



MUSI 183 - Musical Theater Performance: Contemporary Course Outline

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 08/11/2014

SECTION A

Unique ID Number

Discipline(s) Music

Division Arts and Humanities

Subject Area Music

Subject Code MUSI

Course Number 183

Course Title Musical Theater Performance: Contemporary

TOP Code/SAM Code 1004.00 - Music, General / -

Rationale for adding this course to the curriculum To train our music and musical theater majors in the complexity of the musical theater genre focusing on the contemporary musical theater repertoire.

Units 0.5 – 3

Cross List N/A

Typical Course Weeks 18

Total Instructional Hours

Contact Hours

Lecture 0.00
to 0.00

Lab 27.00
to 162.00

Activity 0.00
to 0.00

Work Experience 0.00
to 0.00

Outside of Class Hours 0.00
to 0.00

Total Contact Hours 27
to 162

Total Student Hours 27
to 162

Open Entry/Open Exit No

Maximum Enrollment 30

Grading Option Letter Grade or P/NP

**Distance Education Mode
of Instruction**

SECTION B

General Education Information:

SECTION C

Course Description

Repeatability May be repeated 0 times

Catalog Description The objective of this course is to focus on musical theater productions from the contemporary genre (1950-present day.)

**Schedule
Description**

SECTION D

Condition on Enrollment

1a. Prerequisite(s): *None*

1b. Corequisite(s): *None*

1c. Recommended: *None*

1d. Limitation on Enrollment

- By Audition
-

SECTION E

Course Outline Information

1. Student Learning Outcomes:

- Sing songs, complex harmonies and perform stage movement from memory in contemporary musical theater performances.
- Evaluate and critique student in the contemporary musical theater genre performance and receive personal performance criticism from others.

2. Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Sing music with melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic accuracy while performing choreographed movement and staging.
- Communicate memorized music texts with in-depth understanding; develop a complex subtext.
- Sing music accurately with tempo flexibility per performance, following the conductor.
- Develop a complex character and create a relationship with other characters on stage through music and lyrics.
- Develop practice and rehearsal techniques for accuracy and memorization of harmonically complex repertoire.
- Sing and play an instrument as part of a chorus, solo, and/or small ensemble, as score requires.
- Utilize props, sets, and costumes, as musical direction requires.
- H.

3. Course Content

I. Music/Vocal

- Pitches: melodic and harmonic
- Rhythms: melodic and tempo (pulse)
- Complex chordal harmonies
 - Consonance

- 2. Dissonance
- D. Flexibility of tempo
- E. Choral singing within an instrumental structure
 - 1. Chamber ensemble
 - 2. Full orchestra
- F. Solo or small ensemble singing, as role requires
- G. Projection of sound and text in theater
- H. Adding instrument playing as required by score

II. Lyrics

- A. Text memorization
- B. Subtext development, using harmonic content
- C. Musical delivery/communication
- D. Articulation of text for audience understanding
- E. Role development
 - 1. Individual journey of the character through music
 - 2. Characters relationship with others
- F. Using set, stage properties, and costumes as character and music require

III. Musical Movement

- A. Blocking
- B. Stage movement
- C. Choreographed movement as score and character require
- D. Using properties and costume within movement structure

IV. Combining music into complete performance

- A. Memorization of lyrics, music, movement
- B. Complex harmonic structure
- B. Performing combined complex skills
- C. Dealing with music variables in repeated performance
- D. Audience communication through music and lyrics

V. Set, Props, Lights and Costume Construction

- A. Build set and provide parts of costumes as needed
- B. Paint set as needed
- C. Provide and search for properties as needed
- D. Provide and assist with costume building as needed

4. Methods of Instruction:

Critique: Individual, sectional, full group

Lab: Rehearsal: individual, ensemble

Lecture: Score: composer, harmonic elements

Observation and Demonstration: Instructor & student demonstrate, CD and DVD presentation

5. Methods of Evaluation: Describe the general types of evaluations for this course and provide at least two, specific examples.

Typical classroom assessment techniques

- Oral Presentation -- Singing: individual and ensemble
- Group Projects -- Sectional rehearsal
- Class Work -- Rehearsal: music, lyrics, combined with movement
- Home Work -- Interpretation, sub-text and memorization
- Lab Activities -- Rehearsal
- Class Performance -- Rehearsal
- Final Public Performance -- Main Theater, Studio Theater PAC
- Letter Grade or P/NP

6. Assignments: State the general types of assignments for this course under the following categories and provide at least two specific examples for each section.

A. Reading Assignments

- 1) The student will read lyrics of the songs and develop an in-depth journal of the character.
- 2) The student will read the notation in the melodic and harmonic sections of the score.

B. Writing Assignments

- 1) The student will prepare the score with phrase and breath marks, also noting change of harmonic line for voice category and score requirements.
- 2) Perform complex harmony in score, e.g. opening of "City of Angels."

7. Required Materials

A. EXAMPLES of typical college-level textbooks (for degree-applicable courses) or other print materials.

Book #1:

Author: Hansard, Glen
Title: Once (Broadway Musical)
Publisher: Alfred Music
Date of Publication: 2012
Edition:

Book #2:

Author: Sondheim, Stephen
Title: Sweeney Todd
Publisher: Hal Leonard Corp.
Date of Publication: 2010
Edition:

B. Other required materials/supplies.