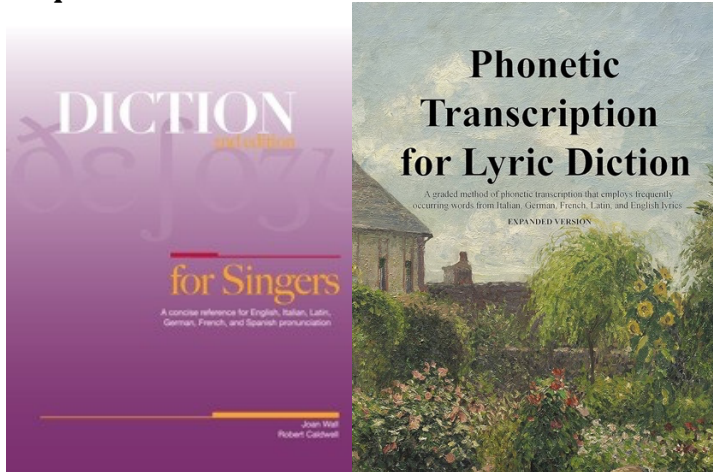


**MUSA 2263 Diction I**  
**CRN: 10345**  
**T/TH 3:00 – 3:50**  
**FFA M101**

**Ms. Diana L. Esparza**  
**[desparza6@utep.edu](mailto:desparza6@utep.edu)**  
**(915) 747-7797**  
**FFA M235**  
**Office hours by appointment (please E-mail)**

**Required Materials:**



Wall, Joan. *Diction for Singers* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (2012).  
ISBN: 978-193-447-7700

*Diction for Singers*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by Joan Wall, Robert Caldwell, Sheila Allen, and Tracy Gavilanes.

International Phonetic Alphabet for Singers

Diction Lab [www.dictionforsingers.com](http://www.dictionforsingers.com)

Montgomery, Cheri. *Phonetic Transcription for Lyric Diction, Expanded Version*. STM Publishers, 2016.  
ISBN: 978-0-9975578-5-5

**Course Description**

The study of the International Phonetic Alphabet applied to English, Italian, Spanish, and Latin song repertoire. The students will learn how to read and write the IPA symbols in these languages as well as be able to pronounce and sing accurately in them through drill and practice.

### Course Content

Students will learn the importance of accurate pronunciation in the different languages. They will get familiar with the specific sounds and articulation in all of these as well as the appropriate use of IPA and its rules.

Students will learn the different IPA symbols and rules used in these languages to be able to write the IPA translation, and apply them to singing.


- Learn the IPA symbols for the different languages
- Accurately pronounce the IPA in the different languages
- Write the IPA translations of songs for the different languages
- Sing in these different languages applying the rules learned in class.
- Study a song selection in the different languages sung by native speakers.




Students will prepare and memorize four songs to sing in class along the semester covering the four different languages to be studied. They will prepare the appropriate IPA translation for each one of them. The students will get feed back from the instructor and the students in order to enhance their performance regarding pronunciation.

### Course Objectives

The objectives of this course are to help the student to:

- Learn the IPA rules and symbols for the English, Italian, Spanish and Latin languages.
- Develop the skills to adequately prepare IPA translations on their own.
- Sing in the different languages with appropriate diction and articulation.
- Objectively assess their own performances and those of their peers through class discussion regarding accurate pronunciation and rule application in the different languages.
- Immerse the student in the language by studying a playlist with native speakers singing in the different languages.

Student Learning Objective	Outcome
Objectively assess their own performance in regards of accurate pronunciation as well as their peers through class performance.	 Teamwork Skills

Identify, discuss, and demonstrate consistent application of Spanish, Italian, Latin, English, German, and French IPA rules of self and peers.	 Critical Thinking Skills
Engage as a community of student singers to address performances in terms of diction assessment, being able to describe the strengths and weaknesses of performers in the covered languages.	 Communication Skills
Be appreciative and respectful of peer performance no matter the level of skill each student has.	 Social Responsibility

### Course Outcomes

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

- Know the IPA symbols for English, Italian, Spanish and Latin.
- Read and write accurate IPA translations for the different languages covered.
- Perform four songs from memory with accurate pronunciation.
- Constructively critique self and peers verbally regarding pronunciation in singing.
- Be familiar with some standard repertoire and native singers in the different languages covered in the course.

### Course Requirements

- Attend and actively participate in all regularly scheduled class meetings.
- Learn the rules of the IPA in the covered languages.
- Complete all written and listening assignments and quizzes.
- Independently learn and memorize four songs approved by the instructor. The student will sing these songs for presentation in class and for presentation as the mid-term and final exams.
- All homework will be posted on Blackboard and submitted electronically through your assigned One Drive folder on the dates established by the instructor.

