

MUL3693 section 2068-- The American Musical: Broadway and Beyond

The University of Florida School of Music – spring 2018

Course meeting times: MWF period 5 (11:45 a.m.-12:35 p.m.)

Instructor: Dr. Margaret Butler 351 MUB / (352) 273-3187 / butlermr@ufl.edu

Office Hours: MW per. 6 and by appointment

SYLLABUS

Course Description: This course provides undergraduates with an introduction to the history and development of the musical from its origins to the present. Within the framework of a chronological survey, the course explores distinctive musical and dramatic features of specific works. It considers topics such as the relationship of the genre to American culture and society, the genre as a commercial medium, its principal creators and performers, its relationship to film, its role in the formation of America's national identity, and its communication of American values, attitudes and norms with regard to different cultures. Students' work in the course will be evaluated through exams and assignments. Live performances and guest presentations on a variety of topics and approaches to the genre will be integrated.

Course Prerequisites: MUL 2010, MUL 2501, or permission of instructor

Required Course Materials:

1) William A. Everett and Paul R. Laird, editors. *The Cambridge Companion to the Musical*. Third edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017. ISBN: 9781107535299. Please note that the 3rd edition is required. No earlier editions will be used this semester.

2) Margaret R. Butler, "The American Musical," 204-30 (chap. 9) in *Theatrical Worlds*, edited by Charlie Mitchell. Beta Version. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2014. Open-access textbook, pdf available as free download at:
<http://orangegrovetexts.org/AA00021870/00001/pdf?search=mitchell>

2) Access to recordings (video/audio) on reserve in the AFA Library or on the Internet (TBA) for listening/viewing assignments. Access to supplemental reading assignments on Ares electronic reserves (ares-uflib-ufl.edu.lp.hscl.ufl.edu) and from New Grove online (article on "musical").

WRITTEN/ORAL ASSIGNMENTS

Daily preparation for class and participation with thoughtful and informed questions and contributions to discussion is required. Short assignments will be given occasionally. A research project (oral presentation) will deal with a musical and a set of related issues. More information on these will be discussed in class. Plagiarized material will receive a failing grade and will be forwarded to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action. Letter grades will be converted to the top numerical score for that letter grade range when final grades are calculated. Written assignments will be evaluated for organization, originality, clarity, and coherence as well as correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage of standard written English. All of these components will "count" in the assignment grade. Assignment sheets with criteria will be distributed and discussed in class. The criteria and requirements detailed in these assignment

sheets, as well as those given above, will apply for assignments. Students are responsible for these criteria whether or not they attend class on the day the assignment sheets are distributed.

EXAMS

There will be one midterm (in class) and one final exam (take-home). The take-home final must be submitted on Canvas by the due date. No late exams will be accepted. Cheating and/or plagiarism on exams will result in disciplinary action. A make-up for the midterm will only be administered in the case of an excused absence and must be completed within one calendar week of the scheduled exam date. Excused absences are granted for: 1) a medical illness confirmed by a written statement from your physician or 2) a medical emergency in the family confirmed by a written statement from a parent or guardian, 3) an official university activity for which your attendance is required (not optional) and is confirmed by a written statement from a faculty advisor, or 4) a religious holiday which you must observe. For excused absences in categories 3 and 4 you must notify the instructor at least two weeks in advance of the absence. All assignments must be made up if missed. Criteria for make-ups will be distributed in class. No late submissions on make-ups will be accepted.

GRADING

2 Exams (midterm & final) at 15% each:	30%
Preparation and participation	30%
Research project including oral presentation:	30%
Short assignments	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Grading Scale for UF Music History Area Classes:

94-100 = A	84-86 = B	74-76 = C	64-66 = D
91-93 = A-	81-83 = B-	71-73 = C-	61-63 = D-
87-90 = B+	77-80 = C+	67-70 = D+	0-60 = E

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY: Cheating on exams and using someone else’s ideas in a written paper without providing proper recognition of the source (plagiarizing) are serious matters. As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: *“I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for the University.”* The instructor of this course fully endorses this statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing is subject to an automatic E and further disciplinary action. All violations of academic honesty will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action without exception. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is required and will be taken at each class meeting. Consistent and punctual attendance in every class is expected. Work or exams missed as a result of absence or tardiness will impact the student’s grade. Students are responsible for all assigned work, announcements made in class, and any material covered in class regardless of attendance or

punctuality. 30% of the final grade depends on preparation and participation. Regular absences and excessive tardiness will affect this portion of that grade.

DISABILITY POLICY: For students with disabilities: to request classroom accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD). Students requesting accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. Students are fully responsible for providing official college documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

OTHER POLICIES: Laptops may be allowed if they do not interfere with a student’s engagement in class, to be determined by the instructor. Pop quizzes will be given if cell phones ring/sound in class. No cell phones, laptops, or other devices are allowed in exams. No outside paper is to be brought into exams, and seating in the classroom on exam days may be assigned. Students are required to understand all policies in this syllabus and to ask instructor for clarification. Failure to understand these policies does not result in exemption from them.

MUL 3693, The American Musical: Broadway and Beyond
COURSE SCHEDULE, spring 2018

This schedule of topics and related dates are subject to change. Changes will be announced in class or on the listserv. Readings are from CCM (*Cambridge Companion to the Musical*, 3rd edition). Listening assignments TBA from audio/video materials on reserve and on YouTube. Appropriate portions from Dr. Butler’s book chapter are to be read before each class period according to the topic coverage below.

