

German Lyric Diction for Singers, MUS 145-001
Texas A&M University – Commerce
Music Department
Fall 2018

University Mission Statement

Texas A&M University – Commerce nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

Music Department Mission Statement

The Music Department of Texas A&M University – Commerce 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.

General Information

Instructor: Dr. Barrett Radziun

Office Location: 233

Email: barrettradziun@gmail.com

Office Hours: Available by Appointment

Course Time and Location: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-1:20 p.m.,
Music Building 214

Course Description:

This course is designed to equip students with an understanding of the International Phonetic Alphabet, in addition to the rules associated with the authentic execution of the German language pertaining to lyric diction. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the International Phonetic Alphabet and German lyric diction through written and oral assignments and examinations, in addition to performances of appropriate German repertoire in class throughout the semester.

Course Objectives:

Upon the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- 1.) Transcribe German text into IPA symbols
- 2.) Accurately read and sing German text *with* IPA symbols
- 3.) Accurately read German text *without* IPA symbols, relying on the rules of German lyric diction learned throughout the course of the semester
- 4.) Prepare word-by-word translations of German into English using resources discussed in class

Required Textbooks:

German Lyric Diction Workbook (Third Edition) by Cheri Montgomery. STM Publishers, ISBN-13: 978-0977645565.

Recommended Textbook:

German-English Dictionary

Grading Scale:

A: 90-100 (Genuine excellence)

B: 80-89 (A level of attainment that is more than satisfactory)

C: 70-79 (Competent work)

D: 60-69

F: 0-59 (A failure to reach the standard required in the course)

Classroom Etiquette:

The majority of our work in class will stem from information in Cheri Montgomery's book. Please bring the book with you to every class. Diction is a complex subject, as it requires an understanding of phonetic sounds in a non-native language. Due to the complexity of the subject's nature, **unnecessary or distracting use of electronic devices including tablets, laptops, and cell phones will not be tolerated.** Generally, it is requested that you leave your cell phones and laptops in your bag for the duration of the class.

Classroom Etiquette on Singing Days:

On coaching days, singers will be assigned to perform/coach their repertoire in front of their peers. All students are required to attend and actively participate/remain engaged in their colleagues' performances. Please note that this is not a time to complete work for other classes or do work on a computer. It is important that we create an encouraging and supportive environment for in-class performances. **Attendance is required at all final in-class performances, not only your individually assigned time.**

On YOUR assigned Singing Day:

Because of the limitations of time, it is important that everyone come prepared to sing for their assigned time slot. To insure a smooth operation, have your music neatly arranged in a three-ring binder and ready to go the day of your assigned coaching/performance. Please do not use plastic sheet protectors, as I will mark your music as we work through it. **Be sure that your copy has all of the notes** (double check those low bass-clef notes in the piano part!) **and is clearly legible.** If you are unable to sing on your assigned day, advance notice is required. Please plan ahead! If you don't bring your music on your assigned coaching day, you will not be rescheduled and your grade will be lowered.

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Because of the limitations of time, it is important that everyone come prepared to sing for their assigned time slot. To insure a smooth operation, have your music neatly arranged in a three-ring binder and ready to go the day of your assigned coaching/performance. Please do not use plastic sheet protectors, as I will mark your music as we work through it. **Be sure that your copy has all of the notes** (double check those low bass-clef notes in the piano part!) **and is clearly legible.** If you are unable to sing on your assigned day,

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Grading Criteria:

Your final grade will be based on the following:

- 1.) Attendance and participation – 20%
Attendance and participation are required and expected in order to insure the course objectives will be met. One unexcused absence will be permitted. Daily attendance will be taken. Extenuating circumstances must be communicated to the instructor in a timely manner. In the case of absence, it is the student's responsibility to find out what he or she missed.
- 2.) Quizzes – 20%
Quizzes will be announced in advance and will cover material from class and assigned readings. **Quizzes missed due to unexcused absences will not be made up.** Arrangements must be made with the instructor in advance to make-up quizzes missed due to extenuating circumstances.
- 3.) In-Class Coachings and Performances – 20%
Each student will be expected to sing in class four times during the semester. Two of these will be coachings with the instructor, and two will be graded performances of assigned repertoire. Attendance on performance days is mandatory for all students assigned to sing. **In-class coachings and performances missed due to unexcused absences will not be made up.**
- 4.) Assignments – 30%
Assignments will include IPA transcriptions, word-by-word translations, and listening assignments.
- 5.) Final Exam – 10%
The final exam will be comprised of two parts: a written portion covering the rules of IPA as well as transcription, and a spoken portion in which the student will read German text.

Course Schedule (Subject to change; Readings and additional quizzes will be scheduled by instructor):

Tuesday, August 27 –

Thursday, August 29 –

Tuesday, September 3 –

Thursday, September 5 –

Tuesday, September 10 –

Thursday, September 12 –

Tuesday, September 17 –

Thursday, September 19 –

Tuesday, September 24 –

Thursday, September 26 –

Tuesday, October 1 –

Thursday, October 3 –

Tuesday, October 8 –

Thursday, October 10 –

Tuesday, October 15 –

Thursday, October 17 –

Tuesday, October 22 –

Thursday, October 24 –

Tuesday, October 29 –

Thursday, October 31 –

Tuesday, November 5 –

Thursday, November 7 –

Tuesday, November 12 –

Thursday, November 14 –

Tuesday, November 19 –

Thursday, November 21 –

Tuesday, November 26 –

Thursday, November 28 –

Tuesday, December 3 –

Thursday, December 5 –

Tuesday, December 10 –

Thursday, December 12 –

University Statements

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.

A&M-Commerce 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.

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:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Gee Library, Room 132

(903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 phone

^T_{SEP}(903) 468-8148 fax

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Campus Concealed Carry-Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce 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 A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> and/or consult your event

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