### Materials and Personal Equipment

- Text: Diction for Singers 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by Joan Wall, Robert Caldwell, Sheila Allen, and Tracy Gavilanes.
- Complementary text: International Phonetic Alphabet for Singers by Joan Wall.
- Diction lab available at [www.dictionforsingers.com](http://www.dictionforsingers.com)
- Keep up with the listening assignments on [www.naxosmusiclibrary.com](http://www.naxosmusiclibrary.com)
- A three-ring binder for the notes, IPA translations and exercises and songs covered in class/ One Drive folder

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

**IMPORTANT:** If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

## **COPYRIGHT STATEMENT FOR COURSE MATERIALS**

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

## **COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS**

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at [screening.utep.edu](https://screening.utep.edu). If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to [COVIDaction@utep.edu](mailto:COVIDaction@utep.edu).

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website ([screening.utep.edu](https://screening.utep.edu)) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

**(classes with on-campus meetings)** Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.

### **Course Resources: Where you can go for assistance**

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

#### Technology Resources

- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

#### Academic Resources

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.

#### Individual Resources

- [Military Student Success Center](#): Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#): Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#): Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.

### **Grading**

- Homework & Signing rounds      35%
- Spanish IPA exam                      20%
- Italian IPA exam                        20%
- Final IPA exam                         25%

\* These five elements will be required to pass the class.

### **Grading Scale**

- 90-100% = A

- 80–89% = B
- 70–79% = C
- 60–69% = D
- 0–59% = F

Grading of Performances will be based on the quality of preparation, accuracy of musical execution and the degree of improvement shown in the technical concepts of singing.

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all class meetings. The attendance portion of the grade (25% of the whole) will be calculated as indicated below. Be aware that if the student is not present, his/her 40% participation grade will also suffer.

- 1 -2 absences = 90% - A
- 3-4 absences = 80% - B
- 5-6 absences = 70% - C
- 7-8 absences = 60% - D
- 9 or more absences = 50% - F

### **Academic Honesty**

<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>

**If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations**, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu) , or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass) . *CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and, if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.*

### Weekly Calendar (Subject to Change)

This calendar provides an overview of the course. More details and a weekly checklist are available in the weekly modules in Blackboard. The due date for major writing assignments is ALWAYS Sunday at 11:59 PM (MST). No late work will be accepted.

#### KEY:

IPA= International Phonetic Alphabet

Bb= Blackboard

DFS= Diction for Singers, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

	Topic	Reading/ Practice Due	Assignments Due	Notes
Week 1 8/27-8/29	Class introduction, syllabus. Introduction to Spanish IPA	Review syllabus, Bb DFS Spanish IPA Rule Chart	Syllabus reading and signing Electronic-consent Consent	
Week 2 9/3-9/5	Continuation to Spanish IPA rules	DFS Spanish IPA Rule chart	Homework due Bb/One Drive folder	*All homework will be posted on Bb
Week 3 9/10-9/12	Transcribing in Spanish	DFS Continuation of Spanish IPA	Homework due Bb/One Drive folder	*All homework will be posted on Bb
Week 4 9/17-9/20	Transcribing / Spanish Singing Rounds	The students will sing for the class and be assessed live	Homework due Bb/One Drive folder Singing rounds/all students will sing a song in class	Spanish Singing Rounds Email music to TA
Week 5 9/24-9/26	Spanish Singing Rounds and Test #1 Spanish IPA	The students will sing for the class and be assessed live	Homework due Bb/One Drive folder Singing rounds/ Spanish Study Chart due	Spanish Singing Rounds Email music to TA
Week 6 10/1-10/3	Introduction to Italian IPA	DFS Italian IPA Rule Chart	Homework due	
Week 7 10/8-10/01	Transcribing in Italian	DFS Italian IPA Rule Chart	Homework due	Email Italian song to TA to practice
Week 8 10/15- 10/17	Transcribing in Italian/Singing rounds		Italian Study Chart due	Italian Singing Rounds

Week 9 10/22- 10/24	Italian Singing rounds	DFS	Homework due Singing rounds/all students will sing a song in Italian to be assessed in class.	Italian Singing Rounds
Week 10 10/29- 10/31	Test #2 Italian IPA	DFS	Homework and Italian Study Chart due	
Week 11 11/5-11/7	Latin IPA rules/readings	DFS pgs. Latin IPA Rule Chart	Homework due	
Week 12 11/12- 11/14	Introduction to English IPA rules	DFS English IPA Rule Chart	Homework due	
Week 13 11/19- 11/21	Transcribing in English	DFS English IPA Rule Chart	Homework due	Email your English song to the TA
Week 14 11/26	English singing rounds	The students will sing for the class and be assessed live	Homework due	
Week 15 12/3-12/5	English singing rounds Test #3 English IPA might be on the assigned class final date or the last day of class	The students will sing for the class and be assessed live	Homework and English Study Chart due	English Singing Rounds





**Acknowledgment**

By signing this document, you acknowledge that you have received and read the syllabus for MUSA 2263 (Fall 2024) taught by Ms. Diana Esparza and understand all course expectations.

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Student's signature

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Date

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Student's printed name