

**SYLLABUS****MUSI 6397, Music and Text in Romantic Italian Opera****Professor: Andrew Davis****Fall 2008****COURSE INFORMATION**

course: MUSI 6397: Music and Text in Romantic Italian Opera

time: TTh 10:00–11:30am

location: MSM 110 (note room change: not MSM 220A)

course web site:

<http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5/6397verdi>. You must monitor the web site regularly to be current with reading assignments, other material expected in preparation for class, assignments (essays, paper, and other assignments), schedule updates (including cancelled class meetings and any optional meetings outside regular class times), and any other miscellaneous material and announcements.

**PROFESSOR INFORMATION**

professor: Andrew Davis, Director of Graduate Studies and Assistant Professor of Music Theory

office: MSM 152

office phone: 713 743 3294

email: [adavis](mailto:adavis@uh.edu) at uh.edu

personal web page: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5> (links to courses, syllabus archive, and other useful information); see also

<http://www.music.uh.edu/people/davis.html>.

**office hours:** by appointment. Please email or call me.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The course will examine the details of text setting in nineteenth-century Italian opera and the typical formal schemes ("la solita forma") in its poetry and music. Students will be fluent with the formal patterns, ways composers used the patterns expressively, the most important modern analytical work on the subject, and a wide range of opera repertoire, including, among others, Verdi's Nabucco, Ernani, Rigoletto, Il Trovatore, La Traviata, Simon Boccanegra, Un ballo in maschera, La forza del destino, and Aida, and Rossini's Semiramide and

others. Offered for theory credit only. Some knowledge of basic Italian pronunciation will be useful; reading knowledge of Italian is not required.

## PREREQUISITES

Prerequisites include full graduate standing (no theory deficiencies) and MUSI 6300, Introduction to Research Methods in Musicology.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

There is no textbook. All reading material for the course is available in the library (you will be required to make photocopies and bring the material to class) or online (on the Dokutek "Ereserves" web page). All recordings are available on reserve in the music library. For more information see the [bibliography and reserves](#) page.

You are required to come to each class meeting prepared. You must have read the assigned material, made notes, listened to assigned repertoire, and prepared for class discussion. Part of your final grade will be determined from your class preparation and participation.

## EVALUATION

25%	assignments
25%	midterm essay
25%	final paper
25%	class preparation and participation

Grade distribution will be according to the standard scale of percentages, as follows:

	A: 95	A-: 92.5
B+: 87.5	B: 85	B-: 82.5
C+: 77.5	C: 75	C-: 72.5
D+: 67.5	D: 65	D-: 62.5
	F: below 60	

## ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

You are expected to do your own work on all assignments, quizzes, and exams unless instructed differently; any work you hand in at any time should be your own unless you are assigned to do otherwise. Problems with academic dishonesty will be handled

according to the [procedures outlined in the undergraduate student handbook](#) and in the undergraduate course catalog. Please note that the mere suspicion of academic dishonesty is enough to initiate official action; please do not put yourself in the position of having to deal with this kind of situation.

## DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that affects your capacity to complete assignments, quizzes, or exams in a timely manner, please inform me at the beginning of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. You will need to document your disability with the UH [Center for Students with Disabilities \(CSD\)](#): 100 CSD Building ([click here to get a map](#)), 713 743 5400. The CSD will provide information on your disability to the instructor, and the instructor and student will work out a mutually agreeable arrangement (based on recommendations provided by the CSD) for how to accommodate the disability.

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Last updated: January 4, 2009

URL: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5/musi6397verdi>

Comments: [adavis](#) at uh.edu

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