

**THAR 17 Course Outline as of Spring 2010****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: THAR 17 Title: MUSICAL THTR TECHNIQUES

Full Title: Musical Theatre Techniques

Last Reviewed: 5/8/2023

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	2.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	35.00
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lab Scheduled	52.50
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	5.00		Contact Total	87.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 70.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 34 - 4 Enrollments Total

Also Listed As:

Formerly: THAR 65

**Catalog Description:**

Introduction to musical theatre performance through the study and practice of musical scenes from the Broadway stage. Emphasis is placed on the application of vocal techniques, dance movement and characterization to create a convincing performance. Audition skills as they relate to musical theatre will be included.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Course Completion of THAR 10A OR MUSCP 17A OR DANCE 10

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Introduction to musical theatre performance through the study and practice of musical scenes from the Broadway stage. Emphasis is placed on the application of vocal techniques, dance movement and characterization to create a convincing performance. Audition skills as they relate to musical theatre will be included. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Course Completion of THAR 10A OR MUSCP 17A OR DANCE 10

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: 4 Enrollments Total

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2003	Inactive:	
<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2003	Inactive:	

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Certificate Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Stage and perform a solo audition song with emphasis on vocal performance, characterization, blocking and/or basic choreography as appropriate.
2. Apply basic dance vocabulary and techniques to the processes of learning, rehearsing, and performing Broadway musical choreography in various styles and genres.
3. Apply choral singing techniques to the processes of learning, rehearsing, and performing ensemble Broadway musical numbers.
4. Analyze and create character in a musical theatre context.
5. Identify essential elements associated with selected Broadway musicals such as historical elements, artistic styles, genres and key figures (playwrights, composers, choreographers and well-known actors associated with lead roles).
6. Define and describe terminology associated with musical theatre productions.

Repeating Students will be able to:

1. Perform basic dance techniques at a higher skill level.
2. Perform choral singing techniques at a higher skill level.
3. Demonstrate an expanded proficiency in musical theatre audition skills and solo vocal performance skills.
4. Demonstrate through written analysis and physical performance, a broader understanding of the Broadway musical (since different musicals are studied each semester)

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Acting skills utilized in musical theatre
  - A. Creation of character in a musical theatre context
  - B. Dialogue within musical scenes
  - C. Stage movement
  - D. Using the body as an expressive instrument

- E. Stage terminology associated with musical theatre productions
- II. Music/Vocal skills utilized in musical theatre
  - A. Vocal warm-ups
  - B. Study and memorization of the musical score and lyrics for selected scenes
  - C. Solo, duo and choral singing
  - D. Performance methods
    - 1. Vocal presentation
    - 2. Blocking
    - 3. Interaction with other performers
  - E. Auditioning skills relevant to vocal performance
  - F. Music terminology associated with musical theatre productions
- III. Dance skills utilized in musical theatre
  - A. Study of dance techniques and movement vocabulary derived from various dance forms (such as jazz dance, ballet, ballroom, folk, tap dance) as required for the demands of the choreography studied.
  - B. Practice in the processes of learning and executing choreography
  - C. Study of choreographic style as it relates to specific musicals (for example styles of Bob Fosse, Jerome Robbins, Agnes de Mille)
  - D. Performance/audition techniques
    - 1. Projection
    - 2. Energy
    - 3. Movement quality
  - E. Dance terminology associated with musical theatre productions
- IV. Learning and rehearsing of musical numbers and/or excerpts of numbers from selected musicals including singing, dancing, acting
- V. Historical and contextual backdrop of selected musicals such as:
  - A. Biographical information on key figures such as playwrights, composers, choreographers, well-known actors in leading roles, etc.
  - B. Sociological and cultural influences on script, music and choreography
  - C. Artistic influences, styles and genres (e.g. rock opera)
  - D. Historical context of script, plot and character

**Repeating Students:**

The musicals studied will vary from semester to semester so specifics of the course will vary to meet the demands of the musicals studied (throughout the topics and scope). While certain basic topics such as basic stage terminology will be a review for repeating students (or any student who has had other theatre courses), the majority of the course content such as vocal material, choreographic material, blocking, styles (in music and dance), appropriate character, performance quality, historical and contextual backdrop, and audition material will change each semester.

**Assignment:**

1. Practice of general vocal techniques
2. Practice of dance steps and techniques
3. Memorization, practice, and rehearsal of assigned parts in songs, including lyrics
4. Memorization, practice, and rehearsal of assigned lines as applicable
5. Memorization, practice, and rehearsal of choreography
6. Selection, preparation, and performance of a solo audition song
7. Mock vocal and dance audition
8. Class performances of musical numbers or excerpts of numbers including acting, dancing and singing
9. Completion of 1 to 3 character analyses of musical theatre characters portrayed

10. Review the musical numbers in a live or videotaped musical (2 page critique)

11. Completion of 3 to 4 quizzes

12. Final essay exam

Repeating students will complete all of the above assignments for different musicals than the first semester the course is taken.

### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Character analyses, critique

Writing  
10 - 20%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Class performances, Mock audition

Skill Demonstrations  
40 - 70%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, True/false, Matching items, Completion, Essay

Exams  
10 - 20%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation

Other Category  
10 - 30%

### Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Instructor prepared materials