

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

[CLASS ]

[MUSIC]

**Expanded Course Outline**

<b>Course Subject Area:</b>	<b>MU</b>
<b>Course Number:</b>	<b>2610</b>
<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Diction for Singers</b>
<b>Units:</b>	<b>2 units</b>
<b>C/S Classification #:</b>	<b>04</b>
<b>Component:</b>	<b>Lecture</b>
<b>Grading Basis:</b> (graded only, CR/NC only, student's choice)	<b>Graded only</b>
<b>Repeat Basis:</b> (may be taken once, taken multiple times, taken multiple times only with different topics)	<b>May be taken twice (4 units total)</b>
<b>Cross Listed Course:</b> (if offered with another department)	
<b>Dual Listed Course:</b> (if offered as lower/upper division or undergraduate/graduate)	
<b>Major course/Service course/GE Course:</b> (pick all that apply)	<b>Major course</b>
<b>General Education Area/Subarea:</b> (as appropriate)	
<b>Date Prepared:</b>	<b>March 26, 2015</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Susan Ali</b>

**I. Catalog Description**

Study of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), pronunciation of languages needed to perform great song and operatic literature. Activities and exercises in Italian, French, German, and English diction. Translating texts into IPA and performance of songs or arias in these languages.

Prerequisite(s): At least two units of any of the following classes: MU 134, MU 1340, MU 177, MU 1770, MU 1771, or MU 1811.

Component(s): 2 lectures/presentation/problem-solving.

Repeatable: Total credit limited to 4 units, with a maximum of 2 units per semester.

**II. Required Coursework and Background**

Adequate vocal and musical background to perform art songs and arias of moderate difficulty.

**III. Expected Outcomes**

Mastery of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

Ability to quickly and easily pronounce the languages in which one must sing

Acquisition of an understanding of the unique problems each language poses to good vocal production and textual intelligibility.

The outcomes of this course relate to the following Music Department Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Perform a variety of music with expression and musical accuracy.
4. Demonstrate and articulate personal growth as a musician and student of music in the world.
6. Develop specialized knowledge appropriate to the option or emphasis area.

BA General:

2. **Perform** a variety of music with expression and musical accuracy.
5. **Demonstrate and articulate** artistic growth as a musician and student of music in the world.

BM General:

5. **perform** a wide variety of solo and ensemble repertoire for varied audiences.
6. **analyze, interpret, and defend** judgments of various musical works for audiences of scholars and amateurs.

BM Performance Option:

2. **demonstrate** competence in selecting and preparing solo repertoire for performance.
3. **discuss** pedagogy of their instrument at a foundational level.
4. **demonstrate** specialized expertise in interpreting the music of one or two particular styles, including the utilization of improvisation.
5. **model** entry-level professional performance skills on a primary instrument or voice, through a capstone recital.

BM PreCredential Option:

1. **demonstrate** foundational skills on instruments commonly taught in schools.
6. **integrate** specialized skills for teaching music literacy, including composition and improvisation.

#### **IV. Instructional Materials**

Coffin, Berton; Errolle, Ralph; Singer, Werner; and Delattre, Pierre. *Phonetic Readings of Songs and Arias*. The Scarecrow Press, 1982.

Marshall, Madeleine. *The Singer's Manual of English Diction*. New York: Schirmer, 1953.

Wall, Joan. *International Phonetic Alphabet for Singers; a manual for English and foreign language diction*. Pst...Inc., 1989.

Wall, Joan; Caldwell Robert; Gavilanes, Tracy; and Allen, Sheila. *Diction for Singers; A concise reference for English, Italian, Latin, German, French, and Spanish pronunciation*. Robert Caldwell, 2009.

## V. Minimum Student Material

Texts, Notebook, Music for Singing Diction demonstrations.

## VI. Minimum College Facilities

Classroom with Audio equipment, Audio/Visual equipment, Piano, Dry-erase board.

## VII. Course Outline

Study of symbols uses in the International Phonetic Alphabet, which represent the same sounds across all languages. Detailed study of the pronunciation of the languages most often used in singing including Italian, German, French, and English, while utilizing the International Phonetic Alphabet as a tool for mastering diction and characteristics of each of these languages.

1. Mastery of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
  - A. Memorization of the symbols and the sound of each symbol
  - B. Use of IPA in English to familiarize students with the sound of each symbol
  - C. Additional introduction of sounds and symbols unique to some languages.
  - D. Practice in translating the languages of songs into IPA
2. A unit of study for each language will ensue, with the initial unit covering English diction and sounds/symbols of the IPA.
  - A. Students will choose one song for each Language Unit of study, translate the text into the IPA, and submit it for correction.
  - B. Once corrected, student will prepare the song for performance
  - C. Performance and written exam will complete each Language Unit of study.
  - D. There will be a comprehensive, written final exam at the end of the course term.

## VIII. Instructional Methods

Lecture, exercises, demonstrations of accurate pronunciation and problems of languages presented, preparation of songs for performance in languages addressed.

## IX. Evaluation of Outcomes

1. Written exams covering each language in the course of study.
2. Performance in each language (applied knowledge).
3. Creative projects.
4. Comprehensive final written exam.

Written Exams covering each language in the course of study	Demonstrate understanding of how the tool of the IPA crosses all languages
Performance in each language	Demonstrates ability to apply learned knowledge

Creative projects	Allows for practice of IPA to make more fluid the process of utilizing this system as a tool
Comprehensive final written exam	Demonstration of knowledge of the course content and ability to carry it forward as a tool for performance and in the field of education.