



**MUS 4932: Music Performance Workshop**  
Music Department  
College of Arts and Humanities, University of Central Florida

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

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Instructor:	Dr. Benjamin Lieser	Term:	Spring 2020
Office:	M212	Class Meeting Days:	Mo/We
Phone:	(407) 823-0528	Class Meeting Hours:	4:30-5:45
E-Mail:	Benjamin.Lieser@ucf.edu	Class Location:	M120
Office Hours:	See office door		

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**I. Welcome!**

Get ready to bring your performance to a new level!

**II. University Course Catalog Description**

Coaching and peer interaction for improvement of individual music performance.

**III. Course Overview**

This course offers solutions to young musicians who look to become more confident and expressive performers. This unique and forward-thinking course will be both performance and research based—giving students the tools to succeed, and reinforcing them through performance assignments. The goal is to encourage fearless artistry, beginning in the practice room and continuing onstage and beyond.

**IV. Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Perform with more confidence with less performance anxiety.
- Perform works at a higher musical level.
- Prepare for and perform auditions with confidence.

- Have experience in recording musical examples.
- Provide constructive comments to fellow performers.

## V. Course Prerequisites

Students must have passed level I of applied music (MVX 1XXX).

VI. **Course Credits:** 3 hours; may be repeated for credit once, for a maximum of two times.

## VII. Required Texts and Materials:

Jenkins, Rachele. *Audition Playbook*. [www.auditionplaybook.com](http://www.auditionplaybook.com)

Greene, Don. *Performance Success*. Routledge: New York, NY. 2002. ISBN 0-87830-122-4

Personal Recording Device (**Recommended:** zoom or similar device **Other:** computer, phone, etc.)

Other Recommended texts:

Clear, James. *Atomic Habits*. Avery: New York, NY. 2018. ISBN 9780735211292

Greene, Don. *Audition Success*. Routledge: New York, NY. 2001. ISBN 0-878-30121-6

Greene, Don. *Fight Your Fear and Win*. Broadway Books: New York, NY. 2001. ISBN 0-7679-0626-8

## VIII. Basis for Final Grade

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Percent of Final Grade</u>
Attendance	10%
Class performance/participation	30%
Book Report I - written	10%
Book Report I - oral	10%
Mock Audition	20%
10 Peer evaluations	10%
Performance Log	10%
	<hr/>
	100%

### Grading Scale

All Grades will be posted on Webcourses@UCF.

This course adopts the following scale to assign grades:

93-100= A | 90-92= A- | 88-89= B+ | 82-87= B | 80-81=B- | 78-79= C+ | 72-77= C | 70-71= C- | 60-69= D |

59 and below= F

## IX. Grade Dissemination

Grades for written work will be disseminated via Webcourses. Grades for class performances, mock audition, peer evaluations and final jury exam will be disseminated directly from the professor.

## **X. Course Policies: Grades**

**Late Work Policy:** Written work that is turned in late will be assessed a penalty: a half-letter grade if it is one day late, or a full-letter grade for 2-7 days late. It will not be accepted if overdue by more than seven days.

**Extra Credit Policy:** No extra credit will be available in this course.

**Grades of "Incomplete":** The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the "I" will automatically be recorded as an "F" on your transcript.

## **XI. Course Policies: Technology and Media**

**Email:** this is the preferred method of communication with the professor.

**Webcourses:** Written work will be submitted through Webcourses.

**Classroom Devices:** electronic devices may be used for recording audio and video in class.

## **XII. Important Dates to Remember**

Drop/Swap Deadline: Jan 9

Add Deadline: Jan 10

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – no classes: January 20

Book Report 1 Due: March 4

Spring Break: Mar 9-14

Withdrawal Deadline: Mar 20

Last Day of Class: April 20

### **Religious Observances**

Students are expected to notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class to observe a holy day of their religious faith.

## **XIII. Assignments**

### **A. Class performances**

Students will select musical works from their current or future study, such as arias, sonatas, concertos, orchestral excerpts, and audition repertoire. After preparing a given work outside of class, the student will perform the work in class. The professor will offer coaching and

suggestions for the student as in a masterclass setting, and other students in the class will make written and verbal evaluations for improvement.

## **B. Book report**

For each book report (1), Students will select one book from a list of books on the subject of music performance, performance anxiety, and similar topics. Each student will select a different book. The first written book report of 500 words will be submitted, by the end of the day (11:59) on March 4th (3/4). A verbal report of at least 5 minutes will be presented to the class, in a schedule to be determined by the professor. In this way, the material in the book may be shared with all the members of the class.

### Examples:

Beilock, Sian. *Choke: What The Secrets of the Brain Reveal About Getting it Right When You Have to*. Free Press, 2010.

Bonetti, Ruth. *Taking Centre-Stage; How to Survive and Enjoy Performing in Public*. Albatross Books, 1997.

Bruser, Madeline. *The Art of Practicing; A Guide to Making Music from the Heart*. Bell Tower Books, 1997

Buswell, David. *Performance Strategies for Musicians*. MX Publishing, 2006.

Green, Barry. *The Inner Game of Music*. Anchor Press, 1986.