Week	Topics, works to be covered, & exam/assignment dates	Reading : CCM chapter	Viewing
Week 1	<p>M: Course introduction; study strategies; overview of genres, the musical’s early history; vaudeville, melodrama, minstrel shows, extravaganzas. <i>The Black Crook</i>.</p> <p>W: Early history of the musical, cont.; vaudeville, George M. Cohan, Florenz Ziegfeld; Herbert; Kern; Berlin</p> <p>F: Intro to Belknap Performing Arts Collection, Special Collections, Class meets at Smathers Library East</p>	2, 4	video: <i>Broadway: The American Musical</i> , part
Week 2	<p>Monday, 1/15, Holiday, No Classes</p> <p>W: Intro to resources for musical theater research, class meets at Fine Arts Library (AFA)</p> <p>F: Operetta; Lehar; Gilbert & Sullivan; <i>The Merry</i></p>	5	Assignments TBD

	<i>Widow; Pirates of Penzance; The Mikado</i>		
Week 3	<p>M: African Americans in musical theater; <i>In Dahomey</i>; Bert Williams, minstrel shows, Gershwin</p> <p>W: Kern, <i>Show Boat</i></p> <p>F: Musical Comedies of 1920s & 30s; <i>Anything Goes</i>; The Gershwins, Rodgers & Hart, Cole Porter</p>	6, 7	<i>Show Boat, Anything Goes</i>
Week 4	<p>M: Rodgers & Hammerstein, 1940s; The Musical Play, structure & theme; <i>Oklahoma; Carousel</i></p> <p>W: Rodgers & Hammerstein, continued: Musicals and Identity, <i>The King & I; South Pacific</i></p> <p>F: Kander & Ebb, <i>Cabaret</i> and politics</p> <p>Saturday, 2/3, 7:30 p.m., Phillips Center, UFPA: Attend performance of <i>Cabaret</i></p>	9, 10	<i>Oklahoma; Carousel; The King & I; South Pacific My Fair Lady</i>
Week 5	<p>R&H successors, cont.:</p> <p>M: Post-performance discussion of <i>Cabaret</i></p> <p>W: Successors of Rodgers & Hammerstein, 1940s – 60s, Lerner & Loewe, <i>My Fair Lady</i>;</p> <p>F: Willson, <i>The Music Man</i> and nostalgia</p>	10	<i>Cabaret The Music Man;</i>
Week 6	<p>M: Styne, <i>Gypsy</i> and character studies</p> <p>W: Loesser, <i>Guys and Dolls</i> and return to comedy</p> <p>F: Bock & Harnick, <i>Fiddler on the Roof</i> and ethnicity</p>	10; 11	<i>Gypsy; Guys and Dolls; Fiddler on the Roof; West Side Story</i>
Week 7	<p>M: Leonard Bernstein <i>West Side Story</i> and scene structure</p> <p>W: The role of dance and the fully integrated</p>	11, 13	<i>A Chorus Line</i>

	musical: <i>A Chorus Line</i> and the director-choreographer Friday, 2/23: Midterm Exam (in class)		
Week 8	Stephen Sondheim M: overview & <i>A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum</i> W: <i>Company</i> F: <i>Sunday in the Park with George</i>	12	<i>Forum; Company Sunday;</i>
	<i>SPRING BREAK – 3/5 - 3/9</i>		
Week 9	M: More Sondheim: <i>Sweeney Todd</i> W: <i>Into the Woods</i> F: <i>Assassins; Passion</i>	TBA (and review 12)	<i>Sweeney Todd Into the Woods; Assassins; Passion</i>
Week 10	M: The Rock Musical, <i>Hair; Rent</i> W: The Motown Musical; <i>Dreamgirls</i> F: The Megamusical: <i>Phantom of the Opera; Les Misérables</i>	14, 15	<i>Hair; Rent Dreamgirls Phantom; Les Mis</i>
Week 11	M: Other shows, issues, approaches: <i>Next To Normal</i> ; others TBD W: <i>Wicked</i> ; others TBD; The Musical's Future; The TV Musical, the Internet Musical, and <i>Dr. Horrible's Singalong Blog</i> F: Guest presentation or other topic, TBD	18, 21	<i>Wicked</i> (YouTube excerpt from Tony Awards); <i>Dr. Horrible's Singalong Blog</i> : http://drhorrible.com
Week 12	M: Guest presentation or other topic, TBD W: Revivals of classic shows (discussion of chap. 20); R& H's <i>Cinderella</i> Thursday, 4/5, 7:30 p.m., Phillips Center, UFPA: attend R&H Cinderella	20	<i>Cinderella</i> ; other assignments TBD

	F: Post-performance discussion of R&H <i>Cinderella</i> at UFPA, 4/5		
Week 13	M: <i>Hamilton</i> and new directions for the musical W: <i>Hamilton</i> , cont. F: student presentations on research projects TBD	1, 18, 21	<i>Hamilton</i> excerpts on YouTube
Week 14	M: The Film Musical (guest presentation) W: student presentations on research projects TBD F: student presentations on research projects Sunday, 4/22, 7:30 p.m., Phillips Center, UFPA: Attend <i>A Chorus Line</i>	19, 13	Assignments TBD
Week 15	M: Post-performance discussion of <i>A Chorus Line</i> W: student presentations on research projects F: student presentations on research projects	13	Assignments TBD

FINAL EXAM: Take-home, due on E-Learning by 4:00 p.m., Monday May 4. No late exam submissions will be accepted.

OTHER INFORMATION / UF SYLLABUS REQUIREMENTS:

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness: U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>