

## Western Opera Class Outline 2020-2021

This class outline refers to Western University, Don Wright Faculty of Music, undergraduate courses: 2970, 3970, 4970 and graduate ensemble course 9528 or Graduate Opera Workshop course number 9546. \*\*The last date to drop a full course is November 30, 2020. the MPS Performance Handbook for standard Western University illness and absence accommodation policies. "Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)

Health and Wellness *"Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."*

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/)

[http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\\_health/resources.html](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html)."

Master Course Outline for Applied Music

<http://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/course-outlines.html>

**Note: Texting and use of electronic devices are not allowed during rehearsal.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING COVID-19** The opera course this year will take place, if possible\*, in both face to face and online (ZOOM) format. Coaching, both musical and dramatic, for the operas and the Gala will occur in both formats as possible. Larger classes for the entire UWOPERA company will take place via ZOOM. These ZOOM meetings will take place during the regular Monday evening class times. All students registered in the opera courses will be required to be in attendance as stated by the weekly schedule. Attendance will be taken.

**NOTE:** At the end of this document is a Nettiquette statement. It is essential that we all take our online responsibilities seriously as stated.

**\* our Face to Face interactions will be subject to all the public and university health protocols, including masks and social distancing.**

## **1. Course Description**

“Performing and technical aspects of the production of opera, including musical and dramatic interpretation, stage movement, techniques of stagecraft, lighting, scene construction, make-up, costumes.” From Western University Calendar. The Opera Class takes place, according to calendar, on Monday from 6 - 9:30 p.m. During production other times are also required in order to fully prepare for the performances. Rehearsals/coaching will also be called on Tuesday from 6-10 p.m., on Friday from 4-9, and on some Saturdays during the fall term leading up to the production of “Cosi Fan Tutte”. There may also be some music/dramatic coaching rehearsals on “Suor Angelica/Gianni Schicchi” scheduled during the second week of December 2020. If the participants are unable to attend these extra times (during production) due to a class scheduling conflict we will adjust the schedule to accommodate. The venues and times for these rehearsals are listed in the MASTER SCHEDULE which is part of this document.

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Participants must inform Professor Baerg if they are unable to participate in all of the times listed above and in the Master Schedule **within 1 week** after the role assignments for the year have been posted. It is essential that participants in UWOPERA are available for all of their calls.

All members of UWOPERA will be required to participate as assigned following acceptance into the course. This may include roles in the various productions, chorus assignments, extra character assignments, assistance in stage management, and the technical areas of production; costumes, makeup, hair styles, stage crew, or as production assistants.

Master of Music and Doctoral candidates are expected to display leadership and mentor/support the other members of the workshop.

All members of UWOPERA should note that casting is always subject to change if the singer is deemed to be unprepared or otherwise unsuitable for the role. These changes will be at the discretion of the producer, head coach, stage director, and music director. The student’s vocal teacher will be consulted.

Casting for all events will be posted within 5 days following the end of the September auditions.

## 2. Class/Production Participant Responsibilities and Outcomes

Opera is a collaborative art form and knowledge of how it is produced, in all its technical areas and at all levels, is invaluable to the aspiring performer. It is the student's responsibility to take advantage of all the opportunities for increasing that knowledge as provided by the UWOPERA experience. This will enable the participant to create and express their character(s) in a manner that communicates with their audience. It will also enable the student to learn to organize their time in a manner that enables this growth and presentation. The participants will also develop knowledge of the repertoire most suitable for them at each stage of their ongoing development.

Members of UWOPERA are expected to know words and music when they arrive for coaching. Preparing the music to this initial level is the personal responsibility of the student. Coaches are NOT expected to teach notes and rhythms to the singers but will correct inaccuracies and rehearse music for style, diction and memory. Understudies/covers should plan on attending all musical and staging rehearsals. Coaching and some staging will be offered to the understudies, as possible in the schedule, once those performing the roles have been prepared. Understudies have been asked to take over roles in past years and all current understudies should bear that in mind.

**Important Requirement:** All members of the opera workshop are required to provide a short 150 word biography and a head shot picture before October 2, 2020. This picture and bio will be used for the program and promotional purposes. Please send the picture and bio to TAs at <wuow.ta@gmail.com> To protect you privacy if you prefer not to have your picture or bio displayed please let Prof Baerg know by October 2.

