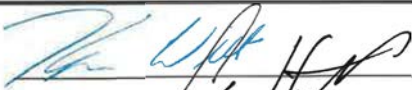
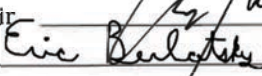
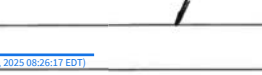
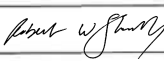


 FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	COURSE CHANGE REQUEST Graduate Programs		UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ SCNS Submittal _____ Confirmed _____ Banner _____ Catalog _____
	Department Music	College Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters	
Current Course Prefix and Number MUO 6505		Current Course Title Opera Workshop 1	
<i>Syllabus must be attached for ANY changes to current course details. See Template. Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.</i>			
Change title to: No Change Change prefix From: N/A To: N/A Change course number From: N/A To: N/A Change credits* From: 1 To: 1 TO 2 Change grading From: N/A To: N/A Academic Service Learning (ASL) ** Add ☐ Remove ☐		Change description to: A performance-based course where graduate students study, coach, and perform operatic repertoire (scenes, duets, arias, and ensembles). Emphasis is on musical preparation, stagecraft, and acting work through opera excerpts, with flexible content that may include other lyric theatre projects. Change prerequisites/minimum grades to: Instructor approval Change corequisites to: N/A Change registration controls to: Music or Theatre Major, Graduate Student	
Effective Term/Year for Changes: Spring 2026		Terminate course? Effective Term/Year for Termination:	
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Mitchell Hutchings/mhutchings@fau.edu/561-297-4065			
Approved by Department Chair  College Curriculum Chair  College Dean  UGPC Chair  UGC Chair  Graduate College Dean  UFS President _____ Provost _____		Date September 4, 2025 10/20/25 10/20/25 10/31/2025 10/31/2025 10/31/2025 _____ _____	

Email this form and syllabus to UGPC@fau.edu 10 days before the UGPC meeting.



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

MUO 6505-001

Opera Workshop 1

Date: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 3:00 PM - 4:50 PM

Building: Arts and Letters Boca **Room:** 219

1-2 Credit

Spring 2026 - 1 Full Term

Instructor Information

Mitchell Hutchings, DMA

Email: mhutchings@fau.edu

Office: AL-251

Office Hours: W 11-12, T-TR 11 to 12

Phone: 561-297-4065

Course Description

~~Prerequisite: Permission of instructor~~

~~Provides students with a closer look at the skills and techniques needed to be successful on the operatic stage, including audition technique, scene and aria analysis, a basic craft for acting, improvisation, stage movement, language declamation and dramatic and musical preparation to culminate in a staged performance of opera scenes.~~

Prerequisites: Music major, Theatre major, or instructor approval.

A performance-based course where graduate students study, coach, and perform operatic repertoire (scenes, duets, arias, and ensembles). Emphasis is on musical preparation, stagecraft, and acting work through opera excerpts, with flexible content that may include other lyric theatre projects.

Instructional Method

In-person: Traditional Concept of in person. Mandatory Attendance is at the discretion of the instructor.

Prerequisites/ Corequisites

Instructor approval.

Required Texts/Materials

Acting for Singers: Creating Believable Singing Characters

ISBN: 978-0195145403

Publisher: Oxford University Press

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

Students will prepare and perform operatic and musical theatre scenes with advanced stylistic awareness, vocal artistry, and dramatic authenticity. They will integrate movement, dramatic analysis, and character development with refined vocal technique to produce nuanced and compelling performances. Emphasis will be placed on developing sophisticated stage presence and expressive, idiomatic use of language informed by stylistic, historical, and cultural context. Students will apply advanced improvisation, subtext, and rehearsal strategies to collaborate effectively in solo and ensemble settings, while demonstrating professional rehearsal discipline, interpretive decision-making, and expected performance readiness at the graduate level.

Faculty Rights and Responsibilities

Florida Atlantic University respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede their exercise. To ensure these rights, faculty members have the prerogative to:

- Establish and implement academic standards.
- Establish and enforce reasonable behavior standards in each class.
- Recommend disciplinary action for students whose behavior may be judged as disruptive under the Student Code of Conduct [University Regulation 4.00Z](#).

Disability Policy

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.

