

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: MU 146 – Music of the Theatre

Credits: 3

Prerequisites

None

Description

This course will explore the styles of the various musical theatre composers and lyricists of this century. The class will be performance oriented and will require that students learn and perform music of the era being studied. Students will be required to memorize all assigned material. Repertoire studied will include text leading into the musical numbers. In this class, students will learn and perform solos, duets, and ensembles from the musical theatre repertoire. Students will be taught vocal technique as it applies to singers. Vocalizing exercises will be recorded for practice outside of class. In the second semester, time will be devoted to audition techniques.

This course is intended to strengthen the actor's confidence in performing a song, while introducing him/her to the wealth of musical theatre material available, so as to build a repertoire of suitable audition and performance material.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of styles, and in performance skills.
- Perform a body of musical theatre material, from memory, with skill, ease, and confidence.
- Perform a balanced repertoire which contains musical material from multiple eras of musical theatre.
- Demonstrate correct breathing and placement skills.

Topical Outline

- History of Musical Theatre
- Operetta
- Golden Age of Musical Theatre
- British Musicals of the 80's
- 1990's
- Current trends in Broadway Musicals
- Repertoire
- Auditions
- Performance

Required Texts and Other Materials

Broadway Musicals Show by Show by Green & Stanley, 6th edition: Hal Leonard.

Broadway: The Musical Theatre by Kantor and Maslon: Hachette.

Materials/Supplies

Students must have access to a digital voice recorder and a three-ring binder to class.

Student Assessment

Students will present a staged public performance at the end of the semester. Students will be graded on attendance, preparation, promptness and understanding of material. Each week ensemble and solo music will be taught and choreographed; therefore, memorization is critical to the learning process. Working outside of this class on music and dance is a requirement. Students are required to bring all music and a recording device to every class.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of ZERO and the student may receive a grade of F for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Available Resources

If you are having difficulty with work in this class, tutoring is available through the Success Center. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600, x1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.