



MUS 144-01E
Italian Diction
Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Matthew Schloneger
Classroom Location:	MUS 214
Office Location:	MUS 233
Office Hours:	Posted on D2L and 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:	80 points
• Homework Worksheets (20 @ 10 pts)	200 points
• Weekly Duolingo Assignments (14 @ 6-8 pts)	110 points
• Song Transcription Projects (2 @ 40 points each):	80 points
• Class performances (2 @ 50 points):	100 points
• Quizzes (6 @ 30 pts):	180 points
• IPA Test	75 points
• Italian Final Exam	100 points
• Final Performance	<u>75 points</u>
TOTAL	1000 points

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 nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

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

Course Attendance Policy

It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor at least 24 hours in advance if you are going to miss a lesson. Make-up lessons will be given at the instructor's discretion, only with proper notice. If a student does not show for a lesson, without contacting the instructor, the lesson **will not** be made-up. A student may have only **one unexcused** absence per semester without it affecting their grade. Following the first absence, each subsequent unexcused absence will result in the reduction of one letter grade for the semester. A student may only have **three absences total** (excused or unexcused) in a regular long semester. After the third absence, the student may receive a failing grade for the semester. Please contact me if you have a special circumstance before you reach your absence quota. If I am unable to teach your lesson, I will notify you via email, text, or phone call in advance, and will make it up at a later time.

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>

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.

School of Music Engagement Expectations

ENGAGEMENT

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.

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.

CIVILITY

All students are expected to 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 Student Guidebook: <https://www.etamu.edu/student-code-of-conduct>. The tenets apply to all communication to the instructor and your classmates.

Demonstrate commitment to your course of study by contributing thoughtfully to class discussions, turning in assignments in a timely manner, being prompt and dependable, supporting your peers and the instructor, and accepting critiques graciously. Be open-minded about other's opinions and thoughts, encouraging them

to stretch their boundaries and take risks, and listen attentively to their performances. Cell phones should be turned off before class begins and concealed from view throughout the duration of the class period.

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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."

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a fundamental expectation of this course and of the School of Music. Students are expected to complete all assignments honestly and to submit work that represents their own knowledge, effort, and creativity. Any form of academic dishonesty undermines the learning process and is inconsistent with the ethical standards expected of university students and future music professionals.

Students found responsible for cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic misconduct will receive a grade penalty, which may include a zero on the assignment or examination, a failing grade for the course, or other sanctions at the instructor's discretion, consistent with university policy. Incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Dean of Students and may result in additional disciplinary action.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Using unauthorized materials, devices, or assistance during quizzes, tests, or examinations.
- Receiving unauthorized help on assignments, papers, projects, or other coursework.
- Obtaining or distributing examination materials without permission.
- Submitting the same paper or project for more than one course without the prior approval of all instructors involved.
- Collaborating on work intended to be completed individually.
- Any action intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Presenting another person's words, ideas, research, or creative work as your own without proper acknowledgment.
- Using direct quotations or paraphrased material without appropriate citation.
- Submitting work prepared wholly or in part by another individual or commercial service.
- Failing to properly credit sources, whether published, unpublished, or obtained through digital media.

Unless explicitly authorized by the instructor, all submitted work must be created by the student(s) enrolled in the course. Students may not hire another person or company to complete coursework on their behalf.

Students who are uncertain whether a particular resource or type of assistance is permitted should consult the instructor **before** submitting the assignment.

For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

- [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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.

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universitymenu

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 TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your "myLeo" mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EMAILS WITH INSTRUCTOR:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Schloneger)
- Proper email etiquette (no "text" emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

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>

CWID AND PASSWORD

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TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES

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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, please contact: `

Student Disability Services
East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu
Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

Please note that faculty members are unable to make accommodations unless they have received a letter from SDRS.

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.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

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 ETAMU 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.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

EAST TEXAS A&M SUPPORTS STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH – COUNSELING SERVICES

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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/>.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service

available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code or go to https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download_app to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.

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: <https://www.etamu.edu/music/musician-health-and-safety/>



Course Calendar

Due Date	Assignment Due	Quizzes/Exams/Performances	Chapters/Units Covered
Aug 20	Course Introduction		Introduction to International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
Aug 25	Bookmark http://ipa.typeit.org/ ; <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;
Aug 27	IPA for Singers Ch. 5 Worksheet (Handout & D2L); Articulator phonetics worksheet (D2L only); Plan Italian & Latin Semester Rep with your Applied Teacher		<i>Italian Diction</i> Unit 1 - Consonants – Manner & Place of Articulation
Sep 1	<i>Italian Workbook</i> p 7 Worksheet IPA for Singers Ch. 7 Worksheet); Weekly Duolingo	IPA Quiz	Phoneme Practice
Sep 3	Consonant worksheet TBD		Review for IPA Test
Sep 8	Study for IPA Test); Weekly Duolingo	IPA Test	Intro to Latin, Wall p. 125-135
Sep 10	Handout <i>Transcription Workbook</i> : pages 178-185		Latin Vowels Wall p. 137-142
Sep 15	Handout <i>Transcription Workbook</i> : Latin unit 27); Weekly Duolingo	Latin Performance Class	Latin Consonants, Wall p. 142-154 Study for Latin Quiz
Sep 17	Handout <i>Transcription Workbook</i> : Latin unit 28	Latin Quiz Latin Performance Class	
Sept 22	Intro to Italian); Weekly Duolingo		Wall, p. 51-56, <i>Italian Workbook</i> , p. 2-6
Sept 24		Vowel quiz	Unit 2: [i] and [j], <i>r</i>
Sept 29	Unit 2, pages 13-20); Weekly Duolingo		Unit 3: [e] and [ɛ], <i>s</i>

Oct 1	Unit 3, pages 24-31		Review
Oct 6	Study for quiz, p. 32); Weekly Duolingo	Transcription quiz	Unit 4: [o] and [ɔ], <i>h</i>
Oct 13	Unit 4, pages 39-46	Performance Class	Unit 5: [u] and [w], <i>z</i>
Oct 15	Unit 5, pages 50-57); Weekly Duolingo	Performance Class	Review
Oct 20	Study for quiz, p. 58	Transcription quiz Performance Class	Unit 6: [a], [ɪ], [ɛ], [ʌ]
Oct 22	Unit 6, pages 61-68); Weekly Duolingo	Performance Class	Unit 7: <i>c, g, and sc</i>
Oct 27	Unit 7, pages 72-79	Performance Class	Review
Oct 29	No Class – Regional NATS) Weekly Duolingo Due		
Nov 3	Study for quiz, p. 80); Weekly Duolingo	Transcription quiz Performance Class	
Nov 5	Performances Song Transcription 1 Due	Performance Class	
Nov 10	Performances	Performance Class	Unit 8: Phrasal diphthongs
Nov 12	Unit 8, pages 82-90); Weekly Duolingo	Performance Class	Unit 9: Phrasal triphthongs
Nov 17	Unit 9, pages 92-105	Performance Class	Review
Nov 19	Study for quiz, page 106); Weekly Duolingo	Transcription quiz Performance Class	Unit 10: Phrasal doubling, Review
Nov 24	Unit 10, art song assignment Review pp. 127- 130 Song Transcription 2 Due		Appendix: Word structure/dictionary Review pp. 127-130
Nov 26	No Class – Thanksgiving Break		
Dec 1	Review); Weekly Duolingo	Make-Up Performance Class	Study for final, pp 127-130
Dec 3	Final Written Exam		
Tue, Dec 8	10:30-12:00 (Final In- Class Performances)	Final Exam	