Course Evaluation Method

Grading:

30% Attendance & Active Participation – Regular attendance and meaningful engagement in class activities.

30% Music Preparation – Students must complete a read-through of their music by week 7 and have it fully memorized by week 10.

10% Performance Quality & Written Assignments – Assessment of performance execution, which may include written analyses or reflections.

30% Final Performance Evaluation – A comprehensive assessment based on the final performance presentation.

Portfolios: A professional portfolio is required, which includes creating a personal website with available media.

Final Projects:

All students will participate in a performance, demonstrating their work in a fully staged or semi-staged setting. Formal concert attire is required. Students with alternative performance or research-based assignments will present their projects during the final week of class.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high-quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#).

All projects and assignments need to be of your unique authorship. Using a portion of someone else's project is considered plagiarism and will be dealt with according to the process set forth by FAU's academic integrity policy.

Attendance Policy Statement

Students are expected to attend all their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations, or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

Students are required to attend class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday unless specified otherwise in the weekly schedule. Missing a scheduled coaching will result in a 5-point deduction from the final grade.

Religious Accommodation Policy Statement

In accordance with the rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs regarding admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. University Regulation 2.007, Religious Observances, sets forth this policy for FAU and may be accessed on the FAU website at www.fau.edu/regulations.

Any student who feels aggrieved regarding religious accommodations may present a grievance to the executive director of The Office of Civil Rights and Title IX. Any such grievances will follow Florida Atlantic University's established grievance procedure regarding alleged discrimination.

Time Commitment Per Credit Hour

For traditionally delivered courses, not less than one (1) hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction each week for fifteen (15) weeks per Fall or Spring semester, and a minimum of two (2) hours of out-of-class student work for each credit hour. Equivalent time and effort are required for Summer Semesters, which usually have a shortened timeframe. Fully Online courses, hybrid, shortened, intensive format courses, and other non-traditional modes of delivery will demonstrate equivalent time and effort.

You can add to this if you deem appropriate

Course Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Letter Grade
A	94 - 100%
A-	90 - 93%
B+	87 - 89%
B	83 - 86%
B-	80 - 82%
C+	77 - 79%
C	73 - 76%
C-	70 - 72%
D+	67 - 69%
D	63 - 66%
D-	60 - 62%
F	Below 60

Grade Appeal Process

You may request a review of the final course grade when you believe that one of the following conditions apply:

- There was a computational or recording error in the grading.
- The grading process used non-academic criteria.
- There was a gross violation of the instructor's own grading system.

University Regulation 4.002 of the University Regulations contains information on the grade appeals process

Policy on Make-up Tests, Late work, and Incompletes

Assignments must be finalized in accordance with the syllabus deadlines, and no makeup assignments will be offered. Late submissions will not receive a grade higher than a B (86%) and will not be accepted if they are more than one class period overdue. Tests and examinations must be completed on the scheduled date. Exceptional circumstances involving documented illness or emergencies are the only cases where students may be considered for makeup assignments and tests.

Special Course Requirements

Structure:

In the professional opera industry, weekly schedules are provided but often shift due to rehearsal adjustments. While we strive to maintain an accurate weekly schedule, flexibility is essential. Classes may include physical warm-ups, theoretical instruction, and performance-based activities. Please wear attire that allows for unrestricted movement.

Additional Expectations:

Food & Drink: Eating is not allowed in the classroom; water is permitted.

Punctuality: Arrive on time and stay for the entire class out of respect for fellow students and faculty.

Lifting Restrictions: Do not lift objects over 50 lbs. without prior approval. Always bend at the knees when lifting.

Set Construction: Do not engage in set construction without instructor consent.

Vocal Health: If experiencing vocal fatigue, refrain from singing for the rest of the day and mark accordingly. Persistent vocal issues should be addressed by a laryngologist or other qualified medical professional.

Safety: If an activity feels unsafe, stop immediately and inform the instructor.

Volume Control: Maintain an appropriate volume during performances and listening sessions.

Repetitive Motion: Avoid excessive repetitive motion whenever possible.

Policy on the Recording of Lectures

Students enrolled in this course may record video or audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to student presentations (whether individually or as part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), labs, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the lecturer, is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation or class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct and/or the Code of Academic Integrity.

