



PAPER OUTLINE

Paper Code and Title: PERF 135 Vocal Ensemble and Stagecraft 1
CRN: 15622 **Campus:** Kelburn
Year: 2009 **Trimester:** FY
Points Value: 10 points

Pre-requisites (P) Audition **Co-requisites (C)** PERF 120, 130, 220, 230, 320, 330 in Voice or Permission of Head of School
Restrictions (R) NZSM 118, 133.130 **None**

Paper Co-ordinator: Jenny Wollerman
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Office located at: Room 201, Reception, Kelburn Campus
Office hours: Thursday 1.10pm-2pm and at other times by appointment

Other staff member(s): Emily Mair (Repetiteur/Coach)
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Tel 04 463 5858

Rachel Lenart (Acting & Stagecraft)
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Sara Brodie (Acting & Stagecraft)
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Class times: 11.00am-12.50pm Tuesday (Acting/Stagecraft) **Venue:** ACR, Kelburn
3.10pm-5.00pm Thursday (Music Rehearsals) Room 211, Kelburn

Opera rehearsals outside of class times: Opera Chorus:
Full schedule to be advised, but including:
27 April – 7 June: up to 4 sessions per week, evenings/weekends
8 June – 8 July: no chorus rehearsals
9 July – 11 July: some chorus rehearsals may be called
12 July – 19 July: production week & performances: schedule tba

Opera Soloists:
Full schedule to be advised, but including:
27 April – 7 June: up to 4 sessions per week, evenings/weekends
8 June – 28 June: up to 5 sessions per week, evenings/weekends
29 June – 12 July: Full Time: up to 12 sessions per week, daytime
13 July – 19 July: production week & performances: schedule tba

PAPER PRESCRIPTION

An introductory study of vocal repertoire and its dramatic communication to an audience, focusing in particular on ensembles from staged works.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete this paper will be able to demonstrate knowledge of:

1. analysis of text and subtext to develop characterisation
2. effective performance as a member of an ensemble at a level appropriate to the year of study
3. the projection of sung and spoken text in dramatic action without detriment to voice
4. the skills, disciplines and team work ethic involved in ensemble rehearsal and performance situations
5. the musical and dramatic aspects of the performance, both supporting and leading the group dynamic as appropriate
6. stagecraft and acting skills and the ability to perform in an engaging and communicative manner dramatically while sustaining a vocal line that is both accurate and musical

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

A 10-point full-year performance paper should require at least 120 hours work. This means that in term time, the midterm breaks and study weeks, you should be prepared to spend an average of at least four hours a week attending lessons, classes, workshops or rehearsals as appropriate, and practising.

PAPER CONTENT

The course comprises two areas of study:

- stagecraft and acting
- study and performance of selected vocal ensembles

These ensembles will be chosen and cast by the course tutors and students will be notified of their assigned roles prior to any class work commencing on the ensembles.

Stagecraft and acting study will involve class and group work as well as individual study.

Activities involved may include:

- practical class/group work on acting exercises and improvisation
- text and scene analysis relating to own assigned roles in excerpts
- practical class/group work on spoken text
- stagecraft terms and knowledge
- staging of some of the chosen ensembles

The chosen repertoire will be worked on in the context of music rehearsals with a repetiteur/coach and in staging rehearsals as appropriate.

- students will prepare, learn and rehearse musically roles or chorus parts in assigned opera excerpts (or other appropriate ensemble works)
- staging rehearsals will follow the music rehearsals, and in later stages both may happen simultaneously

Attendance at rehearsals:

Please see the 'Etiquette' section about arrangements for unavoidable absences from rehearsals. The 'Mandatory Paper Requirements' section gives information about attendance requirements for both classes and rehearsals.

Musical preparation:

In particular, please note that any musical rehearsals scheduled within class time are mandatory: see 'Mandatory Paper Requirements' section. Students will be expected to work individually on the assigned music to prepare for the rehearsals and other class work in a timely and professional manner. As part of this preparation, students are expected to bring the music they are preparing for the opera to their individual singing lessons and coachings, and to arrange extra music rehearsals with their student colleagues as needed. If an accompanist is required, then students are encouraged to share their individual coaching times with others, for example, a trio ensemble may rehearse 3 times by all 3 students coming to the 3 scheduled individual coaching sessions.

2009 Plans: Trimester One / Opera

In Trimester One all Vocal Ensemble and Stagecraft students will be working towards participation in the school's opera production performances, either in a solo role or roles, or as part of the chorus for the production. All students will be given the chance to audition for a solo role, with auditions being held in class time on Thursday 5th March 2009.

Opera Soloists: Students selected from the NZSM opera auditions to take a substantial role or combination of roles in the opera production for the year will be notified that they are eligible to take the relevant 'Large Ensemble' paper to gain credit for the extra work involved in undertaking a solo role. For 200 and 300 level students this will be in addition to the core Vocal Ensemble and Stagecraft papers (PERF235 and PERF335). Students will prepare and rehearse their role(s) in the opera in the rehearsals as defined in the rehearsal schedule, and perform them in the NZSM opera production at the end of this period. Where appropriate, some preparation for the soloists involved in opera ensembles will happen within class time of PERF235 and 335 and if so, this will be assessed as part of the Vocal Ensemble and Stagecraft course.

