

University of South Alabama  
MUS 202--Vocal Diction I  
LPAC 1102  
MW 11:15-12:05

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### Course Syllabus-Fall 2008

- Course Objective:** Vocal Diction I is designed to give the student the tools to analyze and perform vocal repertoire in English and Italian. Using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as the primary analysis tool, students will develop the skills necessary to sing intelligently in any of the three languages listed above. Through guided investigation of the particular nuances and inflections of each language, students will further their expertise in the performance of standard vocal literature.
- Course Description:** Classes will consist of a combination of lecture, class discussion, diction drills, and performance labs. After mastering the basic IPA skills of analysis of English, students will continue diction principles in the Italian language. Appropriate songs will be assigned for study by the class in each language. In addition to tests on the text material, students will be evaluated on their ability to sing each language in performance quizzes on the assigned songs. The final exam will include IPA analysis of two new songs: one English and one Italian.
- Required Texts:** *International Phonetic Alphabet for Singers* by Joan Wall (Caldwell Publishing, formerly PST, Inc. 1989)  
*Diction for Singers* by Joan Wall, Robert Caldwell, Tracy Gavilanes and Shelia Allen (Caldwell Publishing, 1990)  
*Webster's New World Italian Dictionary* (Wiley Publishing, Inc. –can be found at most bookstores)  
*Barron's 501 Italian Verbs, third edition* by Colaneri, Danesi and Luciani (Barron's, 2007 –can be found at most bookstores)
- Attendance:** Regular class attendance is imperative for successful assimilation of the material. Three absences will result in the automatic lowering of the student's semester grade by one grade level. Four absences will result in the student being dropped from the course.
- Office Hours:** At least 6 (six) hours of office time each week are made available for the student to meet with the professor as is necessary. Please consult the schedule posted on the professor's door for available times.

**Grading Criteria:** All tests, assignments, and exams will receive a letter grade in accordance with the following percentages:

93-100% =	A	60-69% =	D
83-92% =	B	0-59% =	F
70-82% =	C		

Final grades will be calculated according to the following percentages:

Two tests @ 15%	30%
Midterm Exam	20%
Two Performance Exams @ 7.5%	15%
Class Participation	10%
Final Exam	25%

**Fall 2008 Schedule:** Some measure of flexibility will be factored into the course schedule to allow for weather emergencies, etc. Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, this schedule and other requirements may be modified as circumstances dictate. Appropriate advance notice will be given in writing during class in an effort to conform to the spirit of policy statement 6.3.1 of the University of South Alabama Faculty Handbook. Regular class attendance will insure that students are informed as to any changes made in the semester schedule or other course requirements.

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Event</b>
August 18	Distribution and explanation of the course outline; IPA Chap. 1-7
August 25	IPA Chapters 1-7 continued
September 1	Labor Day Holiday, IPA Chapters 1-7 continued
September 8	IPA Chapters 8-14, Wall pp. 8-11; English Song
September 15	IPA Chapters 8-14, Wall pp. 11-34
September 22	Test #1 (English)
September 29	Performance Quiz- English Song
October 6	Wall pp. 35-55; Italian Song
October 13	Wall pp. 56-92; Italian Song
October 20	Wall pp. 56-92; Italian Song
October 27	Wall pp. 56-92; Italian Song
November 3	Wall pp. 56-92; Italian Song
November 10	Wall pp. 56-92; Italian Song
November 17	Performance Quiz- Italian Song
November 24	Test #2 (Italian); Thanksgiving Break
December 1	Final review, wrap up
Monday Dec. 8	Final Exam, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Students with Disabilities:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services (460-7212) will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations.