

WESTERN UNIVESITY
M9834y/9503y
DMA Vocal Literature: Opera
Fall MB140/ Winter TC101 Tuesdays 9:30-11:00am
Dr. Todd Wiczorek, MB207
519-661-2111, ext. 85398; 226-927-8476
twieczor@uwo.ca

Purpose: Within the Doctoral Vocal Literature courses, students will delve deeper into various aspects of the literature, more so than the general literature reviews of the undergraduate or master's levels. This course will require students to perform in-depth research into the historical and political backdrops in which their selected operas were composed, to compare their operas and roles against other works composed around the same time, to compare extant scores/editions and recordings, to study and present roles from the repertoire, and to compile their research for in-class presentations.

Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course, participants will:

- familiarize themselves with the epochs of opera history, including major centers of composition, composers and librettists, major works, and historical/political climates
- refine research strategies to the end of presenting individual findings during in-class
- develop strategies in learning operatic repertoire for performance/presentation

Methods: Each participant will select four operas from varying epochs: Baroque/classical; Classical/Romantic; 20th-Century/Contemporary ; Beyond IFEG

The rotation will be as follows:

Week #1— Historical backdrop for composer/librettist (who, what, where)

Week #2— Contemporaries around your composer and their important works

Week #3— Plot and general form analysis of your opera (recits and arias, ensembles, others)

Week #4— Comparison of scores and recordings and research sources

Week #5— Performing (possible arias, duets, ensembles that contribute)

Grading:

Role 1 Presentations:	20%
Role 2 Presentations:	20%
Role 3 Presentations:	20%
Role 4 Presentations:	20%
Roles selected, Aria List, Resources:	15% (5%/presentation)
Attendance and communication:	5%

A+=100-90%; A=89-80%; B=79-70%; C=69-60%; D=59-50%; F=<49%

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

Statement on Health and Wellness: Students who are in emotional or mental distress should refer to [Health and Wellness](#) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>

Statement on Accommodation for Medical Illness: The Graduate Program in Music recognizes that a student's ability to fulfill academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by illness or injury. To ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's course grade shall be granted only in cases where there is documentation indicating that the student could not reasonably be expected to meet the 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.

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Accessible Education Western: Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members, including graduate students. As part of this commitment, Western provides a variety of services devoted to promoting, advocating, and accommodating persons with disabilities in their respective graduate program. Graduate students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility impairments) are strongly encouraged to register with Accessible Education Western (AEW), a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both AEW and their graduate programs (normally their Graduate Chair and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged. These accommodations include individual counselling, alternative formatted literature, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction, writing exams and assistive technology instruction.”

Statement on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence: Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence, either recently or in the past, you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca or call 519-661-3568.

Tentative Calendar:

Fall:

Sept. 13--Syllabus/Presentation Outline
Sept. 20—Operas and Roles Selected
Sept. 27—Opera 1-
Oct. 4—Opera 1
Oct. 11—Opera 1
Oct. 18—Opera 1
Oct. 25—Opera 1 Singing
Nov. 1—FALL BREAK
Nov. 8—Opera 2
Nov. 15—Opera 2
Nov. 22—Opera 2
Nov. 29—Opera 2
Dec. 6—Opera 2 Singing

Winter:

Jan. 10—Aria Lists (your roles and others)
Jan. 17—Opera 3
Jan. 24—Opera 3
Jan. 31—Opera 3
Feb. 7—Opera 3
Feb. 14—Opera 3 Singing
Feb. 21—READING WEEK
Feb. 28—Resources Review
Mar. 7—Opera 4
Mar. 14—Opera 4
Mar. 21—Opera 4
Mar. 28—Opera 4
Apr. 4—Opera 4 Singing