Opera Chorus: All other students will be expected to take part in the opera chorus in the performances, and will prepare for this as part of their Vocal Ensemble and Stagecraft course. As well as in class rehearsals, there will be some rehearsals scheduled in evenings and weekends during term time and some further chorus rehearsals will be called closer to the performance dates – please refer to the 'Opera rehearsals outside of class times' section above. A full rehearsal schedule will be released as soon as it is available. Please see the 'Etiquette' section about arrangements for unavoidable absences from rehearsals.

If for some unavoidable reason you are not going to be available to perform in the opera production at all, you must notify the course coordinator (Jenny Wollerman) as early in the year as possible. If this is the case, you will continue to work on the choruses in class and will be assessed on your in class work for this.

2009 Plans: Trimester Two

In the second Trimester of this year, class activities will centre around another set of excerpts or possibly a full work, with the repertoire chosen by the tutors and advised to the students at that point. This will be assessed in performance at the end of the year as outlined below. This will not involve any rehearsals outside of class time, other than those expected to be arranged by students themselves as part of their individual preparation and learning for the course.

MATERIALS & APPAREL

Set text: you are required to purchase the set text which will be used within the course:

A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK FOR THE ACTOR, BY MELISSA BRUDER ET AL
published by Vintage Books (Random House, New York)

This will be available for purchase from Vic Books, situated in the Student Union Building, Kelburn.

Clothing: it is important that you wear appropriate clothing for the acting class and staging rehearsal sessions when timetabled, as indicated by the tutor. In general this means that you should wear clothing which does not restrict your movement ability in any way.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

This paper is internally assessed.

Weekly class work (40%) (learning outcomes 1-6)

End of paper performance, and where applicable, mid year performance (60%)
(learning outcomes 1-6)

Opera assessments clarification:

- Opera soloists will be assessed on their opera performance and on their rehearsals outside of the Vocal Ensemble and Stagecraft classes as part of the Large Ensemble paper, so their End of paper performance will constitute 60% of their overall grade.
- Opera chorus will be assessed on their in class and in rehearsal work for the opera as above (part of the 40% for weekly class work), and the performances will be assessed as: Opera 20%, and End of paper performance 40% of overall grade.

DATES OF IN-CLASS ASSESSMENTS:

Mid year performance (opera): will be assessed in performances in the week of 13th July 2009
End of paper performance assessment: will take place in class on 15th October 2009.

Performance schedules for the end of year assessments will be posted on the Performance Noticeboard outside the ACR at least one month in advance of the assessments.

MANDATORY PAPER REQUIREMENTS

Unless prior arrangements are made, attendance at all rehearsals (100%) is a mandatory requirement for this paper. Rehearsals are defined as any session listed on the opera rehearsal schedule that involves the particular student, as well as any in-class sessions labelled 'Rehearsal' as shown on the attached Syllabus.

Completion of all the assessment items and attendance at at least 80% of the other classes are also mandatory requirements for this paper.

ETIQUETTE

Opera and other ensemble rehearsals: You must arrive in time to begin rehearsing at the scheduled time. This means arriving ahead of that time: for rehearsals outside of term hours (evenings, weekends, breaks) and in production week, you should be in the rehearsal room at least 10 mins prior to the scheduled time. Tardiness will not be tolerated.

If for some good reason you are unable to attend a rehearsal, you must request leave well ahead of time from the opera director, conductor or music répétiteur, as appropriate: that is, whoever is in charge of running the specific rehearsal. You must also inform the production manager/stage manager of your absence ahead of time.

DEPOSIT AND COLLECTION OF WRITTEN WORK

Any written work required to be handed in should be marked to attention of the relevant tutor and handed in at the NZSM reception, Kelburn

DEADLINES FOR WRITTEN WORK

Written work must be handed in by the due dates. In fairness to other students, unless a medical certificate is produced, work handed in after 5pm on the due date will be subject to a 5% demerit on your grade, increasing by 5% each further working day it is overdue.

Students, who for exceptional reasons can justify an extension for the essay, must apply to the Paper Co-ordinator before the due date. Please note that NO extensions can be granted for tutorial assignments.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC STYLE

Assignments must be presented according to the guidelines set down in the **NZSM Handbook 2009**. A fuller version entitled **NZSM Guidelines for Academic Work** can be downloaded as a pdf file from the NZSM Website <http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/study/programmes.aspx>. Five percent (5%) will be deducted for written work that does not conform.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity

adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the NZSM website: <http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/about/statutes-policies.aspx#plagiarism>.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, OR INFORMATION ON CHANGES

Official notices issued after the paper has commenced will be posted on the performance noticeboard outside the ACR on the Kelburn campus, and will also be posted on Blackboard.

GENERAL NZSM POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the NZSM's policies and statutes, especially those regarding Personal Courses of Study, Academic Grievances, Staff and Student Conduct. Please see <http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/about/statutes-policies.aspx>.

For any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see either the *Massey University Calendar* or the *Victoria University Calendar*.

Information about Student Services, including Academic Mentoring for Maori and Pacific Students, and support for Students with Disabilities, is to be found in the *NZSM Student Handbook 2009* (available from the NZSM offices on each campus).

EVENTS

Regular events are held during trimesters one and two at both the Kelburn and Mt Cook campuses. These events are for the benefit of all students, and include performances, masterclasses, special lectures and workshops given by staff, students and visiting artists.

All students are expected to obtain a copy of the current event brochure (published twice yearly) and keep time free to attend the weekly lunchtime concert on Friday at 1.10pm, along with other events as required.

Event manager Debbie Rawnsley. Phone: (04) 463-6050 Email: debbie.rawnsley@nzsm.ac.nz
website: <http://www.nzsm.ac.nz/events/>