

Syllabus Fall 2025

MUO 3503 / MUN 6010
Opera Theatre Workshop

Instructors:

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Rehearsal Pianists:

Brian Hargrove / billhooty@hotmail.com

Shiyi Zhu / shiyizhu@ufl.edu (Wednesday evenings - fall only)

Fall Semester 2025: Opera Scenes / School Show Outreach / Pirates Preparation

Spring 2025: *Pirates of Penzance* by Gilbert and Sullivan (**G. Schirmer Edition**)
Outreach TBA

Days/Time: Synchronous

Weekly Schedule:

Monday and Friday / 3:00-4:55 MUB 121

Wednesday / 6:15-9:10 PM MUB 121

*Please be available for the class times above. There are some “work arounds” for certain schedules, scheduling issues must be discussed, documented, and approved by the class instructors.

*Rehearsal schedule is available online. Please check the online link before each class.

*Schedules are subject to change.

*Conflicts are limited to classes and exams.

*We'll work with you and your professors to accommodate productions.

Important Dates:

Fall Semester 2025/Opera Scenes - November 9-15 Tech Week and Performances (MUB 101)

Friday, October 10th / 2:00 – 10:00 PM Outreach Show (Selected Scenes) St. Augustine

Sunday, November 9th / 6:15pm-10:00pm – MUB 101

Monday, November 10th / 3:00pm-4:55pm – MUB 101 *Class Time

Monday, November 10th / 6:15pm-10Pm – MUB 101

Dress 1 – Tuesday, November 11th / 6:15pm-10:00pm – MUB 101

Dress 2 – Wednesday, November 12th / 6:15pm-10:00pm – MUB 101

Performance 1

– Thursday, November 13th / [5:10pm MUB 101 open] 7:20pm – MUB 101
Friday, November 14th / 3:00pm-4:44pm – MUB 101 *Class Time

Performance 2

– Saturday, November 15th / [5:10pm MUB 101 open] 7:20pm – MUB 101

Spring Semester 2026/*Pirates of Penzance* – April 6-19 Tech Week & Performance Dates:

Phillips Center for the Performing Arts - Gainesville, FL

Sitzprobe – Monday, April 6, 2025 / 2:00pm-6:00pm

Piano Tech – Tuesday, April 7, 2025 / 6:30-11:00pm

Dress 1 – Wednesday, April 8, 2025 / 6:30pm out by 11:00pm out by 11:00pm

***School Show Morning Performance - Act I** – Thursday, April 9 / 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Dress 2 – Thursday, April 9, 2025 / 6:30pm

***Performance 1** - Friday, April 10, 2026

***Performance 2** - Saturday, April 11, 2026

MUB 121 – Brush-Up Rehearsals for Reilly Arts center

Brush-Up 1 – Wednesday, April 15 / 6:15pm-9:10pm

Brush-Up 2 – Friday, April 17 / ?

Reilly Arts Center - Ocala, FL

Piano Tech – Saturday, April 18 / 1:00pm-5:00pm

***Performance 3** - Sunday, April 19, 2026

Location:

-Classes primarily meet in person in MUB 121 or MUB 128.

-Weekly rehearsal schedules are communicated via a live UF Google shared document and email.

Course Description:

Opera Workshop develops a student's performance and related professional skills specific to the creation of musical dramas. Repertoire will include rehearsals for musical and character development.

Course Goals:

1. To experience firsthand the performance practice of musical drama.
2. To develop professional rehearsal skills, etiquette, and the ability to work well within a group.
3. To improve stage confidence and movement.
4. To develop the ability to analyze characters, music, and libretti.
5. To develop an overall understanding of opera repertoire.

Required Materials:**1. Music:**

- A. Fall Opera Scenes – music provided online
- B. Spring Opera - score must be purchased by the singers
 **Pirates of Penzance – G. Shirmer edition*

2. Computer with Audio and Video (Zoom) applications**3. Class Attire:** comfortable, loose-fitting clothing. T-Shirts and sweatpants are welcome.**4. Rehearsal Staging Attire:** Rehearsal skirts, shoes, long pants, etc.**5. Audio Recorder** at coachings and musical rehearsals**Notes:**

1. We are singing in Italian, French, German, and English. Be sure to check in advance if your scenes are in the original language or an English translation.

