



15800 Calvary Rd.  
Kansas City, MO 64147

# Syllabus

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**Course:** MU120 T TN Diction  
**Credit:** 2 hours  
**Semester:** Fall 2025/16 weeks  
**Time:** Friday 1-3 p.m. (E. Ed 107)  
**Professor:** Mrs. Un Chong Christopher (Ext. 1359)  
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[unchong.christopher@calvary.edu](mailto:unchong.christopher@calvary.edu)

## I. DESCRIPTION

An easy navigation guide from orthographic spelling to pronunciation of English, Italian, Latin, German, French, and Spanish for the purpose of singing and teaching.

\*This is a blended class, meaning that both campus students and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom.

## II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Understand how to speak and write in English, Italian, Latin, German, French, Spanish, and Latin through the knowledge of the IPA for singers.
  - a. Program Objectives 3
  - b. Assignments A1, B1, C1, D1
2. Pronounce foreign language sounds more accurately for singing. Recognize good singing in all the languages.
  - a. Program Objectives 3
  - b. Assignments A1, B1, C1, D1

<i>Our Mission: "...to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the biblical</i>
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- B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:
1. Study and memorize the IPA symbols for English, Italian, Latin, German, French, and Spanish languages.
    - a. Program Objectives 3
    - b. Assignments A1, B1, C1, D1
  2. Compare and contrast words to hear specific sounds.
    - a. Program Objectives 3
    - b. Assignments C1, D1
  3. Read and write IPA transcriptions.
    - a. Program Objectives 3
    - b. Assignments A1, C1
  4. Read the sounds through the use of the IPA symbols which lay the foundation for reading foreign language transcriptions. Also listening and recognizing the languages in singing.
    - a. Program Objectives 3
    - b. Assignments A1, B1, C1
  5. Develop a quick guide through the use of charts to correctly navigate the pronunciation of English, Italian, Latin, German, French, and Spanish in songs and arias.
    - a. Program Objectives 3
    - b. Assignments B1, C1, D1

### III. REQUIREMENTS

- A1. Do written and listening assignments required for each language studied.  
B1. Memorize IPA's for quizzes and EXAMS.  
C1. Read oral IPA transcriptions fluently for each language studied.  
D1. Reading assignments from required text *Diction for Singers* by Wall, Caldwell, Gavilanes, and Allen.

### IV. METHODS

- A. In-class teaching methods will include lecture, listening to singers, discussion, demonstration, language study for pronunciation through the process of drills and listening tapes.
- B. Each student will orally recite and write the International Phonetic Language sounds for each language studied (participation in class will be graded).
- C. Required reading of IPA for singer's text *Diction for Singers* by Joan Wall.
- D. Grading:
- |                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Required reading of Joan Wall | 10 % |
|-------------------------------|------|

Class participation /Drills	30 %
Pop Quizzes	10%
Oral Exams for each language	25 %
Written Exams for each language	25 %
Total	100%

### Grading Scale

Grade Value Grade Point Value  
Per Semester Hour

A	100-93	4.0
A-	92-90	3.7
B+	89-87	3.3
B	86-83	3.0
B-	82-80	2.7
C+	79-77	2.3
C	76-73	2.0
C-	72-70	1.7
D+	69-67	1.3
D	66-63	1.0
D-	62-60	0.7
F	59-0	0.0

## V. TEXTBOOKS

### ○ Required

1. Holy Bible
2. Wall, Joan, Robert Caldwell, Tracy Gavilanes, and Sheila Allen.  
*Diction for Singers: A Concise Reference for English, Italian, Latin, German, French and Spanish Pronunciation.*  
ISBN 978-1934477700 Price: \$29.76 (used at Amazon.com) or \$49.99 (New).

## VI. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.

The Clark Academic Center ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

In-class attendance and discussion is mandatory and is part of the student's overall final grade.

All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.

Grading Scale: See grading scale in the university catalog.

## **Carnegie Units**

MU 120 (Diction for Singers for 2 credit hrs.)

Assignments	Hours	Assigned
Class time	32	
Assignments (Reading/351 pages, IPA writing, listening)	50	
Oral Exams, Pop quizzes	6	
Final Exam	2	
Total	90	90