Lyric Diction Requirements 2018

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Proficiency Information

Italian, French, and German diction proficiency tests and/or classes are:

- REQUIRED* for Undergraduate Transfer and Graduate Voice Performance majors, all doctoral Conducting majors, and Master of Music Choral Conducting majors
- Italian and French diction proficiency tests are given only in September before classes begin
- German diction proficiency test is administered in December.

Appointments

- Italian and French diction proficiency tests will be given in room ???, (sign-up sheets located on the adjacent bulletin board)
  - Thursday, August 31st 10:30am – 1:30pm
  - Friday, September 1st 3:00 – 6:00pm
- Sign up for a 10-minute singing time for each language. You can take both tests one after the other (sign up for two times), or spread apart, or even on different days. If you have any questions, contact Professor Timothy Cheek.

Testing Format

One language test is 45 minutes long**:

1. 35 minute written test using the International Phonetic Alphabet;
2. 10 minute performance (memorized) of one song or aria in the language (Prof. Cheek will accompany). Non-singers can feel free to drop octaves.
3. possible discussion about pronunciation

Preparation

Recommended texts:

A Handbook of Diction for Singers, by David Adams, Oxford University Press; Singing in French, by Thomas Grubb, Schirmer Books; and German for Singers, by William Odom, Schirmer Books

Diction Class Offerings

Fall Classes may be elected for one or two credit hours; the work is the same.

- Italian diction: 9:30–10:30 MWF in the Fall
- French diction: 10:30–11:30 in the Fall
- German diction: 10:30–11:30 MWF in the Winter

*The lyric diction requirement is a different requirement from your foreign language requirements.
**If you decide you want to register for a specific class and not take the test, please see Dr. Cheek or email him at tcheek@umich.edu. Classes are in high demand, and you will need permission to join.