

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS and EXAM DETAILS

for

ACCOMPANYING (ACM) MAJORS

Amended - Effective August 31, 2009

I. REQUIREMENTS

- A. **Within their first year** at the Eastman School, all **MM and DMA** Accompanying majors are normally expected to pass a **language comprehension examination** (written translation) in French, German or Italian. By the **end of their second year in residence**, all **DMA** candidates must pass an additional language comprehension exam in a second language (French, German, or Italian.)
- B. In addition, all students must pass an **oral examination** in lyric diction in the same language(s) by one of the following means:
- 1.) Successfully complete Eastman's vocal diction courses in English, French, German, and Italian (ACY 415a/b and ACY 416a/b) with a grade of B or higher in each of those courses, **or**
 - 2.) Demonstrate lyric diction proficiency by an oral examination as outlined below, **or**
 - 3.) Provide a transcript showing that lyric diction courses have been taken previously and that the student received a grade of B or higher in each of those courses.
- C. If with a second attempt a student has been unable to pass any of these language examinations, s/he will be required to take and pass (with a grade of B or higher) the 101G-102G language courses offered by the ESM Humanities Department, or the equivalent courses elsewhere.

II. INFORMATION ABOUT the LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION EXAMINATIONS

No student should attempt to take one of the language tests without having had prior study in that language.

Copies of "Helpful Hints for taking the Language Exam for Accompanying Majors" may be obtained on the ACM web site or from Dr. Barr. An additional copy also will be provided at the time of the exam.

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A. THE TRANSLATION PORTION of the EXAMINATION (written)

1.) Students will be asked to translate a song or aria from the standard repertoire, and they may use a dictionary. They should be sure to write their final translation on a separate sheet of plain paper. The translation should reflect the sense of the song in easily understood idiomatic English. **DO NOT SUBMIT a WORD for WORD TRANSLATION!** The examination will be a maximum of 1 hour in length.

2.) If the student has taken 2 semesters (1 full year) of college-level language study and has received a grade of B or higher in each of those courses, then this language comprehension examination may be waived. The student should provide the designated ESM Humanities faculty member with a transcript certifying completion of the courses so that the grade may be verified.

B. THE LYRIC DICTION EXAMINATION (oral)

1.) By appointment within 1 week following the translation portion of the exam, the student will take an oral diction exam administered by the designated member of the ESM Humanities faculty. This oral examination will be less than 1/2 hour in length. Using the song or aria from the translation exam, the student will read aloud the text in the musical rhythm of its setting (singing is not required.)

2.) If the student has completed Diction ACY 415a/b and ACY 416a/b with a grade of B or higher, or has previously taken lyric diction courses comparable to those required by Eastman, then this diction examination is waived (see section IB3 above.)

III. SCHEDULING of the EXAMS

The examinations will be administered by the ESM Humanities Department according to the following schedule:

Fall semester - usually the second full week of classes

Spring semester - usually the second full week of classes

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the door of Room 440 (Dr. Barr's office) several weeks in advance of the fall and spring exams.