

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Title: Singer's Diction II

MU124

New: Fall 2012

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

Development of correct German and French pronunciation for singing. One (1) credit hour.

II. Prerequisite:

Successful completion of MU123, or instructor permission.

III. Purpose or Objectives of the Course:

The student will learn to sing with proficiency in German and French. Toward that end, the student will learn: 1) to identify and pronounce the sounds of these languages; 2) to use International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols in transcribing texts in these languages; 3) to be capable of rudimentary translations in German and French.

IV. Student Learning Outcomes:

- A. The student will identify and pronounce the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet as used in singing in German and French.
- B. The student will phonetically transcribe and perform a song in German.
- C. The student will phonetically transcribe and perform a song in French.

V. Expectations of Students:

- A. The student is expected to attend all class sessions and respond when called upon by the instructor in class.
- B. Students will be expected to complete work sheets, listening assignments, pronunciation exercises, and computer assisted instruction (as available) inside and outside of the classroom.
- C. Study of word for word translations will also be included.
- D. Students must earn a composite passing grade on written quizzes and exams and performance exams. The student is required to perform songs from the German and French languages in class and to transcribe words, phrases, and song texts into IPA symbols for these languages. Study of word-for-word translations will also be included. The exam for each language will include both written and sung components.

VI. Course Outline (two 50-minute class meetings per week):

- A. Unit I: German Diction 14 hours
 - 1. Characteristics of German
 - 2. German vowels
 - 3. German consonants
 - 4. Practical application (exam, performance)

- B. Unit II: French Diction 16 hours
1. Characteristics of French
 2. French vowels
 3. French consonants
 4. Practical application (exam, performance)

VII. Required Textbooks and Other Materials (available in the University Bookstore):

Wall, Joan, and Caldwell, Robert. *Diction for Singers: A concise reference for English, Italian, Latin, German, French, and Spanish pronunciation*, 2nd ed. Redmond, WA: Diction for Singers.com/Celumbra, 2009. (Rental.)

The Langenscheidt Editorial Staff, ed.. *Langenscheidt's German-English, English-German Dictionary*, 2nd ed. New York: Pocket Books/Simon & Schuster, Inc., 2009. (Purchase.)

Merriam Webster's French-English Dictionary. Springfield, Massachusetts: Merriam-Webster, 2000. (Purchase.)

In addition, you will be responsible for having available music suitable to your voice type. Your applied teacher will be able to assist you with this.

VIII. Basis of Student Evaluation:

- A. Participation (20%) – regular attendance and participation are critical for success in this class. This may also include participation in an online forum (bulletin board).
- B. Assignments (20%) – worksheets, listening assignments, etc.
- C. Quizzes (20%) – 3-4 quizzes prior to the unit exam.
- D. Tests (40%)
 1. Written exams (20%) – one for German and one for French.
 2. Performance tests (20%) – transcription/rough translation for German and French song performances; performances of German and French songs.

MoStep Standards: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 5.2, and 6.3

Conceptual Framework Standards: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 6.1, and 6.2