

Opera and Musical Theater (MUSC 126): Schedule

Prof. Cashner (Fall 2021)

Links

- Syllabus
- Blackboard

Week 1

- (Thu 8/26) What is musical drama?

Week 2

- (Tue 8/31) *Fiddler on the Roof*
 - **Viewing:** Throughout the course, please watch the whole show by the start of the first class where that show is listed.
 - **Reading:** For every show, please read the book (or libretto, or script) and look through the score, depending on what is available; all on Course Reserve at the Art/Music Library
- (Thu 9/2) *Fiddler*
 - **Reading:** Lambert (2011)

Week 3

- (Tue 9/7) *Fiddler*
 - **Reading:** Solomon (2013)
- (Thu 9/9) *The Marriage of Figaro*
 - Short essay 1 due

Week 4

- (Tue 9/14) *Figaro*
 - Short essay 2 due
 - **Reading:** Cairns (2006)
- (Thu 9/16) *Figaro*
 - **Reading:** Brown-Montesano (2007), “Overture” (xi–xxv); “Sisterhood and Seduction II: Friendship and Class; Countess Almaviva and Susanna” (155–193)

Week 5

- (Tue 9/21) Singers and voices
 - Long essay 1 due
 - **Reading:** Bergner (2011)

- (Thu 9/23) *West Side Story*
 - **Reading:** Wells (2011), ch. 2 (pp. 27–54)

Week 6

- (Tue 9/28) *West Side Story*
 - Short essay 3 due
 - **Reading:** Wells (2011), ch. 4, 6 (pp. 99–140, 189–216)
- (Thu 9/30) *West Side Story*

Week 7

- (Tue 10/5) *Billy Budd*
 - Short essay 4 due
- (Thu 10/7) *Billy Budd*
 - **Reading:** Whittall (1990)

Week 8

- (Tue 10/12) No class: Fall break
- (Thu 10/14) *Billy Budd*

Week 9

- (Tue 10/19) *Falsettos*
- (Thu 10/21) *Falsettos*
 - **Reading:** Bádue (2019)

Week 10

- (Tue 10/26) *Falsettos*
 - Short essay 5 due
- (Thu 10/28) Diversity and Representation
 - **Reading:** Graziano (2017)
 - Lodge (2008)

Week 11

- (Tue 11/2) *La bohème*
 - **Reading:** D'Amico (1994)
 - Short essay 6 due
- (Thu 11/4) *La bohème*
 - **Reading:** Rosselli (1994)

Week 12

- (Tue 11/9) Beijing opera and *The First Emperor*
 - **Reading:** Wang-Ngai (1997), ch. 1–4 (pp. 1–50)
 - Long essay 2 due
- (Thu 11/11) No class

Week 13

- (Tue 11/16) *Emperor*
 - Short essay 7 due
 - Tan Dun’s website
- (Thu 11/18) *Emperor*
 - **Reading:** Revuluri (2016)

Week 14

- (Tue 11/23) *Hamilton*
 - **Reading:** Harbert (2018)
- (Thu 11/25) No class: Thanksgiving

Week 15

- (Tue 11/30) *Hamilton*
 - Short essay 8 due
 - **Reading:** Monteiro (2018)
- (Thu 12/2) Conclusions

Week 16

- (Tue 12/7) Conclusions
 - Presentations

Finals Week

- (Mon 12/13)
 - Long essay 3 due

References

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- Cairns, David. 2006. “Lorenzo Da Ponte and the Perfect Marriage: *Le Nozze Di Figaro*.” In *Mozart and His Operas*, 99–135. Berkeley: University of California Press.
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- Wells, Elizabeth Anne. 2011. *West Side Story: Cultural Perspectives on an American Musical*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.
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