

Classical Performance Individual Instruction in Voice

COURSE OUTLINE

Course: FA/MUSI 1-4020m 3.0(y) /6.0(y)

Course Webpage: www.yorku.ca/crobbin

Term: Fall / Winter Term 2006-7

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: Open to qualified non-majors/minors by permission. Appropriate lower level is required for upper level registration. All students enrolled in individual instruction in performance must also be enrolled in a Major Ensemble. All students are strongly advised to enroll in Vocal Diction 1029 in first year and 2029 in second year. These courses provide you with necessary skills for preparing your repertoire. University language courses (i.e. French, German and Italian) are also very highly recommended to singers as one of their General Education or free elective selections. Good languages are vital to your progress as classical singers and essential if you hope for a career in singing.

Course Director: Professor Catherine Robbin
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ACE 363
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Studio instructors:

Colin Ainsworth, (905) 655-6350, colinainsworth@mac.com
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Norma Burrowes, 416 693 2624, ACE 350, burrowes@yorku.ca
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Karen Rymal, 416 463 9284, arabesque1@sympatico.ca
Delia Wallis, 416 530 1679, dwallis@pocketmail.com

Time and Location :

Students receive weekly lessons. Times must be arranged directly with the instructor as soon as possible in September. If you miss a lesson by reason of your illness or other reason of your own, it will not be made up. If the teacher cancels for any reason, the lesson will be re-scheduled. Lesson rooms for all teachers will be posted in September in the music department.

Course Description

The course consists of individual lessons in vocal technique and the preparation of songs for performance. Goals include vibrant tone quality, secure intonation, breath management and legato line. In addition, accurate musicianship and a clear understanding of and ability to communicate the text (lyrics) will be required.

Repertoire Requirements:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1020M 3.0 – 10 minutes of music | 1020M 6.0 – 20 minutes of music |
| 2020M 3.0 – 15 minutes of music | 2020M 6.0 – 30 minutes of music |
| 3020M 3.0 – 20 minutes of music including 2 arias | 3020M 6.0 – 40 minutes of music including 2 arias |
| 4020M 3.0 – 25 minutes of music including 2 arias | 4020M 6.0 – 50 minutes of music including 2 arias |

N.B.: Repertoire must include a variety of pieces contrasting in style, period, language and mood, and may include songs, arias, (opera or oratorio) and solo cantatas. In first year, students are only required to sing in English and Italian. In upper years, French and German are also expected. Third and fourth year students are required to include at least 2 arias (opera or oratorio). Students are encouraged to learn Canadian repertoire, if appropriate. Songs learned in Vocal Diction class may not be sung in juries.

1-4020M 3.0 students receive half-hour and 1-4020M 6.0 students receive one hour lessons.

Concert Reviews: Voice students in full hour lessons must attend professional performances of an opera, an oratorio and a vocal recital and one more concert of your choice from the list of performances which is provided to you in the Handbook on the website: www.yorku.ca/crobbin (four performances in total.) Students in half hour lessons must attend two concerts in total, one of which must be a recital. Guidelines are provided to you on the website: www.yorku.ca/crobbin under Handbook: Concert reports, for written reports which must be submitted in response to these performances. If you would like to choose a performance which is not on the suggested list, **you must have it approved in advance by your teacher.** Please see Important Dates for Singers in the same Handbook for the **dates when these reports are due.**

Study Notebook: Students are required to keep a notebook with all texts of songs learned in lessons. Each song learned should be accompanied by a paragraph or two about the song's composer and poet. Be sure to include a list of the composer's major works, not only those in the vocal genre. You may wish to add notes about the form, period and style of the composition. Include complete word-for-word translations and whenever required, I.P.A. transcriptions. This exercise prepares the student for the viva voce portion of the jury.

Course Text / Readings

Studio teachers will advise students of the music they must acquire for study during the year. Good French/English, German/English and Italian/English dictionaries should be considered basic tools for every singer, as should a metronome.

Evaluation

| | 1020 | 2020 | 3020 | 4020 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fall Term Grade | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% |
| Winter Term Grade | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% |
| Winter Term Jury | 50% | 50% | 50% | 50% |

The Term Grade is given by the instructor and is based on lesson preparation (15%), repertoire notebooks (20%), concert reviews (15%), and performance level (50%). The jury mark reflects only what is heard at the time of the performance.

Performance Jury

At the conclusion of each year, all students will be examined by jury. All selections must be memorized. In every jury, adjudicators may ask questions about the composer, the poet or librettist, the form of the piece, the period, the style, the translation, or other relevant musical matters. Attention to personal appearance and the careful preparation of materials (3 copies of music for the jury, accurate repertoire lists signed by the teacher, translations of foreign language songs, etc.) are important parts of the jury process.

For juries in every year of study the student will choose the first selection and the jury will then make subsequent selections. The following requirements apply for the number of minutes of music which must be prepared for the jury:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| First year: 3.0: | 5 minutes | First year: 6.0: | 10 minutes |
| Second year: 3.0: | 7 minutes | Second year: 6.0: | 15 minutes |
| Third year: 3.0: | 10 minutes | Third year: 6.0: | 20 minutes |
| Fourth year: 3.0: | 12 minutes | Fourth year: 6.0: | 25 minutes |

Vocal adjudication will be based on the criteria listed above under Course Description.

Accompaniment Policy: All singers require a qualified accompanist for their juries and must provide one at their own expense. Lack of appropriate accompaniment will result in a lower grade. A list of accompanists is available in the Music Department or in the Handbook at www.yorku.ca/crobbin. You should consult with your teacher about this.

The juries for classical voice will be held on April 11 and 12, 2007 .

| | Term F | Term Y | Term FF | Term A | Term W | Term WW | Term B |
|--|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade | Nov 10 | Feb 2 | Oct 9 | Oct 23 | Mar 9 | Jan 24 | Feb 26 |

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf)

Assignment Submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments are to be handed in directly to the teacher.

Lateness Penalty: Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized *one-half letter grade per day that assignment is late*. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor's letter).

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents)

http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Academic Honesty and Integrity

York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/acadhonesty.htm>).

There is also an academic integrity website with complete information about academic honesty. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website (<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students.htm>).

Access/Disability

York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials.

It is the student's responsibility to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Failure to make these arrangements may jeopardize your opportunity to receive academic accommodations.

Additional information is available at www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices or from disability service providers:

- **Office for Persons with Disabilities:** N108 Ross, 416-736-5140, www.yorku.ca/opd
- **Learning and Psychiatric Disabilities Programs - Counselling & Development Centre:** 130 BSB, 416-736-5297, www.yorku.ca/cdc
- **Atkinson students - Atkinson Counselling & Supervision Centre:** 114 Atkinson, 416-736-5225, www.yorku.ca/atkcsc
- **Glendon students - Glendon Counselling & Career Centre:** Glendon Hall 111, 416-487-6709, www.glendon.yorku.ca/counselling

Ethics Review Process

York students are subject to the York University *Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants*. In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Course Director immediately

Religious Observance Accommodation

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre or online at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

Student Conduct

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/harass.htm>

Please note that this information is subject to periodic update. For the most current information, please go to the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents):
http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm. March 22, 2006