Artificial Intelligence Preamble

FAU recognizes the value of generative AI in facilitating learning. However, output generated by artificial intelligence (AI), such as written words, computations, code, artwork, images, music, etc., for example, is drawn from previously published materials and is not your own original work.

FAU students are not permitted to use AI for any course work unless explicitly allowed to do so by the instructor of the class for a specific assignment. **[Policy 12.16 Artificial Intelligence]**

Class policies related to AI use are decided by the individual faculty. Some faculty may permit the use of AI in some assignments but not others, and some faculty may prohibit the use of AI in their course entirely. In the case that an instructor permits the use of AI for some assignments, the assignment instructions will indicate when and how the use of AI is permitted in that specific assignment. It is the student's responsibility to comply with the instructor's expectations for each assignment in each course. When AI is authorized, the student is also responsible and accountable for the content of the work. AI may generate inaccurate, false, or exaggerated information. Users should approach any generated content with skepticism and review any information generated by AI before using generated content as-is.

If you are unclear about whether or not the use of AI is permitted, ask your instructor before starting the assignment.

Failure to comply with the requirements related to the use of AI may constitute a violation of the **Florida Atlantic Code of Academic Integrity, Regulation 4.001.**

Proper Citation: If the use of AI is permitted for a specific assignment, then use of the AI tool must be properly documented and cited. For more information on how to properly cite the use of AI tools, visit <https://fau.edu/ai/citation>

AI Language Specific to This Course

AI Flexible: The use of AI to assist in work assigned in this specific course is permitted only for specific assignments as indicated by the instructor. Use must be properly documented and cited per instructor guidelines (<https://fau.edu/ai/citation>).

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

Student Support Services and Online Resources

- [Center for Learning and Student Success \(CLASS\)](#)
- [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- [FAU Libraries](#)
- [Math Learning Center](#)
- [Office of Information Technology Helpdesk](#)
- [Center for Global Engagement](#)
- [Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry \(OURI\)](#)
- [Science Learning Center](#)
- [Speaking Center](#)

- [Student Accessibility Services](#)
- [Student Athlete Success Center \(SASC\)](#)
- [Testing and Certification](#)
- [Test Preparation](#)
- [University Academic Advising Services](#)
- [University Center for Excellence in Writing \(UCEW\)](#)
- [Writing Across the Curriculum \(WAC\)](#)

Course Topical Outline

Week 1 – Syllabus review, auditions, distribution of aria/scene assignments

Week 2 – Scene and aria translations due; spoken dialogue assigned

Week 3 – Dialogue workshop and character development

Week 4 – Presentation of spoken scenes; personal branding/SEO and vocal performance résumé development

Week 5 – Individual aria coaching; perform spoken translation with acting

Week 6 – Individual aria coaching; small group scene coaching

Week 7 – Small group rehearsals, scene coaching, and staging

Week 8 – Continued small group rehearsals and coaching

Week 9 – Scene refinement and rehearsal

Week 10 – Memorization sing-through; staging begins in the theatre

Week 11 – Staging in the theatre

Week 12 – Opera Workshop Performance

Week 13 – Group master class; final project support

Week 14 – Group master class

Week 15 – Group master class and final project presentations

Title IX Statement

In any case involving allegations of sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report the matter to the University Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX (OCR9). If University faculty become aware of an allegation of sexual misconduct, they are expected to report it to OCR9. If a report is made, someone from OCR9 and/or Campus Victim Services will contact you to make you aware of available resources including support services, supportive measures, and the University's grievance procedures. More information, including contact information for OCR9, is available at <https://www.fau.edu/ocr9/title-ix/>. You may also

contact Victim Services at victimservices@fau.edu or 561-297-0500 (ask to speak to an Advocate) or schedule an appointment with a counselor at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) by calling 561-297-CAPS.



Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Department of Theatre and Dance
777 Glades Road, AH-114
Boca Raton, FL 33431
tel: 561.297.3810
www.fau.edu/theatre

September 24, 2025

Dear Kevin,

The Department of Theatre and Dance fully supports MUO 6307 and MUO 6716 courses. At this time, the department cannot offer courses in acting and stagecraft for Opera within our program. Thank you for reaching out to verify this concern.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Shorrock
Chair, Professor of Theatre
Department of Theatre and Dance