

Syllabus  
MUAG 1909-001—ITALIAN DICTION for SINGERS  
Fall 2022

Instructor: Jennifer Lane  
Classroom: 324

Time: Monday/Wednesday, 11:00-11:50 pm  
Office Hour: by appointment

**I. PURPOSE:**

To learn the proper choice of speech sounds for Italian lyric diction and to accurately form and enunciate words and phrases from Italian classical vocal literature.

**Topics:**

- A. The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
- B. Consonant/vowel flow in speech and singing
- C. Apocope and Phrasal Doubling
- D. Transcription and translation of lyrics

**II. OBJECTIVES:**

**To demonstrate comprehension through:**

- A. Presence and participation in class
- B. Achievement of proficiency with IPA through daily workbook checks, classwork, homework assignments, and quizzes
- C. Accurate enunciation and expression of Italian lyric words and phrases
- D. Achievement of competency on written exams, quizzes, and through sung and spoken performances in class

**III. REQUIRED TEXTS:** Montgomery, Cheri. *Italian Lyric Diction Workbook*, 3rd edition and *Bantam New College Italian and English Dictionary*. Must be in hand on first day of class.

**IV. RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:**

*Cassell's Italian-English, English-Italian Dictionary* (Willis Library)  
Adams, David. *A Handbook of Diction*, second edition  
Montgomery, Cheri, *Phonic Readings for Lyric Diction*

**V. ABSENCE AND TARDY POLICY:**

Classroom instruction and student participation are crucial to success in this course. Attendance is required. Daily quizzes and class work may *not* be made up in the event of an *unexcused* absence. *Excused* absences due to illness or family emergencies must be accompanied by a note from the doctor or other authorized person and I must be notified by 9:00 am via email. If daily class work or a quiz is late due to an *excused* absence, it should be made up by the next class session with the excused absence date noted on it. One point will be taken off the final grade for every *unexcused* absence. Three tardies are equal to one absence.

**VI. METHODS FOR EVALUATING ACHIEVEMENT:**

- 1. Homework 40%
- 2. Quizzes 30%
- 3. In-Class Participation, Spoken Recitations and Song/Aria Presentations 30 %
- 4. Each *unexcused* absence: 1 point deduction from final grade. Perfect Attendance: +5% extra credit

**VII. GRADING SCALE:**

A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = less than 60%, I = Incomplete,  
W = Withdrawal, WF = Withdraw Fail.

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**IN CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADE** Participation is expected. The format of our class is a lab setting. The interactive nature of our work together requires certain guidelines. Students are expected to maintain the same manner of respect for others as is required in the lecture setting. Deficiencies in this area may lower the final grade.

- 1) Arrive on-time, do not leave during class, unless there is an emergency
- 2) No food, gum, candy or beverage (except water) is allowed in classroom
- 3) It will be necessary for the entire class to discuss Diction rules and enunciate in small groups. All conversation is to remain on-topic. Side conversations are to be avoided.
- 4) Recitation errors are more exposed in the lab setting. Be sensitive to others' feelings. I will not allow students to make comments in a critical manner about each other's work (in-class errors are fewer from those who carefully prepare each homework assignment). Students may feel exposed at times but we all learn from one another and everyone's experience and background is different. Questions benefit the whole class.