### **N.B The following dates are mandatory for music memorization**

Cosi Fan Tutte - October 5, 2020

Puccini Operas –December 7, 2020

Opera Gala –February 8, 2021

Members of UWOPERA are required to be on time for all coaching and to be available at least 10 minutes before their call for all staging and at least 15 minutes before all orchestra rehearsals. Costume fittings and makeup times will be posted and punctuality is required for these calls as

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well. If a student is unable to attend any of the above they must let the coach or the stage manager of the production know at least 12 hours IN ADVANCE of their absence. Sending an email or leaving a telephone message just prior to an absence does not constitute sufficient notice. All operatic production preparation requires a great deal of organization and we cannot afford to lose valuable coaching/preparation time. Students will be excused for reasons of illness, personal emergency, and religious accommodation in addition to other reasons as appropriate to the policies of Western University. If the reason for absence cannot be confirmed the role assignment may be altered at the discretion of the producer/director/music director. Please note that coaching missed for any reason will be made up only if scheduling allows and the missed coaching in question will be offered to someone else.

All members of UWOPERA should be aware, and always remember, that our art form relies on the good will and volunteer effort of many to be a success. The collegial attitude and manner of participation should always reflect our gratefulness for their continuing assistance. This includes members of both our university and local communities. We are committed to providing a safe and caring learning environment for all students. If a member of UWOPERA is unable to take part in movement/choreography classes for reasons of a physical difficulty she/he should let the producer know as soon as possible. The director may request confirmation in accordance with Western University policy.

3. Grading Scheme The following will be considered when the final mark is awarded in this course: Punctual attendance at all scheduled calls, **10 %**. The level of the knowledge of the music when it is brought to musical or dramatic coaching as well as participation in production based assignments, **25%**. State of the memory of assigned music by the assigned date **30%**. Participation in the assigned performances. **(if a performance is missed due to illness or other acceptable reason there will be no deduction in the overall mark) 30%**. Collegiality, as it affects the other members of the performing troupe and their ability to perform their responsibilities, is an important part of any collaborative artistic venture. **5%**

### 4. Class Schedule Information

The attached Master Schedule (which is part of this document) will be subject to change in emergency situations.. The weekly schedule will be sent, if possible, to all members of the company via email before 12:00 p.m Saturday for the following week. It will also be on the opera website. Finding out what is on the schedule is the students responsibility.

If a student is unable to come to a coaching due to illness the understudy will be considered first for the time slot and after that the time will be re-assigned at the discretion of the coaching staff and producer. Coaching missed without reasonable excuse **will not be re-scheduled** and the music preparation will be the responsibility of the student.

All students who have been accepted into the course must immediately and carefully check the Master Schedule for potential class conflicts. If these conflicts will cause difficulty with the fulfillment of your responsibilities listed above you must make the producer aware of these conflicts. It is **the student's responsibility** to make these conflicts known **well in advance** so that arrangements can be made to assist the students with requests for absence from the conflicting event/class and ensure their presence at UWOPERA rehearsals and performances. All members of UWOPERA must be available as called during the two weeks prior to all dress rehearsals and continuing through the performance period. Please note that all students will not be called to all of the scheduled rehearsals, but must be available if required. The master schedule covers all activities during the UWOPERA season.

## **NETIQUETTE**

### **1. Be accurate with factual information**

Misleading others is obviously a major breach of online etiquette. This is true even if it's unintentional. Check facts before providing information or giving advice. Provide sources.

### **2. Extend your good nature online**

The digital world is an increasingly important part of our lives. We should be our best selves there too. Do you think you're generally a good person? Are you pleasant, polite and well-mannered? Most people would answer "Yes" or "Most of the time". If someone says "Hello", you say "Hi" back. But what about online? Are you still that same considerate, nice person when you're in an online forum (including [social media](#))?

### **3. Use internet resources ethically**

Online study resources should be used to support learning, not replace it.

### **4. Promote healthy discussions**

To get the most out of online forums, a useful netiquette guideline is to promote healthy discussion. You can help your online community by posing questions, sharing experiences, providing positive feedback, asking follow-up questions, and referring to information sources. Being a positive contributor is better than being a critic, troll or other negative force.

### **5. Ignore inflammatory comments by trolls**

It's generally best to ignore trolls.

### **6. Respect others as equals**

Show a little respect and humility online. Think – that person who wrote the opinion you completely disagree with is a human being. They have feelings and experiences. They may believe passionately in what they're saying. And they may actually be right.

### **7. You're here to learn, not dictate**

While we all like to think that our opinion matters, you'll gain more from internet forums by approaching them as a learner. A more polite and effective path is to adopt a listening mode. Read posts carefully, ask questions, and write something only if it offers value to the discussion.

