



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Te Kōkī New Zealand School of Music

PERF 435 Opera Performance **30 POINTS**

Trimester 1 & 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 16 October 2016

Easter break: 24 to 30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Mid-year break: 30 June to 8 July 2016

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Last assessment item due: 7 October 2016

Study period: 17 to 20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Trimester One:

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

Trimester One & Two: rehearsals as detailed in the Opera Scenes Rehearsal Schedule on Mondays 10-11.50am (ACR)

Thursdays 4.10-6pm (MS209)

Plus 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@vuw.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@vuw.ac.nz
Office(s) located at:	Room 108, 88-90 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn Campus		
Other staff member(s):	Mark Dorrell		
Contact phone:	463 9683	Email:	mark.dorrell@vuw.ac.nz
Office(s) located at:	Room 112, 88-90 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn Campus		
Programme Administrator:	Belinda Behle	Email:	belinda.behle@vuw.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 undertake background study projects in opera performance, then prepare and rehearse assigned opera music through individual study, in coachings and rehearsals, and perform it in assessed performances. The performances are planned for September 2016.

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, seminar 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.

In Trimesters One and Two: 5 hours of individual vocal coaching on the student's assigned and selected music, and 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 (PERF235/335) class times, and students are expected to make themselves available for the classes on the dates detailed in the rehearsal schedule.

Five hours of individual vocal coaching with an assigned teacher or coach on the course repertoire is provided for. Information detailing each student's assigned coaching staff member 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: students need to ensure that they make arrangement for these sessions in a timely manner and at appropriate times within the year: staff are unlikely to be able to make themselves available in the final few weeks before the performances. This is particularly relevant if the performances are scheduled for early in Trimester Two: in this case the bulk of these sessions should be taken in Trimester One.

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:

A 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).

See course syllabus for more information.

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.

Mandatory course requirements

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

- a) 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 in the course syllabus class schedule. If there is no stated work or ensemble shown on the rehearsal schedule, all students will be required for that session unless otherwise notified by the tutor or coordinator. If for some good reason you are unable to attend a scheduled rehearsal, you must request leave three weeks in advance, from the coordinator or the director/musical director as applicable and notify the stage manager (if it is a production rehearsal). If you are taken ill and are unable to attend any particular rehearsal because of this, you must inform the relevant person (coordinator, director, stage manager) BEFORE the start of the rehearsal, and earlier where this is possible.

Justification: Rehearsals are by nature a participatory process and all members of the cast need to be present for this to be functional learning activity for all the students involved. They are an integral part of the course, and provide practical learning opportunities that are specifically applicable to the course learning objectives 1, 3, 4 and 5.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

A 30-point full-year course should require at least 300 hours' work (including class time). This means that during the trimester, 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, reading, listening to recommended recordings and preparing assignments.

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.

Assessment details for this offering

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Performance in opera production (20-40 mins of sung performance)	70%	1-5	11 Sept 2016
2 Lecture recital with written summary (35-40 mins including up to 10 mins of performance)	20%	1-5	25 May 2016
3 Journal portfolio of 4 entries (1000 words)	10%	1-5	7 Oct 2016

Submission and return of work

Printed assignments should be deposited in Jenny Wollerman's mailbox by handing them in to the NZ School of Music office reception. Please ensure that you indicate both your name and the name of the staff member when you submit any printed assignments.

Where indicated, assignments can be emailed to Jenny Wollerman (these should be cc'ed to Margaret Medlyn). Please ensure you include your name on any attached files.

Marked assignments will be returned to the student pigeonholes or via email.

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

NB: This course is 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.

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.

Student feedback

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
- 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: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- 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 Student Handbook and NZSM Guidelines for Presenting Academic Work: 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. 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