

UW OSHKOSH MUSIC DEPARTMENT
MUSIC 185 APPLIED VOICE DICTION
SYLLABUS
Spring Semester 2008
Monday & Wednesday, 9:10-10:10 a.m.
Instructor: Professor Audrey Highton (A/C N224)
Phone: X7018

Required Texts:

Wall, Joan. Diction for Singers.
Dallas, TX: Pst... Inc., 1990.

Wall, Joan. International Phonetic Alphabet for Singers
Dallas, TX: Pst...Inc., 1989

Required Music:

This Italian anthology is required for both MUSIC 185 Applied Voice Diction and MUSIC 181, first semester of applied voice study. (It may be purchased at Henri's Music at 1173 S. Washburn in Oshkosh, or most other music stores.) It will be used as a companion text to Diction for Singers in MUSIC 185:

26 Italian Songs and Arias, John Glenn Paton, editor.
Alfred Publishing. (Med High and Med Low)

In addition, Instructor will provide students with songs in German and French. Some editions will be available in the music library.

References:

Language Dictionaries (available in the Music Library), including:
French, German, and Italian (Cassell's).

Introduction:

Applied Voice Diction MUSIC 185 is a companion voice class to the first semester of Applied Voice study, MUSIC 181. Successful completion of Applied Voice Class MUSIC 183 or one semester of MUSIC 181 is the normal prerequisite for these two classes, which are to be taken concurrently for one credit each. Applied Voice Diction MUSIC 185 meets twice weekly in a small group setting and combines both lecture and applied methods of instruction.

Course Objectives:

The purpose of the group diction class is to provide the beginning classical vocal student with the basics of singing, or lyric, diction in English, Italian, German, and French through utilization of the International Phonetic Alphabet. Along with English, the majority of repertoire for voice students will be taken from compositions in Italian, German, and French, representing a variety of composers, styles and historical periods.

The International Phonetic Alphabet with basic diction rules relevant to each language and the pronunciation and transcription in each language will be introduced. Basic skills acquired from reading and oral assignments and drills will be integrated into the singing performance of several art songs in these languages. The emphasis in this class will be on the acquisition of lyric diction skills (not specifics of vocal technique, which is a major focus of MUSIC 181).

At the end of the course, the student should have acquired the skills necessary for transcribing, pronouncing and articulating, and singing selected texts **at the beginning level** from the art song literature of several languages. In addition, the student should have an understanding of the references and resources available, as well as effective approaches, for continuing diction development throughout their vocal studies.

Grading Policy

The grade for the course (MUSIC 185) will be determined as follows:

Grade #1: Exam 1 – The International Phonetic Alphabet and Transcription of English Art Song	20%
Grade #2: Exam 1 - Transcription, pronunciation, and performance of Italian Art Song	20%
Grade #3: Exam 2 - Transcription, pronunciation, and performance of German Art Song	20%
Grade #4: Exam 3 - Transcription, pronunciation, and performance of French Art Song	20%
Grade #5: Preparation and Class Participation*	20%

*Participation may be determined by a combination of both solicited and unsolicited class responses, musical preparation of required art songs and reading materials, and class drills and quizzes.

Attendance Policy

In accordance with university policy, students enrolled in MUSIC 185 are expected to attend class.

Missed exams may be made up only with the instructor's permission and only for reasons of illness verified by a physician's excuse. Grades for late exams will be lowered by one letter grade. Due to the limited number of classes per week (2) and the amount of material the course covers, no late assignments will be accepted.

As 20% of the final course grade is based upon preparation of musical and oral assignments and class participation, failure to attend class on a regular basis will directly affect this grade.

Student Requirements

Students are expected to complete reading assignments and prepare both written and oral assignments for class as required by the instructor. Students are expected to independently learn vocal repertoire which will be used in class for the application of lyric diction skills. Rote musical instruction is not a classroom procedure for MUSIC 185.

Instructional Methods

After reading assigned texts, students will be asked to pronounce, recite, transcribe, listen to and sing in each of the four languages. Various listening assignments including musical recordings and cassette drill tapes will be required and will be available in the Music Library. From time to time, instructor may work with students on an individual basis on articulation in order to identify individual needs.

In addition, upper level (MUSIC 381) voice students may be invited to sing in class from time to time and MUSIC 185 students may be required to attend concerts and recitals on campus featuring vocal repertoire in English, French, German or Italian.

**APPLIED VOICE DICTION MUSIC-185
COURSE OUTLINE**

Week #1	2/4/2008 2/6/2008	Introduction and overview of course/ <u>Singing in English</u> Wall Chapters 1-4 – International Phonetic Alphabet Wall Chapter 5/Drills (Transcription/Singing)
Week #2	2/11/2008 2/13/2008	Wall Chapter 6/Drills (Transcription/Singing) Wall Chapter 7/Drills (Transcription/Singing)
Week #3	2/18/2008 2/20/2008	Wall Chapters 8-10/Drills (Transcription/Singing) Wall Chapters 11-14/Drills (Transcription/Singing)
Week #4	2/25/2008 2/27/2008	Review of IPA/Singing in English Exam: IPA symbols and transcription of English Art Song
Week #5	3/3/2008 3/5/2008	Italian Diction, pgs. 35-55/New IPA Symbols Special Language Features Introduction of Italian Art Song/Transcription
Week #6	3/10/2008 3/12/2008	Italian Vowels in Detail, pgs. 56-76/Singing & Drills Italian Consonants in Detail, pgs. 77-92/Singing & Drills
Week #7	3/17/2008 3/19/2008	Review/Singing <u>EXAM</u> – Performance and Transcription of Italian Song

SPRING BREAK

Week #8	3/31/2008 4/02/2008	German Diction, pgs. 125-145/New IPA Symbols Special Language features Introduction of German Art Song/Transcription
Week #9	4/07/2008 4/09/2008	German Vowels in Detail, pgs. 146-158/Singing & Drills German Consonants in Detail, pgs. 159-174/Singing & Drills
Week #10	4/14/2008 4/16/2008	Review/Singing <u>EXAM</u> : Performance and Transcription of German Song
Week #11	4/21/2008 4/23/2008	French Diction, pgs. 175-197/New IPA Symbols Special Language Features Introduction of French Art Song/Transcription
Week #12	4/28/2008 4/30/2008	French Vowels in Detail, pgs. 198-218 French Consonants in Detail, pgs. 219-230
Week #13	4/5/2008 5/07/2008	Articulation Drills/Singing Acquisition of French lyric diction skills
Week #14	5/12/2008 5/14/2008	Review/Singing <u>EXAM</u> : Performance and Transcription of French Song