2. Be sure to register for the appropriate class in Music (Ex: Opera Workshop MUO3503)

3. Please know that you may be asked to make temporary physical changes to correctly portray the character for your role. Some of these changes may be:

- Facial and body hair
- Clothing that may be gender specific and appropriate to the era and story
- Length and color of hair
- Covering of tattoos
- Removal of jewelry
- Heels and lifts
- Contacts if you wear glasses
- Wigs and make-up

Intimacy:

Hugging, hand holding, possible kissing, combat, and general physical contact may be part of a director's staging. Performing artists are expected to be open to direction so all members develop skills, language, and performance practice understandings. Directors will be in close communication with artists, will provide training, will give situationally specified choreography, and will be open to discussion.

Assignments:

Fall 2025 Semester:

-Character Development Assignment

-Artistic Resume Assignment

Spring 2026 Semester:

-Bio Assignment

Evaluation:

Weekly Rehearsals Participation/Attendance 60%

Professional Conduct 20%

Final Project (Performance) 20%

Final Exam:

Opera Theatre Workshop is a performance-based course. Students will be graded on their final public performance(s) and/or performance video creation.

Attendance/Grading/Policy:

Professionalism, collegiality, and participation in each class period are important to the curriculum requirements of this course. Therefore, attendance and active engagement are required. Two late arrivals at a rehearsal are counted as one absence. Unless excused, each absence beyond one absence will result in a lowering of one letter grade. These two absences would be equivalent to missing a week of class. Excused absences are limited to medical illness documented by a physician, family emergency documented by the appropriate person and religious holidays. You are responsible for all material missed. Check syllabus and class schedule on material covered in case of any absence.

Notice:

Digital materials, lectures, notes, and meetings related to this course are the property of the university/faculty member and may not be recorded or disseminated without prior permission from the lecturer and may not be used for commercial purposes. Students found to be in violation may be subject to discipline under the university's student conduct code. The above procedures and schedules in this course are subject to change in extenuating circumstances.

Rehearsal Etiquette:

Focus and engagement is paramount to maintaining a professional/creative working environment. Therefore, unless a performer is on an extended break from a scene, smartphones, iPads, laptops, etc. are not to be used.

COVID Protocols:

Please adhere to the UF Policies on vaccinations, mask expectations, and all other safety measures.

Recording Protocol:

- Rehearsals are safe places to experiment, make bold choices, and create expressive theatre with your colleagues.
- Images or video recordings of these rehearsals being archived or posted on social media are counterproductive and not allowed.
- Once the piece is ready for public performance, pictures and video will be allowed but ONLY with the permission of everyone in the scene.
- Some scenes will be recorded as a teaching tool but only shown in class.

New Policy Link

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

Academic Honesty:

At the University of Florida every student signed the following statement: "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for the University." The instructor of this course fully endorses this statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing is subject to an automatic E and further disciplinary action. All violations of academic honesty will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action without exception. <https://policy.ufl.edu/regulation/4-040/>

**If you are repeating this course at UF, please be aware that turning in any part of any written assignment that you submitted for this course in the past also constitutes academic misconduct. See "Scope and Violations" under the Honor Code above. <https://policy.ufl.edu/regulation/4-040/>

Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct:

It is the policy of the University of Florida to provide an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. This includes information sent through email. Sexual harassment and sexual misconduct in any form will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. The University encourages students, faculty, staff, and visitors to promptly report sexual harassment or sexual misconduct. For more specific information, please see www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/affact/harass (Located in the General Information section of the University Catalog.) University Counseling Services Contact information: Counseling Center Address: 3190 Radio Rd. P.O. Box 112662, University of Florida Gainesville, FL 32611- 2662 Phone: 352-392-1575 Web: www.counsel.ufl.edu