

21st Century Musical Theatre
TPP 3253
Fall 2025
TR, period 6-7

Professor: Tony Ramirez-Mata
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Office Hours: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Performance and critical thinking of the 21st century musical theatre canon while examining styles, repertoire and techniques. Vocal styles, choreography and audition repertoire will also be examined.

- A. To establish a common vocabulary and analysis that serves as a foundation for exploration and critical thinking of the 21st Century Musical Theatre canon.
- B. To increase skills and develop a methodology of the construct of the script and score in a musical.
- C. To develop in the student an understanding of discipline through the art and to refine skills necessary to keep up with professional demands.
- D. To develop in the student a collaborative nature by utilizing exercises with their fellow actor while understanding the physical and emotional demands necessary in Musical Theatre performance.

COURSE CONTENT

- A. Warm-up ritual.
- B. Scene study, performance and audition techniques.
- C. Exploring 21st century styles of choreography and application through collaboration.
- D. The developmental process of creating a character and musical scene study analysis.
- E. Deconstructing script and score analysis as a foundation to study the musical formula inherent in a particular musical and discussing diversity, identity and inclusion as it pertains to particular shows of study in the 21st century.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The Musical (Richard Kislán)

The Great Way (Warren Hoffman) Reference: Words with Music (Lehman Engel),

EVALUATION

Solo Song	10%
Scene Study (1 Duet & Trio)	20%
Choreography Comprehensive	10%
Singing Audition (16 bars)	10%
Script and Score Presentations	10%
Self -Evaluation	5%
Final Exam	10%
Preparation, Participation (Assignments)	10%
Final Performance	15%
	100 Points

GRADING RUBRIC: A = 90 OR ABOVE EXCELLENT A- = 87-89 ALMOST EXCELLENT B+ = 84-86 VERY GOOD B = 80-83 ALMOST VERY GOOD B- = 77-79 GOOD C+ = 74-76 AVERAGE C = 70-73 NEEDS WORK

PERFORMANCE RUBRIC BASED ON FOUR PILARS:

PREPERATION, EXECUTION, MUSIC & CREATIVITY

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR PERFROMANCE CLASSES THAT MEET 2 TIMES A WEEK.

Barring the above circumstances, students are expected to be in attendance (either remotely or in-person, as assigned) daily and to be on time. The first “unexcused” absence will result in a half letter grade (5%) from the final grade. All additional “unexcused” absences will result in a penalty of a full letter grade (10%) from the final grade. To be considered “excused” an absence must be accompanied by appropriate official documentation. Religious observances do not require documentation. Three tardies are counted as one absence.

Please remember that even with a letter from the [DRC \(Disability Resource Center\)](#), you do not receive unlimited excused absences. You can discuss your absences and concerns with me during the first month of the semester, allowing me to consider the number of excused absences. Please follow these instructions to ensure clear and effective communication.

***YOU HAVE TWO EXCUSED ABSENCES IN THIS CLASS WHICH SHOULD BE USED FOR ANYTHING YOU DEEM FIT TO MISS CLASS. Absences incurred due to Hipp production rehearsals absorb all "unexcused" absence allowances in any course attendance policy. UNIVERSITY AND SCHOOL SERVICE ACTIVITIES WILL NOT BE EXCUSED WITHOUT DISCUSSION WITH THE INSTRUCTOR.**

Any absence from class for the following reasons must be supported by official acceptable documentation to avoid a grade penalty:

- Illness—doctor's note must be on official letterhead with address and phone number, noting the date and time of visit and diagnosis verifying that an absence from class is warranted, doctor name and signature.
- Military obligation
- Court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena)

To help organize accommodations, students should inform the instructor by the end of the second week of classes of religious observances of their faith that will conflict with class attendance this semester.

Any student that acquires 3 absences (either excused or unexcused) will be required to meet with this course's instructor and/or area faculty to discuss the student's continued participation in the course.

For Majors: Failure to attend this meeting will result in Artistic Probation.

Due to the participatory nature of the course that includes in-class collaboration along with partner and ensemble work, if a student acquires more than 2 unexcused absences, the student may be prohibited from participation in partner/group exercises which will affect the student's final grade.

SELF-EVALUATION

The self-evaluation should be one or two pages evaluating your work, growth and varied assignments throughout the semester in this class. The self-evaluation should be turned on the date of the calendar. **2 points will be deducted for each day it is late.**

NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED DURING CLASS TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE ASKED TO DO SO BY THE INSTRUCTOR.

Subject to Change CLASS CALENDAR		
Thursday	August 21	Course Overview, read syllabus, class orientation Discuss strategic plan.
Tuesday	August 26	Curate Song selections for Solo Songs or Scene Study and bring to class. Bring a copy of your strategic plan to hand in.
Thursday	August 28	RECORD SOLOS SONGS/DUETS/TRIOS Read Handout 6 Elements of a Musical by Lehman Engel Feeling, Sub-plot, Romance, Lyrics and Particularization, Music, Comedy.
Tuesday	September 2	Rehearse Solo Song
Thursday	September 4	Rehearse 16 Bars/Audition Songs with Brian/ Bring NY Showcase Songs

Tuesday	September 9	16 Bars Audition Grade (Bring photo and Resume)
Thursday	September 11	Discuss Lehman Engel's 6 Elements of a Musical. (Handout). Bring a 21st Musical from list for discussion
Tuesday	September 16	Present & Discuss Script & Score Elements 1,2,3 for Grade. Provide a hard copy of outline for the class.
Thursday	September 18	Discuss Choreography Choice. Student Script and Score Elements 4,5, for a Grade Provide a hard copy of outline for the class.
Tuesday	September 23	Rehearse Solo Song / SUBTEXT DUE
Thursday	September 25	Rehearse Solo Song
Tuesday	September 30	Quiz Discussion on Dance Chapter 13 <i>The Musical</i>
Thursday	October 2	Rehearse Solos, Duets and Trios
Tuesday	October 7	Preview Choreography Comp. (Turn in Choreography Notations)
Thursday	October 9	PERFORM CHOREOGRAPHY COMP for Grade
Tuesday	October 14	RENT VOCAL REST /NO CLASS
Thursday	October 16	Rehearse Solos, Duets and Trios
Tuesday	October 21	Rehearse Solo Songs Memorized
Thursday	October 23	Present and Discuss Chapter 7 <i>The Great White Way</i>
Tuesday	October 28	Rehearse scene study (Scenes Memorized)
Thursday	October 30	Rehearse scene study (Blocking)
Tuesday	November 4	Solo Song for Grade/Rehearse Trios
Thursday	November 6	Essay FINAL EXAM
Tuesday	November 11	Veterans Day/ No Class
Thursday	November 13	Rehearse scene study
Tuesday	November 18	Final Rehearsal for Scene Study and Trio
Thursday	November 20	SCENE STUDY FOR GRADE
Tuesday	November 25	THANKSGIVING BREAK/ NO CLASS
Thursday	November 27	THANKSGIVING BREAK /NO CLASS
Tuesday	December 2	Final Performance/ Solos songs and scenes *SELF-EVALUATION PAPER DUE
Wednesday	December 3	LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Students are encouraged to employ critical thinking and to rely on data and verifiable sources to interrogate all assigned readings and subject matter in this course as a way of determining whether they agree with their classmates and/or their instructor. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, advance, or compel a particular feeling, perception, viewpoint or belief.

UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor 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.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

SOFTWARE USE

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

STUDENT PRIVACY

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

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>, and 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 at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <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. <https://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. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

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