

FRENCH LYRIC DICTION – MUS 9597 y/a/b

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CLASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm, TC 100

PREREQUISITE

MUS 2942y Italian/German lyric diction or Equivalent

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intensive study of French lyric diction and mélodie performance practice; including IPA assignments, tests, transcription and pronunciation practice, study of French composers of song, and performances of songs. The second semester involves application of lyric diction study in performances of works in French and English by Canadian composers and by contemporary French composers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

For the student to learn correct pronunciation of French in singing, to gain further facility in the use of IPA for the same purpose, and to build an understanding of the syntax and word stress of the French language and French poetry. Singers are to gain knowledge of composers of mélodies and learn the correct interpretive style for singing mélodies, employing it in performance.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

UWO Bookstore Coursepack: T. Donnan: French Lyric Diction. American University Press.
P. Bernac: The Interpretation of French Song. New York: Norton, 1976.
Strongly Recommended: Johnson/Stokes: A French Song Companion. Oxford U. Press 2000
French/English dictionary: Suggested title - Larousse Pocket French/English Dictionary.
Songs of Berlioz, Gounod, Saint-Saëns, Bizet, Massenet, Duparc, Chabrier, Chaminade, Chausson, Fauré, Debussy, Satie, Caplet, Roussel, Ravel, Viardot, Chaminade, Poulenc, Hahn, Milhaud, Boulanger, Messiaen, Jolivet, Dutilleux, Papineau-Couture, Garant, Hétu, Pépin, Smallman, Laurin

COURSE PIANIST

Pianists are assigned to this course to accompany you. You must provide a copy of your chosen List A and B songs to them by Oct. 5. It is your responsibility to book a rehearsal to take place in the 2 weeks preceding your class performances. If fail to do so, the pianist is not obliged to accompany you, and you must provide your own pianist. For the EXAM performance, you must provide a copy of your song to the pianist by OCTOBER 26th. You are invited to ask your studio pianist to play for you.

COMMUNICATION

Important class announcements and information may be sent to you by email. It is your responsibility to check your e-mail regularly and respond as necessary.

OVERVIEW OF SCHEDULE

Weeks 1 - 6: Intensive study of Diction mastery
Week 7: Written French Lyric Diction exam
Weeks 8 - 12 Mélo die Performances
Exam period Final Exam Mélo die Performance

ASSIGNMENTS: There will be weekly IPA transcription and vocabulary assignments and a listening assignment. The IPA and translation of each song you will perform will be handed in 2 weeks preceding your performances. Song text will be spoken preceding the performance, and understanding of the word for word poetry is expected. A researched song profile will also be required.

MIDTERM EXAM

This written exam will include IPA transcription, and questions on vocabulary and diction rules.

EVALUATION

IPA, Listening and Song Profile Assignments	30%	
First Mélodie Performance	12%	includes recitation of song text
Second Mélodie Performance	15%	includes recitation of song text
Midterm Exam	20%	
Final Exam Mélodie Performance	15%	includes recitation of song text
Attendance, Repertoire, Participation	8%	

ELECTRONICS

The in-class use of electronic devices is expressly prohibited. Students found using devices without permission will be asked to leave the class.

IMPORTANT UWO POLICIES

Academic Consideration for Student Absence & Missing Work (≥10%): Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

Academic Consideration for Missing Work (<10%): In cases where students miss work that is worth less than 10% of the total course grade (ie. two or fewer assignments) due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean's office and the Associate Dean grants an accommodation, then the missed assignment(s) will be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not voluntarily submitted then the missed assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean's office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.

Academic Offences: Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health & Wellness: Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

Religious Accommodation: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. <http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

Contingency Plan: Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Gender-Based and Sexual Violence: Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence, either recently or in the past, you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca or call 519 661-3568.

Evaluation Policy Exemption: This course has received an exemption from the requirement in the Senate Policy on Evaluation of Undergraduate Academic Performance that stipulates “At least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a 1000- or 2000-level course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade.”

Examinations & Attendance: Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Electronic Devices in Exams: Electronic devices of any type will not be permitted during the Midterm Test and/or Final Exam in this course (unless required for accessibility reasons based on an approved accommodation request from Accessible Education).

Plagiarism Detection Software Usage: All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).