### **8. Remember, your words are permanent**

Be careful with what you post online. Once it's out there, you may not be able to get it back. Anything is possible with information that reaches the internet. It can go viral. It will be stored somewhere and may be findable through search. What you post can easily affect your relationships and career, if not now then possibly in the future. So always be at least a little cautious in your online interactions.

### **9. Pause before you post**

It's worth taking a moment to reflect before hitting the send button. When you're using a computer, you're normally clicking, and scrolling and typing all over the place. Most things are done quickly. Pause and reflect for a second. Are you truly comfortable with what you're sending?

### **10. Make your point in a nice way**

Write in a way to get the kind of reaction you want. A little thoughtfulness, strategy and netiquette can go a long way in online discussions. Your first draft of an online post is unlikely to be your best. Are you disagreeing with someone in a flippant way? Have you misinterpreted what they really meant? Writing in a constructive way is a great habit to get into. Your online communications will turn out much better.

### **11. Use anonymity responsibly**

While anonymity frees up online conversations, your ability to hide much of yourself shouldn't be misused. Good behaviour helps others, improves your online experience and ultimately will help you become a better communicator. Conversely, bad behaviour catches up with people eventually.

### **12. Write like you'd speak**

Write naturally as if you were talking to someone right in front of you. While it's helpful to put thought into what you write, you generally don't want the product to appear laboured. So try to sum up your thoughts in a fluent, natural way.

### **13. Good writing is good manners**

When posting text for others to see, try to write well. Good writing is, therefore, an essential part of netiquette.

### **14. Clarity is essential**

Clear writing is essential to convey proper meaning online. Unfortunately, short texts have their limitations. You need to be accurate and very clear to avoid misunderstandings when writing online.

## **Production Personnel 2020-21**

Coordinator of Western Opera: Professor T. Baerg [tbaerg@uwo.ca](mailto:tbaerg@uwo.ca)

office telephone x 85388 Office MB 307

Opera Teaching Assistants – TBA

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Music Director “Cosi Fan Tutte” – Simone Luti

Director: “Cosi Fan Tutte” Professor Baerg

Music Director : “Suor Angelica/Gianni Schicchi” - Simone Luti

Director: ”Suor Angelica/Gianni Schicchi” - TBA

Music Director Opera Gala – Simone Luti

Director Opera Gala: Professor Baerg

Coaching Staff: Head Coach: Simone Luti

Repetiteurs: TBA

Stage Manager(s) – TBA

Costume Design and/or Co-ordination – TBA

Set Design; TBA

Lighting Design: - Bryan Hart

Theatre/Performance Location Coordinator: Louis D’Alton, Bryan Hart



## MASTER CLASS SCHEDULE WESTERN OPERA 2020-21

NOTE THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS PART OF THE DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC  
OPERA WORKSHOP CLASS OUTLINE

Cosi fan Tutte - Cosi  
Suor Angelica/Schicchi- SAS  
Gala - Gala

Venues Music Building 27, 227,140, 254,321  
Coaching TC 10, MB 307  
Paul Davenport Theatre PDT

**\*\*NOTE: SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO ACTIVITY CHANGES ON THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE\*\***

**ALL one hour Coaching Times will be 45 minutes to allow for ventilation time in the Rehearsal space.**

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/Call	LOCATION
9/14	6-7:30	ZOOM CASTING MEETING	MB 227
9/18	5-8	Final Casting To Be Posted Coach Cosi	
9/21	6:30-7:30 7:30-9:30	ZOOM Class Full Company Coaching Cosi	MB 27, TBA
9/22	6-9	Coach/Music Cosi	MB 227, TBA
9/25	5-8	Coach Music Cosi	TBA
9/28	6:30-7:20 7:45-8:35	ZOOM with all in 2970 Or meet F to F if numbers warrant ZOOM with all in 3970 Or meet F to F if numbers warrant	
	6:30-9	Coach/Music Cosi Cast 1	MB 27,227
9/29	6:30-9:30	Coach/Music Cosi Cast A	MB 227
10/2	5-8	Coach Cosi	27, TBA
10/5	6:30-9:30 6:30-7:20 7:30-8:20	Coach Cosi ZOOM with all in 4970 ZOOM with SAS Cast	27, 227 TBA
10/6	6:30-9:30	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi	227, TBA, ZOOM
10/13	6:30-9:30	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi	MB 227, TBA, ZOOM
10/16	5-8	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi	MB 227, ZOOM

