

University South Alabama
MUO 116-516
Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop
2:30-4:20 MW/LPAC 1230

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**Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop
Course Syllabus
Fall, 2008**

Objective

The purpose and mission of Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop is to train young performers in the fundamentals of stage craft, performance and production through experience with music for the stage. Standards of opera, operetta, and American musical theatre will be explored in scene exercises and fully-staged productions. Performances culminating each semester's work will be presented before the public at the Laidlaw Performing Arts Center and in outreach venues in the Mobile Community. Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop is dedicated to education in music for the stage by developing student performers, student performances, and community outreach in the school.

Prerequisite

Participation in Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop is open to all currently enrolled USA students through audition or consent of the instructor.

Course Structure

Division of the course will remain flexible according to production demands. Leading role responsibility, as well as ensemble support skills will be taught to each performer. Class members must be prepared with individual parts before rehearsals. Rehearsals are intended for working characterization, vocalization, expression, stage movement, ensemble interaction, and other artistic concerns. Active participation with prompt professionalism is required of all enrolled. Upper level performance majors assigned individual or small ensemble scenes will be required to stage, choreograph/block and set lights for their scene as part of evaluation.

Text and Materials

Music as provided

Attendance

Due to the cooperative nature of a music ensemble, attendance is mandatory at rehearsals and performances. Should a medical emergency or illness occur, the student must notify the professor as quickly as possible and provide an excuse from a medical professional upon return. Accrued unexcused absences will result in the loss of role responsibilities and a reduced semester grade. Some measure of flexibility will be factored into the schedule to allow for unforeseen changes in class meeting times such as weather emergencies, etc. Any major schedule changes will be given to the student with appropriate advance notice.

All students must adjust their work schedules to be present for evening rehearsals beginning Saturday, November 15 at 4:00 p.m. to Sunday, November 24 following the final performance.

Performances

At least one full performance will be scheduled for Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop each semester. Smaller performances may also be scheduled for outreach and recruitment purposes.

Performance dress for men and women involved with Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop will be determined by the responsibilities of each role. All members should have access to formal wear. Costumes are provided for students by the department.

Grading Policy

Grading will be based on the following criteria:

1. attendance, punctuality and professionalism at all rehearsals and performances
2. preparation of music
3. discussion of performance practices
4. level of cooperation, assistance with organization activities
5. ability to function as an ensemble member: giving and receiving feedback and instruction in a positive and constructive manner
6. a standard of artistic excellence in performance of individual and ensemble parts

The following percentages reflect the way in which final semester grades are tabulated in this course:

Attendance, punctuality, professionalism	25%
Musical preparation	30%
Initiative	10%
Ensemble participation/group feedback	10%
Semester performance	25%
	100%

Letter grading will be as follows:

90-100 points – A	60-69 points – D
80-89 points – B	0-59 points – F
70-79 points – C	

Equipment

Class members must arrive vocally warmed up and music/pencil ready for each rehearsal.

Office Hours

At least 6 (six) hours of office time each week are made available for the student to meet with the professor as is necessary. Please consult the schedule posted on the professor's door for available times.

Students with Disabilities

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodations. The Office of Special Students Services (460-7212) will certify disabilities and advise the professor of reasonable accommodations required.