

Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#)

[Edit](#)

Music, Drama and Theatre

HUMA2105, 2021 Fall

MON 3.00-4.20pm & FRI 10.30am-11.50am, CYT LTL

INSTRUCTORS:

Dr. Isaac Droscha, droscha@ust.hk, 2358 7768

Ms. Mandy Petty, mandypetty262@gmail.com, 90569151

COURSE OUTLINE:

This course will guide the students to create, produce, and perform their own musical theatre work! As musical theatre is a multi-faceted genre of artwork, this course would be suitable for students who are interested in language art, music, theatre, dance, or visual art. At the discretion of the instructor, an in-class or public performance will be offered during the end of the semester. NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE or experience of performing arts required.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

On completion of the course, the students will be able to:

- 1) Explain basic theatrical terms and concepts
- 2) Describe the development of the genre of Musical Theatre and understand the interrelationship between music, drama and theatre
- 3) Analyze and critique the structure of scenes from a musical theatre work
- 4) Create students' own musical theatre work to demonstrate basic vocal, acting and other theatrical skills
- 5) Show proper team working attitude and skills to motivate other members, and to communicate orally applicable to presentation and argumentation

COURSE MATERIALS:

All related course materials will be available at Canvas (<https://canvas.ust.hk>)

EXTRA REHEARSAL AND FEES:

Extra rehearsals (about 20 hours total) will be scheduled during weekends and week nights. Your availability and personal time management is crucial. Missing compulsory rehearsals or performance will affect your score of final project. HK\$50 will be collected for the production cost during the beginning of the semester in place of a text book. This will help costs of props and sets (after drop-add period).

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE AND REVIEW

You are required to view the HKUST musical performance of *Wonderful Town* and write a review of the performance noting the many aspects of musical theatre performance we discuss in class. Your

review should be 500 words and a full rubric will be provided in class. Dates of the show are as follows:

September 17, 8:00PM

September 18, 2:00PM

September 18, 8:00PM

You will also be asked to attend a backstage tour as a part of the attendance of the show prior to your chosen show.

ASSESSMENT:

Components	Percentage	Learning Goals	Methodology
Exam	20%	1, 2, 3	Individual (MC questions and short essays)
Final Group Project / Performance / Shaw opening	20%	All	Teacher assessment + peer evaluation
2nd Group Project/Presentation	20%	All	Teacher assessment + Peer evaluation
1st Group Project/Presentation	10%	1, 2, 5	Teacher assessment + Peer evaluation
Attendance of Lecture/Training Session	10%	All	Individual
Script writing and Mock Audition	15%	All	Individual
Performance review	5%	NA	Individual

TEACHING APPROACH:

Teaching Activities	Contents	Learning Outcomes
Lecture	5 lectures	1, 2, 3
Singing and Movement Session	Lessons in Singing, acting and movement will be offered, and culminate in a mock audition.	1, 4

And audition

Rehearsals Supervised rehearsals will be conducted, the instructor will provide assistance and recommendations when needed All

Script and design writing An assignment based around preparing your design materials, including the script 4

Story for your final musical:

Group Project 1 · Try to persuade your classmates that your story will have the greatest potential to be successful
· Try to connect your story with societal issues and theme discussed in the course 1, 2, 5
· 10-minute Presentation
· Can be in any format (PowerPoint presentation, a skit, etc.), just be creative!
· The class will vote for the top two stories right after the presentations.

A 20-minute mini-performance with some basic staging, singing and choreography:

Group Project 2 · Develop your story line into a book All
· Choose music, rewrite lyrics
· Rehearse, Rehearse, Rehearse!

Final Project Final Project Public or in-class performance of a 40-50 minutes show All

1) Attendance will be taken throughout the semester after the add-drop period period. You may miss two Lectures/Training Sessions without penalty, but starting from you third absence, one percent will be deducted for each absence (10% maximum deduction)

2) The grading of projects will be based on the peer's evaluation, attendance of extra rehearsals, participation, leadership and performance.

3) NO extra assignments will be offered to improve your grade

4) NO make-up exam will be offered.

5) Absolute grading will be used to calculate your final letter grade. However, please be note HKUST's Norm: A (10-20% of the class), B (25-40%), C (35-45%), D (5-10%), F (0-5%)

REFERENCE:

Bernstein, Dori. *Show Business*. 107 min. Liberation Entertainment, 2007. DVD (ML1711.8.N3 S56 2007)

Everett, William and Paul R. Laird, ed. *The Cambridge companion to the musical*, 2d ed. Cambridge University Press, 2008. (ML2054 .C35 2008)

Kantor, Michael. *Broadway : the American musical*. 171 min. each. Educational Broadcasting Corporation, 2004. 2 DVDs. (ML1711.8.N3 B76 2004)

Kern and Hammerstein . *Show Boat*. Warner Home Video, 2000. DVD (PN1997.A16 S54 1951a)

Rodgers and Hammerstein. *Oklahoma!*. 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment, 2005. DVD (PN1997.A16 O54 1955a)

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

If you are being dishonest in the course, the penalty is an **F for the course**.

Cheating:

1. a) If you look at other students' papers or materials (ex. notes) during exam or test.
2. b) If you claim credits for other students' work in group projects

Plagiarism: If you copy sections from another source without referencing it

Excerpt from <http://tl.ust.hk/integrity/regulations-1.html>

"The most serious cases are referred to the Student Disciplinary Committee. The Student Disciplinary Committee can take away your eligibility for a degree; suspend you from the University, or simply dismiss you right away."

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Week Content

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|---|---|
| 1 | September 3 - Lecture (What is Musical Theatre?) Intro to the course |
| 2 | September 6 - Lecture (Musical Theatre & it's early beginnings)/Movement Lesson |
| | September 10 - Lecture (Musical Movie v Live Theatre) |
| 3 | September 13 - Lecture (Script Writing) |
| | September 17 – attend the wonderful town performance of <i>Wonderful Town</i> Group forming and meeting –IMPORTANT |
| 4 | September 20 – Lecture (How to put on a musical/your projects) |
| | September 24 – Lecture (Vocal technique) / Workshop and Singing Lesson |

- 5 September 27 - Group Workshop/Discussion
October 1 – **No Class National Day**
- 6 October 4 – **Group Project 1 (Compulsory)**
October 8 – Lecture (How to Audition) Feedback and re-assigning of groups for Group Project-2 /Group meetings
- 7 October 11 – Lecture (Diction and Acting)
October 15 – Lecture (Choreography)/Group Rehearsal /audition
- 8 October 18 – Group Meeting
October 22 – Group Rehearsal
- 9 October 25 – Group Rehearsal
October 29 – Project 2
- 10 November 1 – Feedback & re-assignment of groups (if required) for Final Project
November 5 – Group rehearsals
November 6 –rehearsal
- 11 November 8 – Group Rehearsals
November 12 – Group Rehearsals
November 13 – Rehearsal
November 17 – opening of Shaw auditorium
- 12 November 15 – Group Rehearsals
November 19 – Group Rehearsals
November 20 - Rehearsal
- 13 November 22 – Group Rehearsal
November 26 – Exam Information & Group Rehearsal
November 27 – Rehearsal
- 13 November 29 – Rehearsal
November 29 – Evening Rehearsal
November 30 – Performance