| Week         | Monday                                                                                             | Wednesday                                                                                         |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 29    | Intro to Italian Diction, Syllabus, IPA; Classification of Symbols, Linguistic terms, accent marks | Unit 2: Dental consonants, Flipped and Rolled [r], Closed front [i] and Semi-consonant [j]        |
| September 5  | No Class - Labor Day                                                                               | Unit 3: Closed front [e], Open front vowel [ɛ], Plosive consonants                                |
| September 12 | <b>Quiz</b> Units 1-3                                                                              | Unit 4: Double consonants, Closed back vowel [o] Open back vowel [ɔ], Truncation, Apostrophe      |
| September 19 | Unit 5: Division of syllables, closed back [u] and glide [w]                                       | Review Units 4-5                                                                                  |
| September 26 | <b>Quiz</b> Units 4-5                                                                              | Unit 6: Bright [a], Velar nasal, Prepalatal nasal, Prepalatal lateral                             |
| October 3    | Review Unit 6                                                                                      | Unit 7: Rules for c, g, sc                                                                        |
| October 10   | Review Unit 7                                                                                      | <b>Quiz</b> Units 6-7                                                                             |
| October 17   | Unit 8: Syllabic Vowel within the Phrase; Phrasal Diphthongs                                       | Unit 9: Syllabic Vowel within the Phrase-Monosyllables; Phrasal Triphthongs and Double Diphthongs |
| October 24   | Review Units 8-9                                                                                   | <b>Quiz</b> Units 8-9                                                                             |
| October 31   | Unit 10: Phrasal Doubling                                                                          | Review Unit 10                                                                                    |
| November 7   | Review Units 1-10                                                                                  | <b>Quiz</b> Units 1-10                                                                            |
| November 14  | Transcriptions due, Recitations                                                                    | Recitations                                                                                       |
| November 21  | Using the Italian Dictionary                                                                       | No Class - Thanksgiving                                                                           |
| November 28  | <b>Song Presentations</b>                                                                          | <b>Song Presentations</b>                                                                         |
| December 5   | Song Presentations, if needed                                                                      |                                                                                                   |

Please see me if you need help with this course. I will always be happy to schedule an appointment with you. To make an appointment, please send me an email that includes your free times. You can also email me questions you have about the class or about assignments. Please include your name in the email. If I do not reply within a day, please resend your email. My email address is [Jennifer.lane@unt.edu](mailto:Jennifer.lane@unt.edu)

**NB.** This course will require paper homework. Please first photocopy the pages in the book, then fill in the homework. Assignments will be stated in class, not posted online. This course will only use CANVAS for posting the syllabus and noting attendance, *not* for posting grades. Student homework and quizzes will be returned with grades noted. Students are expected to use the returned homework as needed to improve their subsequent work and to keep track of their own homework and quiz grades if they wish to do so.

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**EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Excused absences include official University or College of Music activities, medical emergencies, and illnesses. If you have traffic problems or other family emergencies, please email me. Excused absences do not count against your attendance or lower your grade. Absences to work a job are NOT excused absences. If you have a chronic medical condition that might affect your class attendance or performance, please see the Office of Disability Accommodations. But please email me or give me a copy of the documentation for your excused absence from the Dean of Students Office or the Music Office, because I do not always receive them directly from these offices. If you are ill, please email me as soon as possible, and when you return to class, show me your doctor's excuse. But please do not provide me with information about your medical condition, because of federal privacy laws. If you have an emergency and expect to be absent for several weeks, please contact the Dean of Students Office, which will take your information and notify the faculty. Please email me once a week with an update on when you expect to return to class.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

Must be turned in on the day due. If you do not understand how to complete an assignment, see me for help before the assignment is due. You can turn in an assignment late for full credit if you had an excused absence. Please reference on the assignment why you are submitting it late.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

**STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Examples include but are not limited to: separate conversations, giggling, passing notes, making noise, doing other work, texting on a phone, distracting glances or gestures, etc. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT**

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at [my.unt.edu](https://my.unt.edu). All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](https://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

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**ODA STATEMENT**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: [disability.unt.edu](https://disability.unt.edu). (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

**UNT POLICY ON DIVERSITY**

UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.

See: [Diversity and Inclusion](#)

Link: <https://idea.unt.edu/diversity-inclusion>

**HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION**

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

See: [Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

**Academic Calendar, Fall 2022**

See: [Fall 2022 Calendar and Registration Guide](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide>

**Final Exam Schedule**

See: [Fall 2022 Final Exam Schedule](#)

<https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall>

**FINANCIAL AID AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

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If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

#### Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

#### RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

#### COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor whose position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Issues](#)

Link: <https://speakout.unt.edu>.

The counselor for music students is:

Myriam Reynolds

Chestnut Hall, Suite 311

(940) 565-2741

[Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu](mailto:Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu)

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**ADD/DROP POLICY**

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. After the 12<sup>th</sup> class day, students must first submit a completed “Request to Drop” form to the Registrar’s Office. The last day for a student to drop a class in Fall 2022 is November 18. Information about add/drop may be found at:  
See Academic Calendar (listed above)

**STUDENT RESOURCES**

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

(Note: A printer-friendly PDF version is available by clicking the green button on the home page)

**CARE TEAM**

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>

Updated August 2022