

UCF Opera Workshop - Fall 2018

Contacting the Professor:

Professor's Name: Thomas Potter
Office Location: Performing Arts Building – M113 [Office Hours: Email for an appointment]
Office Phone #: 407 823 4680
Prof.'s Email: tpotter@ucf.edu

Robin Jensen's Phone: 407 246 5410 Email: rjensen@ucf.edu

Course Description and Objectives:

From the course catalog:

MUO 3503L – Undergraduate [or MUO 5505L – Graduate level – see Graduate Student section below]

PR: ~~MUO 2501C, or C.I., and~~ [Audition](#). Study, preparation, and performance of opera literature. May be repeated for credit. 7 times. 1(0,3)

Further course description:

Op-Shop meets on Mondays from 3-5pm in room M150 *and* on Fridays from 3-5pm in the Studio 1 of the Theater Building [T107]. Additional rehearsals and performance dates/times are available through our Webcourses Calendar feature. The fundamental purpose of Opera Workshop is the study and performance of opera. Students audition for and are chosen to sing specific operatic roles and/or scenes each semester. Those scenes are rehearsed and staged throughout the semester, then performed for a public audience. In addition, students may prepare and perform operatically centered programs in schools or other venues in the greater Orlando area.

Course Objectives:

- Students will study music-drama from a performer's perspective.
- Students will develop professional rehearsal skills, etiquette, and the ability to work within a group.
- Students will increase their acting and stage movement confidence.
- Students will develop their ability to analyze characters, music, and libretti [scripts].

Course Requirements and Policies:

Required Text:

- Students may need purchase a piano/vocal score for any opera(s) in which they sing.
- Students may also be required to purchase appropriate opera aria anthologies.

Technology/Software Requirements:

Students will be expected to have daily access to a computer. If you do not own a computer, there are computers accessible to you in UCF's computer labs. For further information on computer labs, [click here](#).

Webcourses:

Webcourses is an online course management system which will be used as a medium for turning in assignments and a forum for communicating with your course instructor and classmates. Check Webcourses *every day* for possible updates. In this class our official mode of communication is through email located inside Webcourses. It is the student's responsibility to check the Webcourse's "Inbox" daily.

This syllabus may be modified at the discretion of the instructor.
Any changes will be discussed in class and/or announced in Webcourses.

Revised May 26, 2018

Attendance:

Be on time to class – a portion of your training in this class is exercising professional etiquette. Tardiness will obviously effect your class participation grade and therefore your semester grade for the course.

If you know you must be late for a class, coaching, event, or rehearsal, please **text both me [321 230 7487] and Robin Jensen [407 246 5410]** to let us know prior to the scheduled start time.

If you know you must miss any expected attendance event (see course calendar in Webcourses) *for any reason*, send a message (through the Webcourses Inbox feature) as far in advance as you can and with as much detailed explanation as you can. Failure to write us about an attendance problem within 24 hours after the event/rehearsal/class will forfeit your chance of that absence being excused.

Students are allowed to miss one class period per semester [unexcused], but are expected to get notes from colleagues about material covered in the missed class to be prepared for the next class meeting. Missing more than two rehearsals [unexcused] will automatically lower the semester grade one letter. Missing [unexcused] any of the “extra” rehearsals in the VAB (November 12 & 17) will automatically lower the semester grade two letters. Missing [unexcused] the performance on November 18 will automatically earn an “F” for the semester.

Excused absences include:

- illness with a note from Health Service or a doctor the day you return to class
- *previously approved* official school business [chorus tour, etc.] with Program Verification form
- *previously approved* singing rehearsals or engagements [Opera Orlando, etc.]
- *previously approved* out of town audition or performance trips
- *previously approved* observance of religious holidays

*If you are not feeling well, you will still benefit from attending class and observing
– unless you are contagious, you should attend class.*

Special Dates effecting this course:

- September 3 [Monday] – Labor Day – NO CLASSES
- November 12 [Monday] – Veterans Day – NO CLASSES [this is an important rehearsal date for us this semester (*our first chance in the VAB Auditorium*), so **be available the entire day...**]
- November 17 [Saturday] – this is our only chance to rehearse in the VAB Auditorium with the stage extensions – specific call times will be announced, but **be available from mid-morning through the evening.**
- November 18 [Sunday] – Our Opera Scenes Performance @ 1:30pm [**Call times TBA**]
- November 19 [Monday] – this will be our final meeting of the class for the semester.

“Extra” Time and Expenses:

The performance oriented nature of this class will require extra time commitments to be outlined each semester. Please refer to the course calendar on Webcourses and mark your calendar at the start of the semester. Examples include:

- performance(s) in local schools or other venues
- technical or staging rehearsal(s) outside of class time
- dress rehearsal(s) outside of class time
- coachings (both individual and chamber) with Ms. Robin Jensen

Any additional requests of your time (after the start of classes) will be posted and announced in class.

Evaluation and Grading:

Check with Webcourses for requirements, assignments, evaluation policies, and rehearsal/performance schedules.

Graduate Student [Additional] Requirements:

Since this course is a “shared” course between undergraduate and graduate students, the University requires that graduate students have substantial additional requirements/assignments to justify the awarding of the graduate level course credit. These additional requirements/assignments will be individually discussed with each student early in the semester. Please ask for the MUO 5505 version of this syllabus.

Additional Information and Policies:**Audition Information:**

This course is a performance-centered ensemble, and as such, requires an audition for any new students joining the class for the first time. [Click here for the UCF Opera Audition Policies and Audition Form.](#) Returning students (who participated in a previous semester of the course, but not more than one year ago) do not need to re-audition. Any student returning after missing more than one semester or more should speak with Professor Potter about re-auditioning.

Library Resources:

- The School of Performing Arts provides FREE access to materials on the [IPA Source](#) website.
- The UCF Library has a good collection of operas in DVD format.
- The UCF Library maintains subscriptions to three of the most important opera periodicals:
 - Opera News Magazine
 - Classical Singer Magazine
 - Newslite [a journal produced by Opera America]

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the [Office of Student Conduct](#) for further action. See the [UCF Golden Rule](#) for further information.

Disability Statement:

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with [Student Disability Services](#), Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.