

TPA 4930: THE COMMERCIAL THEATRE INDUSTRY MASTER CLASS SPRING 2021

Section 5114

3 Credit Hours

Spring Semester 2021

Location: This is a hybrid course presented in G15 and via Zoom

Thursdays Periods 3-5 (9:35 am – 12:35 pm)

Instructors: Miles Wilkin & Lisa Dozier King

Office: By appointment

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Office Hours: Thursday following class and by appointment

Course Description: TPA 4930 is a structured series of master classes hosted by the instructors, taught by prominent leaders and professionals with expertise in several realms of the North American theatre. The course details several aspects of the North American theatre industry; including in depth studies of Broadway, Off Broadway, touring productions, regional theatre, performing arts center management; and career paths of the American theatre, as well as the role each position plays in the North American theatre operation and production.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will have developed a preliminary understanding of the organization, process, roles and career opportunities in North American theatre and theatre production. In grasping the course curriculum, students will be able to apply course material to developing their postgraduate theatre career path.

Attendance Policy: Regular and punctual class attendance is essential and that no assigned work is excused because of an absence, no matter what the cause. If absent, it is your responsibility to obtain information about missed course content. If an assignment is missed due to an excused absence, the assignment will be due by the next class period following the excused absence. Exams must be made up within one week following the excused absence. Records of class attendance will be kept. If it becomes necessary for a student to miss a class for any reason, the instructor must be contacted directly via email or phone prior to class time.

More than two absences will result in a reduction in your grade. Three unexcused absences are not permissible. Each unexcused absence beyond the third will result in a 50% reduction in your participation/attendance grade. Three late arrivals or early exits will equal one unexcused absence. Please note: Only those absences deemed excused according to UF policy will be exempted from this policy. Appropriate documentation is required for excused absences. Absences related to university-sponsored events must be discussed with the instructor prior to the date that will be missed. The full UF

policy on absences, including religious holidays, illness policy, and the 12-day rule, may be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Cell phones are strictly prohibited from class unless another arrangement has been made in advance with instructors pertaining to learning needs.

Email Notification and Policy: Only the official UF student email address will be used for course communication. It is the student's responsibility to check UF email on a regular basis. All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. If the instructor deems any of them to be inappropriate or offensive, they will be forwarded to the Dean of the College of the Arts and appropriate action will be taken, not excluding expulsion from the course.

Grading:

30% Class Participation, Preparedness & Interaction with Guest Lecturers.

The success of this course depends on active participation and discussions. It is imperative, therefore, that you attend class *promptly*, have read the assigned material, and express your analysis of this material in class. As an active contributor to a collaborative art form such as theatre, you must be willing to share your views with clarity, confidence, and consideration of others. The following actions contribute positively to your participation grade:

- Attendance and promptness
- Demonstrated completion of assigned readings and activities
- Comments and questions that convey reflection on course content
- Demonstrated engagement with large and small group discussions
- Respect for the opinions held by others

25% Midterm Exam

25% Final Exam

20% Term Research Paper, a detailed case study on the regional theatre Miami New Drama

All written assignments should be formatted in MLA style, 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced with 1-inch margins and pages numbered. All written assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the date listed on the course schedule. Submission of late assignments without penalty requires a valid and documented reason, such as an excused absence. Otherwise, 10% of the total possible points for the assignment will be deducted for each school day that assignment is late (holidays and weekends excepted).

GRADING SCALE

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93.4-100	A	4.00
90.0-93.3	A-	3.67

86.7-89.9	B+	3.33
83.4-86.6	B	3.00
80.0-83.3	B-	2.67
76.7-79.9	C+	2.33
73.4-76.6	C	2.00
70.0-73.3	C-	1.67
66.7-69.9	D+	1.33
63.4-66.6	D	1.00
60.0-63.3	D-	0.67
0-59.9	E	0.00

More information on grades and grading policies may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Course Schedule/Syllabus: This syllabus represents current plans and objectives. As the course proceeds through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such shifts are not unusual and should be expected.

*****This syllabus is a contract. If you read this information and return to class, then you have agreed to the terms provided and are expected to abide by them. Do not ask for special exceptions to be made.*****

- Week 1: Introduction to NA Theatre Industry: Broadway, Off Broadway, Touring, Regional Theatre, Performing Arts Centers
- Week 2 : Production Life Cycle
- Week 3: Regional Theatre Case Study “Miami New Drama”
- Week 4: Touring Guest Lecture
- Week 5: Guest Lecture: Review & Discussion with Author Michael Riedel “Singular Sensation- The Triumph of Broadway”
- Week 6: Guest Lecture: Broadway Production & Development
- Week 7: Off Broadway Guest Lecture
- Week 8: Mid Term Review
- Week 9: Mid Term
- Week 10: Guest Lecture: Creativity
- Week 11: Guest Lecture: Leadership
- Week 12: Guest Lecture: Marketing & Communication
- Week 13: Final Guest Lecture
- Week 14 Final Exam

Required Texts/Assigned Reading:

Assigned Reading:

Miami New Drama

- “Miami New Drama at the Colony Theatre Miami Beach.” *Colonytheatre*, www.colonymb.org/
- “Miami New Drama's Marquee, Marching in Place for Black Lives.” www.americantheatre.org/2020/06/23/miami-new-dramas-marquee-marching-in-place-for-black-lives/
- “Tectonic Theater Project & Miami New Drama Present Scenes From Moisés Kaufman's LAS AVENTURAS DE JUAN PLANCHARD” <https://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Tectonic-Theater-Project-Miami-New-Drama-Present-Scenes-From-Moiss-Kaufmans-LAS-AVENTURAS-DE-JUAN-PLANCHARD-20200831>
- “Why ‘Our Town’ Springs Eternal, but Especially Now” <https://www.americantheatre.org/2018/01/22/why-our-town-springs-eternal-but-especially-now/>
- “One Night in Miami at the Colony Theatre” <https://www.pbs.org/video/one-night-miami-ju3atb/>
- “What ‘A Wonderful World’ Wants to Say About Louis Armstrong” <https://www.americantheatre.org/2020/03/04/what-a-wonderful-world-wants-to-say-about-louis-armstrong/>

Green, J., Phillips, M., Collins-hughes, L., Vincentelli, E., & Soloski, A. (2020, September 11). How to Birth a New American Theater. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/11/theater/how-to-change-theater.html>

Heller, Jennifer Schuessler and Scott. “20 Theater Figures on How to 'Revolutionize' Their World.” *Baltimoresun.com*, Baltimore Sun, 13 Sept. 2020, www.baltimoresun.com/featured/sns-liststory-theater-figures-how-to-revolutionize-industry-20200913-k62qbgtpanbrnjxjn4itosp6ge-list.html.

“A Look Behind the Scenes of Broadway National Tours.” *Broadway Direct*, 1 Sept. 2020, <http://bway.ly/xsvttf#https://broadwaydirect.com/a-look-behind-the-scenes-of-broadway-national-tours/>

These and other assigned reading will be posted on Canvas Pages.

Texts:

Michael Riedel, SINGULAR SENSATION: THE TRIUMPH of BROADWAY
Riedel book available from Amazon in hardcover or kindle formats

FINAL BUSINESS:

Regarding Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Student Honor Code: Adoption and General Principles

Preamble: In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Student and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

The Honor Pledge:

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Online Course Evaluations:

"Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>."

Class Recordings:

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.