



NEW ZEALAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

PERF 435 *Opera Performance* 30 POINTS

FULL-YEAR 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 16 October 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3 to 19 April 2015

Mid-year break: 2 to 12 July 2015

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 16 October 2015

Study period: 19 to 23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Trimester One:

Tuesday, 11:00am–11:50am (Room MS209) on the dates detailed in course syllabus.

Trimester One & Two: all rehearsals as detailed in the rehearsal schedule on

Mondays 10-11.50am MS301(ACR)

Thursdays 4.10-6pm (MS209)

and other dates and times as specified in the rehearsal schedule (see course syllabus)

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Jenny Wollerman

Contact phone: 463 9730

Email: jenny.wollerman@nzsm.ac.nz

Office located at: Room 109, 88 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn Campus

Office hours: TBA

Other staff member(s): Margaret Medlyn
Contact phone: 463 9488 **Email:** margaret.medlyn@nzsm.ac.nz
Office(s) located at: Room 108, 88 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn Campus

Other staff member(s): Mark Dorrell
Contact phone: 463 9683 **Email:** mark.dorrell@nzsm.ac.nz
Office(s) located at: Room 112, 88 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn Campus

Programme Administrator: Belinda Behle **Email:** belinda.behle@nzsm.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Official notices issued after the course has commenced will be posted on Blackboard.

Prescription

Supervised study of vocal and dramatic performance in appropriate opera repertoire of Western music. A proposal outlining the intended work for this course must be approved by the Director of the NZSM prior to the enrolment deadline.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. demonstrate the ability to prepare, rehearse and perform a substantial role in a fully staged opera production
2. engage confidently and with artistic integrity in the research-informed preparation and performance of the selected opera repertoire
3. demonstrate understanding of rehearsal etiquette and expectations for opera productions
4. demonstrate awareness of the function and relationship of cast and production crew in an opera production
5. demonstrate professional attitude in punctuality, preparation and stage deportment in all aspects of rehearsal and performance.

These learning objectives contribute to the NZSM Graduate Attributes. For a full list, please see www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/graduate-attributes

Teaching format

In this course students prepare and rehearse assigned opera music through individual study, in coachings and rehearsals and perform this in scheduled assessment performances. These have been scheduled to take place in August 2015.

In Trimester One, students undertake related study as they prepare musically for the opera or opera scene performances, preparing a lecture recital project on a chosen topic related to their assigned opera repertoire. This project is supported through assigned readings, group classes, vocal coaching and tutorial/supervision sessions.

This course comprises in Trimester One: 8-10 hours of classes and up to 3 hours of individual supervision/tutorials; and in Trimesters One and Two: 5 hours of individual vocal coaching on the assigned or selected music, up to 80 hours of scheduled musical and staging rehearsals, as well as individual study time.

Musical preparation: where appropriate, some rehearsals will take place within Vocal Ensemble and Stagecraft (PERF2-335) class times and students are expected to make themselves available for the classes on the dates outlined in the rehearsal schedule.

Five hours of individual musical coaching with an assigned teacher or coach on the course repertoire is also provided for. Information detailing the assigned coaches will be made available on Blackboard at the beginning of Trimester One. Students are expected to make contact with their assigned coach at the earliest opportunity, to arrange times for these sessions. Please note: the bulk of this time should be used in Trimester One: the coaches are unlikely to be able to make themselves available around the time of the opera production in Trimester Two.

Students are also expected to bring the music they are preparing for the opera to their regular individual singing lessons and coachings, and to arrange extra music rehearsals with their student colleagues where needed.

Rehearsal schedule and casting information:

The draft rehearsal schedule will be made available with the course syllabus, but will be subject to change. Repertoire assignments (casting information) will be made available at the beginning of the course.

Please note: it is the student's responsibility to keep up to date with new versions of the rehearsal schedule (provided via Blackboard/email).

Student Responsibilities at Rehearsals and Performances:

A professional attitude is expected from students:

- a) you must attend all scheduled rehearsals
- b) you must arrive in good time to commence each rehearsal at the stated time: lateness will not be tolerated
- c) if for some good reason you are unable to attend a scheduled rehearsal, you must request leave three weeks in advance, using the NZSM leave request form. This form needs to be signed by the Course Coordinator AND the Staging Director or Musical Director as applicable. If it is a production rehearsal you must also notify the Stage Manager
- d) all music must be learnt and memorised by each student by the agreed date notified at the beginning of the rehearsal period
- e) if you are taken ill and unable to attend any particular rehearsal because of this, you must inform the relevant person (Course Coordinator, Stage Director, Musical Director, Stage Manager) as soon as possible before the start of the rehearsal.

