WESTMINSTER COLLEGE
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
Vocal Literature/Opera Lit
Syllabus
(Fall Term 2018)

Instructor-Dr. Anne Hagan Bentz
Office: Studio D
Office Hours: MW 12:30-1:00, M 2-3 & by apt.
bentzah@westminster.edu

Class time TR 8:10-9:10
Patterson Hall, Rm AAA
Tel. (724)946-6045

I. Objectives:

To expose students to a wide range of solo vocal/operatic literature from the European, American and African-American traditions through listening, reading, research, and performance. To develop a broad understanding of major art song composers, their output, style, and historic importance. To know the historic significance & stylistic traits of major song 'schools' and national song styles. To gain an appreciation for the poets, poetry and librettists of the repertoire studied. To be able to convey knowledge about aspects of the solo song through performance and lecture. To be able to program a recital with discernment and with attention to unity, variety, and contrast.

Students must prepare for classes by reading and researching the materials to be discussed, listening to assigned repertoire, preparing lecture presentations, and preparing assigned songs/arias which can be presented in a multitude of ways.

II. Required textbooks and Materials:


Other research materials, and handouts. Please bring your laptops and earphones/buds to class.

III. Assessment

A. Student Lectures:

Each student will present two in-class lectures (one on Song and one on an Opera) on assigned topics. Each lecture will last 20 minutes and must include a typewritten outline/handout that will be useful for your fellow class members as a study guide. A Bibliography must be included that cites your major sources of information in MLA format. Your lectures should include musical examples presented in performance and recordings and your presentation forms will be “Time line, Glogster, “Prezi.” The information you gather should be presented in an organized fashion.

B. Song/Opera Repertoire & Performance:

Your goal for the semester is to acquire a broad knowledge of the vocal repertoire available to classical singers. This will be accomplished through listening to, reading about, and performing various selections. You will need to locate scores for you presentations. I will supplement the scores needed from my private library, but you need to plan ahead so that you can view the music as well as watching it being performed. Looking at and analyzing scores is vital to understanding song and operatic style.

C. Directed Listening Worksheets:

There are 12 worksheets which you will use to guide your research and listening for each section of material covered. These will be completed and turned in for a grade and are worth 12% of the total grade. They are intended to help you organize the large amount of material to be covered in class. Use your class time wisely and efficiently.

D. Exams and Final Evaluation:

There will be 2 Tests (1 for Song and 1 for Opera) 3 presentations (two for Song – Timeline & Prezi) and one for Opera), One Ornamentation Demonstration(song), one Opera Critique and a Midterm and Final (1 of ea. For Song and Opera)
IV. Instructor Expectations:

Attendance: Attendance at every class is very important. Any unexcused absence during the semester will lower the final grade by one letter. For every additional unexcused absence the grade will lower another letter. Attendance will be taken during each session and all excuses must be presented to the instructor. If an absence is anticipated in advance, it is the student's responsibility to discuss the situation with the instructor and make-up the work that is missed. All students are responsible for class notes, assigned reading and listening, and performance requirements missed because of any absence. Please see the instructor. A positive attitude is crucial. Consider how your behavior affects the learning and enjoyment of learning of everyone else. Do your part. Be creative.

Cheating of any type on exams, quizzes, all graded work and responsibilities outside of class will not be tolerated. Students are responsible for their own work and should not take credit for the efforts or the ideas of others.

V. Outcomes and Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Participation &amp; Preparation</th>
<th>Mid Term (Song, Opera)</th>
<th>20%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worksheets (12)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Opera Critique (must attend)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Presentations (3)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Ornamentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests (2)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Final (Song, Opera)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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VI. Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>93-100</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>80-82</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>66-69</th>
<th>D+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>63-65</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
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VII. Conduct

"The mission of Westminster College is to help men and women develop competencies, commitments, and characteristics, which have distinguished human beings at their best." The abuse of alcohol and other drugs serves only to undermine the achievement of these goals. The faculty therefore expects all students, as they do of themselves, to take seriously the implications of such risk taking behaviors in their pursuit of a Westminster education.

College Handbook

VIII. Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is central to the purpose of any academic community. We ask that you read the section in the student handbook titled "Academic Integrity" which includes the following definition:

Academic dishonesty is a profound violation of the expected code of behavior. It can take several forms, including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, purposely altering the work of another (without that person’s permission) misrepresentation of attendance in class or at college events, misrepresentation of work, facts, or experimental results, unauthorized use of or intentional intrusion into another’s computer files and/or programs, intentional damage to a computer system, and unauthorized use of library materials and privileges, or engaging in any activity which attempts to alter or harm another’s academic standing...

College Handbook

Please note: if you have a documented disability and wish to discuss accommodations, please contact the instructor at the beginning of the course.