10/19 6-9:30	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi	227
10/20 6:30-9	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi Coach Music SAS	TBA, ZOOM TBA
10/23 5-8	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi Coach SAS	27 TBA
10/24 1:30-5:30/6:30-9:30	TBA COSI	TBA, ZOOM
10/26 6:30-9:30	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi SAS Rehearsal	227 TBA
10/27 6:30-9:30	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi	27
10/30 5-8	Music/Dramatic Coach Cosi	27
1/31 1:30-5:30/6:30-9:30	TBA COSI	27

**November 2-6 Fall Reading Week –TBA will occur with Graduate students. Space TBA \* If possible/necessary\***

11/9 6:30-10:30	Cosi Run Through SAS Coaching	TBA
11/10 6:30-10:30	Cosi Run Through SAS Coaching	TBA 27,140
11/11 6:30-10	Cosi Run Through	TBA
11/12 6-:30-10	Cosi Run Through	PDT
11/13	4-6:30 Sitz Probe 7:30-10 Sitz Probe	PDT
11/14	10-12;30 & 1:30-4 Orca Rehearsals	PDT
11/16 6:00-10:00	Cosi Orca Full Cast	PDT
11/18 6:00-10:30	Cosi Dress	PDT
11/19 6:00-10:30	Cosi Dress	PDT
11/21 1-5	Cosi #1	PDT
11/22 1-5	Cosi #2	PDT

11/23 6:30-9:30	SAS Music	MB 27
11/24 6:30-9:30	SAS Music	MB 227
11/27 5-8	SAS Dramatic Coaching	MB 27
11/30 6:30-9:30	SAS Music/Coaching	27, 227
12/1 6:30-9:30	SAS Music/Coaching	227, TBA
12/4 5-8	SAS Dramatic Coaching	TBA

12/7-12/12 **Daytime Possible SAS Principles Dramatic Coaching 10-1/2-5**

## 2021

**Note that there will be Gala Music Rehearsals During January Mon/Tue/Fri TBA**

1/4 6-9:30	SAS Dramatic Coaching	227
1/5 6-9:30	SAS Dramatic Coaching	27
1/8 5-8	SAS Dramatic Coaching	27
1/11 6-9:30	SAS Dramatic Coaching	227
1/12 6-9:30	SAS Dramatic Coaching	27
1/15 5-8	SAS Dramatic Coaching	27
1/16 2-5 & 7-10	SAS Dramatic Coaching	PDT
1/18 6-10	SAS Run Full Company	PDT
1/19 6-10	SAS Run Full Company	PDT
1/20 6-10	SAS Run Full Company	PDT
1/21 6-10	SAS Run Full Company	PDT
1/22 3:30-6:30	Sitz Probe #1 Full Company (Orca 4-6:30)	PDT
7-10	Sitzprobe #2 Full Company (Orca 7:30-10:00)	PDT
1/23 9:30-12:30	Orca Run Full Company (Orca 10-12:30)	PDT
1-4:30	Orca Run Full Company (Orca 1:30-4:00)	PDT

1/25 6-10	SAS Staging @ Orca (Orca 7-10)	PDT
1/27 6-10:30	SAS Dress # 1	PDT
1/28 6-10:30	SAS Dress # 2 (Orca 7-10)	PDT
1/30 12:30-5	SAS Performance #1	PDT
1/31 12:30-5	SAS Performance #2	PDT
2/2 6-9	GALA Music	227,140
2/5 5-8	Gala Music	27
2/8 6-9	Gala Music	27, 227, 321
2/9 6-9	Gala Music/Dramatic Coaching	227/140
2/22 6-9	Gala Dramatic Coaching	27, 227
2/23 6-9	Gala Dramatic Coaching	227
2/26 5-8	Gala Dramatic Coaching	27/227
2/27 1:30-5	Gala Dramatic Coaching	27
3/1 6-9:30	Gala Dramatic Coaching (TBA)	227
3/2 6-9:30	Gala Dramatic Coaching	27
3/5 6-9	Gala Run	27
3/8 6-9:30	Gala Run	PDT
3/9 6-9:30	Gala Dress	PDT
3/10 6-9:30	Gala Dress	PDT
3/12 6:30-10	Gala #1 (Perf at 7:30 pm)	PDT
3/13 1:30-4:30	Gala #2 (Perf at 2 pm)	PDT

## **END OF OPERA SEASON**

### **AVAILABILITY/ROOM ASSIGNMENTS/DAYS/TIMES**

Monday MB 27,227 6-10 321 6:30-10  
Tuesday MB 227, 254,140 6-10

Friday MB 27, 254, 227 5-8

Saturday MB 27 (Afternoon/Evening) If necessary

Coachings also occur in TC 10 and MB 307 as necessary/possible

PDT as per the schedule