See attached course syllabus for more information

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- a) complete each item of assessment worth at least 10%. Where the item contains multiple subcomponents (e.g. a portfolio of journal entries, or similar), students must complete at least 50% of those subcomponents
- b) attend at least 80% of lectures and 80% of tutorials (if relevant) related to this course, unless absence is due to verified medical reasons or advance permission for absence has been given by the teacher/lecturer
- c) attend all rehearsals. Rehearsals are defined as any session listed on the production rehearsal schedule that involves the particular student, as well as any in-class sessions labelled 'rehearsal' as shown on the syllabus. If there is no stated work or ensemble shown on the syllabus or rehearsal schedule, all students will be required for that session unless otherwise notified by the staff member in charge of that rehearsal.

A professional attitude is expected from students:

- d) you must attend all scheduled rehearsals
- e) you must arrive in good time to commence each rehearsal at the stated time: lateness will not be tolerated
- f) if for some good reason you are unable to attend a scheduled rehearsal, you must request leave three weeks in advance, using the NZSM leave request form. This form

needs to be signed by the Course Coordinator AND the Staging Director or Musical Director as applicable. If it is a production rehearsal you must also notify the Stage Manager

g) all music must be learnt and memorised by each student by the agreed date notified at the beginning of the rehearsal period

h) if you are taken ill and unable to attend any particular rehearsal because of this, you must inform the relevant person (Course Coordinator, Stage Director, Musical Director, Stage Manager) as soon as possible before the start of the rehearsal.

Workload

A 30-point full-year course should require at least 300 hours work (including class time). This means that in trimester time, the mid-trimester break and study week you should be prepared to spend on average 10 hours per week involved in activities such as attending classes and rehearsals, reading, listening to recommended recordings, preparing assignments and learning and practising assigned music.

Assessment

Marking criteria

Marking criteria for the performance assessments and the lecture recitals will be made available on Blackboard at the beginning of the course.

Approved assessment regime

The following assessment regime has been approved by the NZSM Academic Committee:

There are 3 items of assessment:

1. Performance as a soloist in a staged opera production in a substantial role or agreed equivalent, including approximately 20-40 minutes of sung performance. Related to learning objectives 1-5. (70%)
2. Lecture recital relating to the role or excerpt in assessment item 1, approximately 35-40mins in length, including up to 10mins of performance. The subject of this project must not duplicate any research carried out in other courses, but may develop the primary focus of other courses and must be developed in consultation with the supervisor for the course. A written summary, including bibliography, is required. Related to learning objectives 1-5. (20%)
3. Journal portfolio of up to 5 entries as specified in the course outline (up to 1,000 words in total). Related to learning objectives 1-5. (10%)

Assessment details for this offering

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
<i>Performance in opera production (20-40 mins of sung performance)</i>	70%	1-5	16 August 2015
<i>Lecture recital (and written summary) (35-40 mins including up to 10 mins of performance)</i>	20%	1-5	27 May 2015
<i>Journal portfolio of 4 entries (up to 1000 words in total)</i>	10%	1-5	16 October 2015

Submission and return of work

Printed assignments should be deposited in Jenny Wollerman's mailbox. Where indicated, assignments can be emailed to Jenny Wollerman, (cc'ed to Margaret Medlyn).

Marked assignments will be returned to the student pigeonholes.

Assignments will normally be marked and returned within three weeks of submission.

NB: The delivery of this course is externally moderated, so all students are requested to retain all marked assessment items in the event that they are required at the end of the course.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Students, who for exceptional reasons can justify an extension for an item of assessment, must apply to the Course Coordinator *before* the due date. Please note that no extensions can be granted for tutorial assignments.

Penalties

Assignments must be submitted by the due dates. In fairness to other students, unless a medical certificate is produced, assessment submitted 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.

Set texts

There are no set texts for this course.

Recommended reading

A list of recommended resources will be made available on Blackboard

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Human Ethics Guidelines

Any student assessment or project at any level that involves human subjects (including the documenting, interviewing and recording of information from people) must follow VUW Ethics Guidelines. For information and assistance as it relates to your course, consult first with your Course Coordinator. Guidelines are given at:

www.victoria.ac.nz/research/support/research-office/ethics-approval/human-ethics

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz
- NZSM Policies, Statutes and Student Handbook: www.nzsm.ac.nz/student-zone/student-guides
- Scholarships and prizes relevant to NZSM students: www.nzsm.ac.nz/study-careers/scholarships-and-prizes

Events

Regular events are held during trimesters 1 & 2 at all NZSM 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 keep time free to attend the weekly lunchtime concert on Friday at 12.10pm, along with other events as required.

Students should sign up to the **Dawn Chorus**, the NZSM's events e-newsletter, by emailing events@nzsm.ac.nz with 'subscribe dawn chorus' in the subject line.

Website: www.nzsm.ac.nz/events