Syllabus
Fall 2019

Course Number: MUP 139/339/539
Course Name: Opera Ensemble
Instructor: Mr. James Held
Phone: (262)510-6207

Meeting Time: MW 3:00 – 3:50
Location: Music 152
E-mail: TBD

Course Description:
The SFA Opera Ensemble is a performance workshop. This course includes experiential training in singing on the stage, which encompasses the skills of musical preparation, acting, stage movement, and may include working in period costumes, make-up application, and dance.

Credit Hour Statement:
MUP 139/339/539 “Opera Ensemble” (1 credit) typically consists of two (2) 50-minute periods per week. Outside of class, students will study, learn, practice, and memorize music, staging, dialogues, translations, and any other assigned material. Regular outside-of-class studies will be assigned throughout the semester, including but not limited to reading texts, listening to and/or watching examples of singers/actors or music, and researching materials necessary to learning the art and business of theater and opera. Students will participate in a performance of all assigned scenes. In addition to weekly meetings, these activities constitute an average of two (2) hours outside-of-class work per week over fifteen weeks.

Course Objectives:
1. This course will provide the opportunity for the Vocal Performance major to gain knowledge of and experience in repertoire and to develop techniques for role preparation and performance.
2. In addition, this course will provide the opportunity for the Music Education/Voice Emphasis major to gain knowledge through performance as well as production experience, a necessary preparation for a career as a music educator.
3. Students will engage in class activities that will encourage innovation and creativity in order to discover his/her best practices for learning. These exercises will also reveal one’s resistance or barriers to creativity.
4. One of the goals of this course to prepare and educate the student in the skills and attitudes that are expected of a professional singer.
5. This being said, the main objective of the course is to enjoy all aspects of opera production by having fun while learning to be a professional.

Grading:
Grading will be based on the students' fulfillment of the following expectations:

- Students are expected to learn all assigned music in a timely manner as designated by instructors.
- Students are expected to participate fully in all scheduled classes, rehearsals and performances.
  - DRESS REHEARSAL: Saturday, Nov 9th, 2:00PM – Cole Concert Hall
  - PERFORMANCE: Saturday, Nov 9th, 7:30PM – Cole Concert Hall
- Instructor reserves the right to call extra rehearsals as necessary.
- Students are expected to learn and execute musical and staging directions as given by the instructors.
- Students are expected to complete any and all assignments and tasks, written or otherwise, as given by the instructors, including translations, IPA transcriptions, and character studies.
- Students are expected to come to all classes with good attitudes, ready to work and to encourage colleagues.
- Come to rehearsal prepared to work with the assigned music studied and with an open mind. Be prepared to take risks and experiment. That’s why we rehearse!
- Students are expected to fully participate in the public performance of all scenes learned in class.
In all matters, students are expected to conduct themselves professionally and responsibly. There will be scheduled assessment days to test students’ preparation of dialogue, music and recitative passages.

**Required Material:**
Caldarone, Marina and Lloyd-Williams, Maggie. *Actions: The Actors’ Thesaurus*. Available in paperback from bookstores, Amazon.com, etc.

**Attendance:**
Attendance and preparation are absolutely essential to the success of a production. When an individual misses a rehearsal the value of that rehearsal is compromised for everyone. **NO UNEXCUSED ABSENCES ARE PERMITTED!** In order for an absence to be excused from a rehearsal, the student must contact the director in advance. Rehearsals are to begin on time. The director reserves the right to remove a student from a role or dismiss them from the ensemble for unexcused and/or chronic absences or lateness.

**Course-Related Communication:**
Be advised that e-mail is a University-sanctioned form of communication. Please check yours regularly. It is also the best way to reach me. Make sure that your D2L email account is forwarded to an account that you check regularly.

**Additional Thoughts:**
In this course, we will learn by doing, so your attendance, preparation, and good attitude are essential. Your failure in any of these areas affects not only you, but your cast mates as well.

**University Policies:**

**Academic Integrity**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Students with Disabilities**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).