class

## Course and University Procedures / Policies

### School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

### University Mission Statement:

East Texas A&M University provides a personal educational experience for a diverse community of life-long learners. Our purpose is to discover and disseminate knowledge for leadership and service in an interconnected and dynamic world. Our challenge is

to nurture partnerships for the intellectual, cultural, social, and economic vitality of Texas and beyond.

## **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.

## **Class Attendance Policy**

Your attendance is expected at each class. Two unexcused absences are allowed per semester. A student with more than two unexcused absences will receive a maximum letter grade of B. A student with more than six absences for any reason will receive an NC for the course. Two tardies count as one absence. Excused absences will require a note from an outside party explaining why class was missed. Or prior notification that you will need to miss class.

## **Late Assignments or Work**

Assignments handed in after the due date will have 10% of the grade subtracted for each day the work is handed in late.

## **ETAMU Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [13.99.99.R0.01 Class Attendance](#)  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

## **School of Music Engagement Expectations**

Students are expected to actively participate in all assigned components of this course. Active participation includes being present, engaged, responsive, cooperative, respectful, and professional. It may also include providing feedback, asking questions, and being supportive of class members and faculty during instruction time.

## **Student Expectations**

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes. Notification for excused absence must be received in advance. It is the individual student's responsibility to notify the instructor of a legitimate absence in advance. It is also the individual student's responsibility to acquire any missed notes and assignments from other students and/or the instructor.

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes by coming prepared and with all assigned materials. This course is a graduate research course. Bibliographical material, repertoire, library resources, applied techniques, as well as research techniques applicable to graduate study in music specific to flute/woodwind pedagogy will be surveyed and discussed. Be prepared to spend a significant amount of time doing research and review of materials outside of class.

Students are expected to demonstrate skills in pedagogy through their observation, analysis, discussion and feedback of the performances of other students. Students are expected to gain skills in this area by the observation of teaching techniques in their own private lessons and through the observation of teaching techniques of other students in studio class, guest artist classes on campus, and optional conference attendance or optional observations of master teachers online. Students will need to submit teaching videos and acquire a waiver from the student(s) in their videos.

## **Texas Education Code – Music Education**

*This course content is aligned with the standards established by the Texas Education Code, covering areas such as Music, the Commissioner's Rules, Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities, Technology, and English Language Proficiency. To review these standards, please visit the Music Education Program D2L Shell and select "Standards and Objectives."*

## **Musician Health and Safety**

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](#)

## **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:

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

[13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty](#)

## **AI use policy**

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

## 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](mailto: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>

[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/>

## **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@etamu.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu); online at [Student Disability 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to [34.06.02.R1 Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## Course Calendar

Note: EDLW = English Lyric Diction Workbook  
SMED = The Singer's Manual of English Lyric Diction

Due Date	Chapters/Units Covered	Assignment Due	Quizzes/Exams/Performances
Jan 13	Syllabus; Unit 1 IPA Review	Purchase your textbooks and bring them to class	
Jan 15	ELDW Unit 2: <i>r</i> ; SMED ch.1-8 pp. 1-30 & ch.19 pp. 95-97	ELDW Unit 1, pp 7-8	Articulatory Phonetics Review Quiz
Jan 20	ELDW Unit 3: Fricatives and affricates; SMLD ch. 18 pp. 80-86 & ch 23-26 pp. 107-119	ELDW Unit 2, 12-16	
Jan 22	ELDW Unit 4: Front vowels & consonants, SMLD ch. 4 pp. 32-39 Review: page 28	Study for quiz, ELDW Unit 3, pp 21-25	Transcription quiz Units 1-3

Jan 27	ELDW Unit 3 & 4: Transcription within the phrase; SMLD ch. 14 pp. 64-67 & ch. 20 pp. 98-100	ELDW p. 58	
Jan 29	Review & Song Transcriptoin 1	Submit Song Transcription 1 on D2L	Song Transcription 1
Feb 3	Performance Class	ELDW Unit 3 &4 Phrasal transcriptions general and with [ŋ]: Submit on D2L	Performance Class
Feb 5	ELDW Unit 5: Back vowels; SMEP Appendix 1, pp. 196- 197	ELDW Unit 4, pp 33- 40, 28	
Feb 10	ELDW Unit 5: [j][w][ɹ]; SMLD ch. 7 pp. 27-28, ch. 22 101-102	ELDW Unit 5, pages 47-54	
Feb 12	ELDW Unit 6: Central vowels; SMEP ch. 40- 44 pp. 146-162	2 <sup>nd</sup> column ELDW Unit 5, pages 47-54	Transcription Quiz Units 4-5
Feb 17	<b>NO CLASS -TMEA</b>		
Feb 19	ELDW Unit 7: Unsressed syllables and lip consonants; SMED ch. 10-11 pp. 40-47	ELDW Unit 6, pages 63-70	
Feb 24	[m], [n] & [l] within the phrase; ELDW Units 5&6; SMLD ch. 13 &15 pp. 56-63 & 68-73	ELDW Unit 7 pp. 72- 79	
Feb 26	ELDW Unit 8: Diphthongs, k & g; SMED ch. 16 pp. 74- 79	Study for quiz; ELDW p. 87	Transcription quiz Units 6--7
Mar 3	Review for Midterm	ELDW Unit 8, pages 92-99	Performance Class
Mar 5	Midterm	Study for Midterm	Midterm Exam
<b>Mar 9- 13</b>		<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	

Mar 17	Latin & Italian Review		
Mar 19	Italian Review	Latin & Italian Review Assignment	Latin & Italian Quiz
Mar 24	Overview of English Dialects		
Mar 26	English Dialects (cont)		Performance Class
March 31	[f] & [v]: ELDW Unit 7 & 8; SMED ch. 12 pp. 48-55	TBD Dialects Assignment	Performance Class
April 2	Diphthongs & Triphthongs: ELDW Unit 9; SMED ch. 45-47 pp. 165-184	ELDW Unit 7 & 8 Phrasal transcriptions of [f] & [v]	Performance Class
April 7	[w] in the phrase & [h] : SMED ch. 21-22 pp. 103-104	ELDW Unit 9, pages 107-114	Transcription Quiz Units 8-10; Performance Class
April 9	When to sing[æ] and [ɑ]: ELDW Unit 10; SMLD ch. 44 pp. 163-164 & ch. 48 pp.185-191, Appendix 2	ELDW Unit 9 Phrasal transcriptions of [w]	Performance Class
April 14	Final b, d & g: ELDW Unit 10; SMED ch.17 pp. 80-86	ELDW Unit 10 Spelling, pp 120-127	English Art Song Performance Class
April 16	SMED ch. 27-28, pp. 120-121Review, Performance Class	Study for quiz	Transcription quiz, Performance Class
April 21	Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM) Diction	ELDW Unit 10 IPA, pp 120-127 (upload to D2L)	
April 23	CCM Diction Performance Class	CCM Song Transcription	CCM Performance Class; CCM Transcription Due
April 28	Review for final	Homework review	Performance Class
April 30	Final Written Exam	Study for final	English Exam
Tues, May 7, 10:30-11:30	Final Singing Exam	Perform 1 English Song in Class	English Singing Exam