Lane, Phyllis. *10,000 Hours: You Become What You Practice*. 2012

Stohrer, Sharon L. *The Performer's Companion: Conquering Performance Anxiety*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014

## **C. Mock Audition**

In consultation with the instructor, each student will select appropriate repertoire for a mock audition. The student will have one or more preparation coachings in class on the material. Audition skills will be discussed. At a suitable time, the student will perform the mock audition behind a screen. Grading will be provided through a rubric for this assignment.

## **D. Peer evaluations**

Based on student performances in class, other students will complete written peer evaluations. Expectations and skills for the evaluations will be discussed in class. Students will provide observations of the performing student, evaluation of progress, and constructive criticism for

improvement. This assignment will provide training for future teaching by students. The evaluations will be graded by a rubric.

### **E. Performance Log**

Each student will keep a log book that contains their Daily Practice Planning, Weekly Practice Goals, Performance Reflections, and a printed version of their peer evaluations. This log book will be turned in on the last day of class. It is to be kept organized. The log book will be graded by a rubric.

## **XIV. Course Policies: Student Expectations**

The Center for Academic Integrity (CAI) defines academic integrity as a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behavior that enable academic communities to translate ideals into action.

<http://www.academicintegrity.org/icai/assets/FVProject.pdf>

- A. **Attendance Policy:** Since this is a participatory class, attendance is required. One unexcused absence is allowed. After that, each unexcused absence will result in a grade reduction of 2%.
- B. **Professionalism Policy:** Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, *etc.* **must be silenced** during all classroom and lab lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom/lab immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, *etc.*, and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.
- C. **Academic Conduct Policy:** Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook (<http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/>) for further details. As in all University courses, The Golden Rule Rules of Conduct will be applied. Violations of these rules will result in a record of the infraction being placed in your file and receiving a zero on the work in question AT A MINIMUM. At the instructor's discretion, you may also receive a failing grade for the course. Confirmation of such incidents can also result in expulsion from the University
- D. **UCF Creed:** Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.
  - 1. Integrity: I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.
  - 2. Scholarship: I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.
  - 3. Community: I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.
  - 4. Creativity: I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.
  - 5. Excellence: I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

The following definitions of plagiarism and misuse of sources comes from the Council of Writing Program Administrators <<http://wpacouncil.org/node/9>> and has been adopted by UCF's Department of Writing & Rhetoric.

## **E. Plagiarism**

In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. This definition applies to texts published in print or on-line, to manuscripts, and to the work of other student writers.

## **F. Misuse of Sources**

A student who attempts (even if clumsily) to identify and credit his or her source, but who misuses a specific citation format or incorrectly uses quotation marks or other forms of identifying material taken from other sources, has not plagiarized. Instead, such a student should be considered to have failed to cite and document sources appropriately.

## **G. Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating**

UCF faculty members have a responsibility for your education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to infringements of academic integrity. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see <http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade>. For more information about UCF's Rules of Conduct, see <http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

## **H. Unauthorized Use of Class Materials**

There are many fraudulent websites claiming to offer study aids to students but are actually cheat sites. They encourage students to upload course materials, such as test questions, individual assignments, and examples of graded material. Such materials are the intellectual property of instructors, the university, or publishers and may not be distributed without prior authorization. Students who engage in such activity are in violation of academic conduct standards and may face penalties.

## **I. Unauthorized Use of Class Notes**

Faculty have reported errors in class notes being sold by third parties, and the errors may be contributing to higher failure rates in some classes. The following is a statement appropriate for distribution to your classes or for inclusion on your syllabus:

Third parties may be selling class notes from this class without my authorization. Please be aware that such class materials may contain errors, which could affect your performance or grade. Use these materials at your own risk.

## **J. In-Class Recording Policy**

Outside of the notetaking and recording services offered by Student Accessibility Services, the creation of an audio or video recording of all or part of a class for personal use is allowed *only* with the advance and explicit written consent of the instructor. Such recordings are only acceptable in the context of personal, private studying and notetaking and are not authorized to be shared with *anyone* without the separate written approval of the instructor.

## **K. Course Accessibility Statement**

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need specific access in this course, such as accommodations, should contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss various access options. Students should also connect with [Student Accessibility Services](#) (Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, [sas@ucf.edu](mailto:sas@ucf.edu), phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable.

## **L. Campus Safety Statement**

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, we will all need to work together. Everyone should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.

- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at [http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency\\_guide.html](http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html).
- Familiarize yourself with evacuation routes from each of your classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency. (Insert class-specific details if appropriate)
- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see <http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html> (click on link from menu on left). (insert class specific information if appropriate)
- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to [my.ucf.edu](http://my.ucf.edu) and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on your Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- If you have a special need related to emergency situations, please speak with me during office hours.
- Consider viewing this video (<https://youtu.be/NIKYajEx4pk>) about how to manage an active shooter situation on campus or elsewhere.

### **M. Deployed Active Duty Military Students**

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your instructor to discuss your circumstances.

### **N. Copyright**

- This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

### **O. Third-Party Software and FERPA**

- During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need not make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

### **P. Changes to Syllabus**

All dates, assignments and elements of this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified promptly of any changes and the reason for the change.