

# Course Syllabus

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**HUMA2101**

## **Enjoyment of Western Opera**

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Isaac Droscha OFFICE: Shaw Auditorium Rm. 217

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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

- 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.](#))([Links to an external site.](#)) ↗ (<http://www.youtube.com/>)).
- 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 VIEWING AND REVIEW:

This term you have the chance to watch a live or recorded opera. After you attend the event, you must submit a short response about your experience.

### ATTENDANCE:

Attendance will be taken everyday. You may miss one class without penalty, but starting from you second absence, two percent will be deducted for each absence (10% maximum deduction).

### EXAMS:

Midterm date: see canvas calendar

### ONLINE QUIZZES:

Five online, multiple-choice quizzes are designed to help you prepare for the exams. They are based on the lecture sides, the operas, and the reading. For due dates, see the canvas calendar.

### 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 and on the validity of your post.

Components	Percentage	Nature of Assessments
Exam	25%	MC, fill-in the blank, essay
Mid-term	20%	MC, fill in the blank, essay

Opera Review	5%	Individual
Group Project	20%	Teacher assessment
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.

"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."

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

*La Favola d'Orfeo*

*Giulio Cesare*

*Castor et Pollux*

*The Enchanted Island*

*Le Nozze di Figaro*

*Don Giovanni*

*Il barbiere di Siviglia*

*La Cenerentola*

*Les Huguenots*

*Rigoletto*

*La Traviata*

*Otello*

*Der Ring des Nibelungen*

*Carmen*

*Werther*

*Pagliacci*

*Cavalleria Rusticana*

*La Boheme*

*Turandot*

*Salome*


















*Wozzeck*













*Nixon in China*

*Einstein on the Beach*

*The Dream of the Red Chamber*

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Mon Jun 17, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180455&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 1 - Introduction and listening to opera (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180455&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
Tue Jun 18, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180440&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 2 - Il barbiere di Siviglia/Role types (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180440&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
Wed Jun 19, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180457&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 3 - Opera of the Classical period and Don Giovanni (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180457&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337704">Quiz 1 (https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337704)</a>	due by 10am
Thu Jun 20, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180433&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 4 - Don Giovanni (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180433&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337708">Discussion 1 (https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337708)</a>	due by 10am
Fri Jun 21, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180450&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 5 - The Enchanted Island &amp; The Business of Opera (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180450&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337703">Quiz 2 (https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337703)</a>	due by 10am
Mon Jun 24, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180456&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 6 - The beginnings of opera and La favola d'Orfeo (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180456&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337709">Discussion 2 (https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337709)</a>	due by 10am
Tue Jun 25, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180441&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 7 - MIDTERM (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180441&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337707">Quiz 3 (https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337707)</a>	due by 10am
	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337716">Midterm Exam (https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337716)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jun 26, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180437&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 8 - Rigoletto (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180437&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
Thu Jun 27, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180442&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 9 - Wagner, the music drama, and motifs (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180442&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337710">Discussion 3 (https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337710)</a>	due by 10am
Fri Jun 28, 2024	 <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180443&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">LECTURE 10 - CARMEN (https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180443&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>	10am to 1pm

Date	Details	Due
	<a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337705">event_id=180443&amp;include_contexts=course_57186)</a>  <b>Quiz 4</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337705">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337705</a>	due by 10am
	 <b>OPERA REVIEW</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337717">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337717</a>	due by 11:59pm
Tue Jul 2, 2024	 <b>LECTURE 11 - Verismo and the 20th Century</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180444&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180444&amp;include_contexts=course_57186</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <b>Discussion 4</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337711">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337711</a>	due by 10am
Wed Jul 3, 2024	 <b>LECTURE 12 - Presentations &amp; review</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180445&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180445&amp;include_contexts=course_57186</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <b>GROUP ASSIGNMENT</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337715">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337715</a>	due by 10am
	 <b>Quiz 5</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337706">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337706</a>	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jul 4, 2024	 <b>LECTURE 13 - Final Exam</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180458&amp;include_contexts=course_57186">https://canvas.ust.hk/calendar?event_id=180458&amp;include_contexts=course_57186</a>	10am to 1pm
	 <b>Discussion 5</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337712">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337712</a>	due by 10am
	 <b>Final Exam</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337714">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337714</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b>Roll Call Attendance</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337718">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/337718</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b>Attendance</b> <a href="https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/338245">https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/57186/assignments/338245</a>	