

UCF Opera Workshop - Spring 2020

Contacting the Professors:

Professors' Names: Thomas Potter & Robin Jensen
Office Locations: PAC M113 [Thomas] & M131 [Robin] [*Office Hours: Email for appointment*]
Phone #s: 407 823 4680 [Thomas] & 407 246 5410 [Robin]
Prof.'s Emails: tpotter@ucf.edu & 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 is used as a medium for turning in assignments and as a forum for communicating with your course instructor and classmates. It is the student's responsibility to **daily** check the Webcourse site for announcements, messages, etc. In this class, our official mode of communication is through email [or "Inbox"] located inside Webcourses.

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 1, 2020

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

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 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* out of town audition or performance trips
- *previously approved* observance of religious holidays

If you are not feeling well, you (and your colleagues) will still benefit from your attending class and observing – unless you are contagious (have a fever), you should attend the class/rehearsal.

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

- January 20 [Monday] – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – NO CLASSES
- February 20 [Thursday] – **required** trip to dress rehearsal of “*L’elisir d’amore*” @ **Sarasota Opera**
- February 27 [Thursday] – **required** Master Class with Kathryn Cowdrick [Eastman] [7-9pm in RH]
- March 13 [Friday] **required** extended staging rehearsal [3-10pm] – note – this is during Spring Break
- March 14 [Saturday] – field trip to see Gounod’s “*Romeo et Juliette*” @ **Sarasota Opera***
- March 15 [Sunday] **required** rehearsal for principals only with orchestra [6:30-8:00pm in M120]
- March 22 [Sunday] **required** Orchestra Sitzprobe 1 – full company - [6:30-8:30pm in M120]
- April 5 [Sunday] **required** Orchestra Sitz-Wandelprobe – full company - [6:30-8:30pm in VAB]
- April 14 [Tuesday] **required** Orchestra Dress 1 – full company - [6:00-9:00pm in VAB]
- April 15 [Wednesday] – **required** Staging/Spacing rehearsal - [1:00-5:00pm @ **DPAC**]
- April 16 [Thursday] – **required** Orchestra Final Dress – [6:30-10:00pm @ **DPAC**] [Call times TBA]
- April 17 [Friday] – **Opera Performance 1** @ 8:00pm [Call times TBA]
- April 19 [Sunday] – **Opera Performance 2** @ 1:00pm [Call times TBA]

** there will not be space on the bus for all students to go – there will be a lottery for those interested...*

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.