

## HUMA2101

### Enjoyment of Western Opera

**Lecture: Monday and Wednesday 10:30-11:50, Online Zoom Meeting**

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#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course aims to make opera more enjoyable and understandable. This survey course will examine the development of Western opera and selected Western operas with their related literary texts. By watching and analyzing opera, the students will learn to understand the relationship between music, literature, drama, and culture. Prior knowledge or experience of Western opera or classical music is not required.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

On completion of the course, the students will be able to

- describe the development of Western opera
- understand the interrelationship between music, literature, drama and culture
- understand the elements of exoticism in western opera
- analyze the structure of scenes
- critique production quality
- coordinate team activities
- give and take direction and constructive criticism
- communicate orally applicable to presentation
- express their own talent and creativity

#### COURSE MATERIALS

Course materials will be available on CANVAS

1. YouTube has MANY wonderful excerpts and complete performances of opera, and this website will be used extensively (<http://www.youtube.com> (Links to an external site.)).
2. The Metropolitan Opera offers online viewing of their operas. There is a free trial and monthly rate available. The Library currently provides a database subscription which we will use for viewing.

#### OPERA REVIEW:

Students will be asked to view either a live opera performance or specified recorded performance and submit a review of a minimum of 750 words. A watch party may be setup online for group viewing.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Attendance will be taken throughout the twelve weeks after the add-drop period. You may miss three classes without penalty, but starting from your fourth absence, one percent will be deducted for each absence (10% maximum deduction). The Zoom meeting log will be used to record attendance. To receive full credit you must attend 95% of the online session and participate in the lecture. This includes verbally or chat posting.

#### EXAMS:

Midterm date: conducted online. March 30<sup>th</sup> during class time (date subject to change)

#### ONLINE QUIZZES:

These five quizzes are designed to help you prepare for the exams. They are based on the lectures slides, the operas, and the reading.

Quiz 1 – March 4

Quiz 2 – March 18

Quiz 3 – March 25

Quiz 4 – April 15

Quiz 5 – April 29

#### DISCUSSION POSTS:

You be asked to periodically post your opinion about the productions, the singing, the staging, etc. of the operas throughout the term. These are graded on completion.

| Components                           | Percentage | Nature of Assessments                |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Exam                                 | 25%        | Individual                           |
| Mid-term (October 17 <sup>th</sup> ) | 20%        | Individual (Mostly MC questions)     |
| Opera Review                         | 10%        | Individual                           |
| Group Project                        | 15%        | Teacher assessment + Peer evaluation |
| Discussion posts                     | 10%        | Teacher assessment                   |

|                  |     |  |
|------------------|-----|--|
| Attendance       | 10% | Individual                                 |
| 5 Online Quizzes | 10% | Individual (MC and some fill in the blank) |

#### ACADEMIC HONESTY:

If you are being dishonest in the course, the penalty is an F for the COURSE.

Cheating: a) If you look at other students' papers or materials (ex. notes) during exam or test.

1. b) If you claim credit for other students' work in group projects.

Plagiarism: If you copy sections from a source without referencing it.

Excerpt from <http://www.ust.hk/vpao/integrity/Links to an external site.>

“If you are discovered cheating, however minor the offence, the course grade will appear on your record with an X, to show that the grade resulted from cheating. This X grade stays with your record until graduation. If you cheat again and "earn" another X grade, you will be dismissed from the University. In serious cases, your department may ask the Student Disciplinary Committee to look at the case. The Student Disciplinary Committee can require you to do campus community service; take away your eligibility for a degree with honors, or scholarships and prizes; suspend you from the University, or simply dismiss you right away.”

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:[http://www.ust.hk/vpao/conductLinks to an external site./good\\_learning\\_experience.pps](http://www.ust.hk/vpao/conductLinks to an external site./good_learning_experience.pps)

OPERAS TO BE STUDIED FROM WILL BE SELECTED FROM THE FOLLOWING:

*La Favola d'Orfeo*

*Rigoletto*

*Giulio Cesare*

*La Traviata*

*Castor et Pollux*

*Otello*

*The Enchanted Island*

*Der Ring des Nibelungen*

*Le Nozze di Figaro*

*Carmen*

*Don Giovanni*

*Werther*

*Il barbiere di Siviglia*

*Pagliacci*

*La Cenerentolla*

*Cavalleria Rusticana*

*Les Huguenots*

*La Boheme*

*Turandot*

*Salome*

*Wozzeck*

*Nixon in China*

*Einstein on the Beach*

*The Dream of the Red Chamber*