

UCF Opera Workshop - Spring 2021

Contacting the Professors:

Professors' Names: Thomas Potter & Robin Jensen
Office Locations: PAC M113 [Thomas] & M131 [Robin] [*Office Hours: Email for appointment*]
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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:

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.

Op-Shop meets on Mondays from 3-5pm. This semester, as we are still observing restrictions to keep us all safe from Covid-19, we will sometimes be meeting outside (*in between the Music and Theatre buildings*) and sometimes in the Recording Studio in the [Nicholson School of Communication and Media](#) building.

This semester's principal project is preparing an Opera Scenes program to perform as the opening of the "UCF Celebrates the Arts" festival. At this point, our performance date is scheduled for Friday, April 2, in the [Seneff Arts Plaza](#) (*in front of the downtown Dr. Phillips Center*).

Additional rehearsals, as our performance date draws nearer, will be announced in class and through Webcourses.

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. [Click here](#) for further information on computer labs.

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

Revised January 5, 2021

Attendance:

Be on time to class – a portion of your training in this class is exercising professional etiquette. Tardiness will obviously affect 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 rehearsal or 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 a major rehearsal without clearing it ahead of time will greatly affect your grade and should be avoided.**

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* observance of religious holidays

Special Dates effecting this course this semester - please enter in your calendar right away:

- January 18 [Monday] – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – NO CLASSES
- April 2 [Friday] – **Opera Scenes Performance** [Call times TBA]
- April 5 [Monday] – NO CLASS
- April 9 [Friday] – NO CLASS
- April 26 [Monday] – Final class meeting for semester

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:**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]