
MUSIC 161A
VOCAL DICTION/ FALL 2011

INSTRUCTOR: CAROL JOY SPARKMAN

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For office hours, see schedule on door.

TEXTS: *International Phonetic Alphabet for Singers, Joan Wall*
 Diction for Singers, Joan Wall

SUGGESTED SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS: *Webster's New World Italian Dictionary*

Utilization of the International Phonetic Alphabet in English and Italian dictions will be studied. Applications to the standard repertoire in each of these languages will be made.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To learn the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet and their sounds;
- 2) To develop skill in transcribing the written language of the course;
- 3) To refine the skill of correctly pronouncing these symbols;
- 4) To apply these skills in the singing and speaking of these languages.

GRADING POLICIES:

- **25%**- 10 Homework checks will be made in each unit. These are C/NC and are worth 10 points each.
- **25%**- The average of tests given throughout each unit.
- **50%**- Each unit exam.

Each absence over three counts three points against the final average.

GRADING SCALE:

English Diction will be studied the first half of the term with the Unit Exam given on **September 30**.

Italian Diction will be studied the second half of the term with the Unit Exam given on **December 12**.

The final date to drop a course passing is October 28, 2011. Students cannot withdraw after that date with a W (passing) unless the three criteria are met:

- 1) Extenuating circumstances (clearly outside of the student's control)
- 2) Passing the course at the time of withdrawal
- 3) Does not have excessive absences at the time of withdrawal

The Final Exam is scheduled for Monday, December 12, 2011; 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Assignments

- It is the responsibility of the student for an assignment made during an absence. Homework is due the class after it is assigned. It will be checked periodically. Assignments must be completed to receive credit. Any assignment made during an absence is due at the next class meeting. It is the student's responsibility to get the assignment.

- Daily quizzes and pop quizzes may not be made up. If a student is absent for a major test or does not take the test for any reason, excused or unexcused, that test will be a zero. A doctor's excuse must be submitted in order to make up a test. Tests may be scheduled during the semester at the instructor's discretion.
- **A NOTEBOOK** containing all worksheets, assignments, daily tests, pop quizzes, and major tests from the unit, may be handed into the instructor on the day of the unit exam for a daily grade of 100. All papers should be dated and placed in a binder in chronological order. A table of contents should be placed at the front of the binder. No other materials from other classes should be in the binder. Assignments should be complete and tests corrected. No credit will be given for incomplete binders. This is not a mandatory assignment.

Class Guidelines

- Bring text, pencil, and paper to class. Use of any writing utensil other than pencil will result in the grade for that assignment being lowered by one letter grade.
- In transcription, the text should be written in ink, a line skipped, then the transcription in pencil. Skip a line and begin again.
- Writing on the board, reading transcriptions, and lecture are the components of the class. Participation, preparation, and success are considered in the factoring of daily grades.
- Cell phone use is prohibited during class.
- Only beverages are allowed in class. Please do not bring food.

Absentee Policy

- There are approximately 36 class meeting times. To receive a passing grade, students must attend 75% of classes. In the 2011 fall semester, after 9 absences, the student will receive a failing grade. Absence policies: **Each** absence over three counts three points against the final average. There is no way a student can assimilate the material with frequent absences. Class attendance is essential. Credit **WILL NOT** be given for class attendance if the student arrives after 8:10 a.m. by my watch. Three tardies (arriving between 8:00 and 8:10 AM) will result in an absence. Participation in class is essential to the success of the student.

Class will NOT meet on these days:

- Wednesday, October 26- Singers Fall Tour
- Friday, November 11- Fall NATS, Mississippi College
- Friday, November 18- Prospective Students Discovery Day at MC

Academic Integrity

- As stated in the 2011-2012 Mississippi College Undergraduate Bulletin: Mississippi College students are expected to be scrupulously honest. Dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism, or furnishing false information, including forgery, alteration or misuse of University documents, records or information will be regarded as a serious offense subject to severe penalty, including, but not limited to loss of credit and possible dismissal.

Learning Accommodations

- In order for a student to receive disability accommodations under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, he or she must contact Student Counseling Services (SCS). SCS will assist with information regarding the appropriate policy and procedure for disability accommodations before each semester or upon immediate recognition of the disability. SCS is located in Alumni Hall Room #4 or you may contact them by phone at 601-925-7790. The Director of Student Counseling Services, Dr. Bryant may be reached via email at mbryant@mc.edu.