

**Art of Vocal Coaching 2020-21
M9567y**

**Tuesday 1:30-3:00pm
MB 254**

Instructor: Simone Luti
sluti@uwo.ca

office hours: by appointment

The objective of this course is to develop an understanding of the role of the vocal coach. To do so, students will study of significant operas, oratorios and orchestral art songs.

Topics covered will include but will not be limited to: breathing, recitative secco and accompagnato, continuo realization, ornamentation, cadenzas, orchestral reduction, use of expressing language and text, and basic conducting elements.

Each student will present on the following topics weekly. Specific repertoire will be assigned no later than a week prior to the presentation.

Fall semester

- Set 15 Introduction.
What is a collaborative pianist: an overlook of the necessary tools to become a vocal coach and collaborative pianist
- Sept 22 Sing and Play I: arias of the standard repertoire
- Sept 29 *...continued...*
- Oct 6 Purcell and his mad scenes
- Oct 13 Handel's Giulio Cesare I: recitative, ornamentation, cadenzas, continuo
- Oct 20 *...continued...*
- Oct 27 Mozart's Cosi fan tutte I: recitative secco and accompagnato, arias and ensemble coaching and playing, basic conducting
- Nov 10 *...continued...*
- Nov 17 Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi I. Orchestral reduction, cadenzas and ornamentation, style issues, arias and ensembles in the Age of Bel Canto
- Nov 24 *...continued...*

Dec 1 The evolution of the recitative in the post romantic opera I (Puccini, Debussy, Stravinsky, etc)

Dec 8 The evolution of the recitative in the modern opera II (Berg, Argento, Britten)

Winter semester

Jan 12 The pianist as conductor . Conducting practice, patterns, breath

Jan 19 *...continued...*

Jan 26 *The pianist as director¹*

Feb 2 Bach & Oratorios

Feb 9 *...continued...*

Feb 23 Orchestral reduction

Mar 2 Coaching session I: individual coaching session under observation

Mar 9 *...continued...*

Mar 16 *...continued...*

Mar 23 Opera scene

Mar 30 *...continued...*

Apr 6 Make-up session

Methods of Evaluations:

In class presentation 70%

In class participation 30%

Attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences (see below) will be reflected in the participation grade.

The students will receive a grade for each class out of 100. The final grade will be an average of the grades accumulated during the year.

¹ Katz, Martin. The complete Collaborator Oxford University Press, 2009, p. 61

The class will be delivered in hybrid format, both virtually and face-to-face. Online instruction sessions will be done using Zoom.

Notes:

i) Grading scale for all aspects of the course

A 80 – 100% B 70 – 79% C 60 – 69% F 00 – 59%

ii) Statement on Accommodation for Medical Illness

The Graduate Program in Music recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by physical or mental illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The Graduate Program in Music further recognizes that physical or mental illness situations are deeply personal, and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. In order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the office of the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies), not to the course instructor.

Students with special learning needs or other circumstances are asked to inform the instructor as soon as possible so that necessary accommodations can be considered.

iii) Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic offence, as found at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

iv) Statement on Health and Wellness

As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help students achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing a graduate degree. Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone in whom they feel comfortable confiding, such as a faculty supervisor, a program advisor, or the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies). Campus mental health resources may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html

v) Recording of Online Activities:

All the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings. Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

vi) Contingency Plan:

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor.

vii) Online Etiquette:

Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your colleagues, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- *Use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet).*
- *“Arrive” to class on time.*
- *Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions*
- *To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone when you are not speaking.*
- *Unless invited by the instructor, do not share your screen.*
- *Be prepared to turn your video off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable.*

General considerations of “netiquette”:

- *Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.*
- *Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are*

discussing.

- *Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in*

your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable.

viii) All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com, <http://turnitin.uwo.ca/>

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