**French Lyric Diction (MUAG 1906-001/MUAG 5910-709) — Spring 2025**

**SYLLABUS**

Mon/Wed — 11:00-11:50 AM — Room MU 232

**Prof. WILLIAM JOYNER**

MU 351 — Cell: 203-788-3642 — E-mail: [william.joyner@unt.edu](mailto:william.joyner@unt.edu)

**Office Hours: TBD**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will teach the correct pronunciation, enunciation, and phonetic transcription of the French language, all for the purpose of expressive singing of French language repertoire. Students will become proficient in the use and understanding of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). I will also seek to provide context as well as technique, i.e. the “why” as well as the “how” of French lyric diction.

**TEXTS**

* *French Lyric Diction Workbook (Fourth Edition)* by Cheri Montgomery. **This is a required text.** Students will not be allowed to take the first quiz on February 8, 2023 if they have not purchased the book by that date: They will receive a grade of zero for that quiz.
* *Bantam New College French/English Dictionary*.  **This is a suggested text.**

**GRADING AND ATTENDANCE:**

**Grading Scale:** A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = Below 60%

- **Homework:** 25% of the final grade — Twenty-five (25) written homework assignments during the semester, each graded either Pass or Fail (70% correct or higher = passing). Each assignment will be worth 1% of the final grade: A grade of “P” earns the percentage point; a grade of “F” does not. Homework turned in after the deadline will not be accepted up to 24 hours after its deadline, but only for half-credit.

- **Quizzes (4):** 40% of the final grade (each quiz is 10% of the final grade)

- **Song Presentation:** 10% of the final grade.

In consultation with your teacher, choose a French song that you will perform in class (and thus prepare for your jury). This song is to be performed from memory at the end of the semester.

- **Final Examination:** 25% of the final grade. This will take place on Monday, May 5, 2025 in Room MU 232.

- **Attendance:** With a few exceptions (listed below), there will be NO ATTENDANCE POLICY for this course. Each student is solely responsible for their own success: Those who attend class, participate, and complete the homework and musical components of the course will succeed. Those who do not, will not.

- **Absences on Quiz or Song Presentation Days:** If you are absent on the day of a quiz, you will be allowed to make up that quiz *at the instructor’s discretion*. The same policy will be in effect for the song performance, but note that these are harder to reschedule because there are only two performance dates for the songs. Notify Prof. Joyner *immediately* if an issue arises that could cause you to be absent on your performance days!!!

- **Video:** All “in-class coaching” class meetings will be video-recorded, and these recordings will be made available to the students via a shared folder in my OneDrive. The purpose for this is so that students may review my diction suggestions and incorporate them into their performances. All performances will be video-recorded.

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS:**

* Please communicate with me by UNT e-mail, at the address listed above. You may use the cell phone number in an emergency, but this should be your second choice.
* No food or drink except bottled water, please.
* This will be a fast-moving course, so proper preparation AND ATTENDANCE is essential to success. As stated above, those who show up and do the work will succeed: Those who do not will not.
* When preparing translations, do yourself a favor and take the time to use a real dictionary, not an online translator. I will be able to tell the difference, and you will learn the material better because you will be able to see the IPA in your dictionary as well as create a translation for your piece that makes sense to *you*, rather than to some computer system’s algorithms.
* Arrive on time. If you need to excuse yourself from class, do so discreetly.
* Other than using a laptop or tablet to take notes, there should be no use of mobile devices during class. All devices must be turned to silent and stored away during class time. The first time you are caught using a device during class, you will receive a warning. The second time you are caught using a device during that same class, you will be told to leave. Should you be told to leave the classroom more than twice during the semester, your final grade will be lowered by ONE FULL LETTER GRADE.
* I will be available for extra help during office hours or by appointment.

**SCHEDULE (\*\* = homework will be assigned):**

January 13: Introduction, General Concepts, Discussion of Syllabus & Course Objectives

15: Primer on French Grammar & Unit 1 - Introduction

22: Unit 2 – Glides [ i ] and [ j ]\*\*

27: Units 3 & 4 – Closed Front [ e ] and Open Front [ ɛ ]\*\*

29: Units 5 & 6 – Bright [ a ] and Dark [ ɑ ]**\*\***

February 3: **QUIZ #1** – 30-min. quiz on Units 1-6 & Begin Unit 7 — Open Back [ ɔ ]\*\*

5: Units 7 & 8 – Open Back [ ɔ ] and Closed Back [ o ]\*\*

10: Units 9 & 10 – Closed Back [ u ] and Closed Mixed [ y ]\*\*

12: Units 11 & 12 – Closed Mixed [ ø ] and Open Mixed [ œ ]\*\*

17: Unit 13 – Schwa [ ǝ ]\*\*

19: Unit 13 – Schwa [ ǝ ] (cont.)\*\*

24: Review Units 11-13\*\*

26: **QUIZ #2** – 30-min. quiz on Units 7-13 and Begin Unit 14 (Dark Nasal [ ɑ̃ ]\*\*

March 3: Units 14 & 15 – Dark Nasal [ ɑ̃ ] and Closed Back Nasal [ õ ]\*\*

5: Units 16 & 17 – Open Front Mixed Nasal [ ɛ̃ ] and Open Front Mixed Nasal [ œ̃ ]

10: NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

12: NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

17: Review Units 14-17 – All Nasal Vowels\*\*

19: **QUIZ #3** – Units 14-17\*\*

24: Unit 19 – Unit 18 – Semiconsonants [ j ], [ w ], and [ ɥ ]\*\*

26: Unit 19 – Consonants\*\*

31: Unit 20 – Liaison & Elision\*\*

April 2: Unit 20 – Liaison & Elision (cont.)\*\*

7: Unit 21 – Forbidden and Compulsory Liaison\*\*

9: Unit 21 – Forbidden and Compulsory Liaison (cont.)\*\*

14: **QUIZ #4** – Units 18-21\*\*

16: Song Presentation: In-class coaching\*\*

21: Song Presentation: In-class coaching\*\*

23: Song Presentation: In-class PERFORMANCES\*\*

28: Song Presentation: In-class PERFORMANCES\*\*

30: **REVIEW** for Final Exam

May 5: **FINAL EXAM:** (10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon) — Room MU 232

**FROM DR. WARREN HENRY (Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs):**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. 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](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003)

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. 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](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/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](http://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](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

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

**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](https://disability.unt.edu/)

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

**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](https://registrar.unt.edu/students)

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

**Academic Calendar, Spring 2025**

See: [Spring 2025 Academic Calendar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html>

**Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2025**

See above

**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.

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](http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap)

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](http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap)

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](http://ferpa.unt.edu/)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

**COUNSELING AND TESTING**

UNT’s Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center’s website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)

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

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See:  [Mental Health Resources](https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

**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. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html>

**STUDENT RESOURCES**

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

See: [Student Resources](https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources)

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

**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](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team)

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