

# Course Syllabus

Fall 2023

**Music, Drama and Theatre**

**HUMA2105, 2023 Fall**

**TUES & THURS: 3.00-4.20pm, CYT LTL**

## **INSTRUCTORS:**

Dr. Isaac Droscha, [droscha@ust.hk](mailto:droscha@ust.hk)

Ms. Mandy Petty, [mandypetty@ust.hk](mailto:mandypetty@ust.hk)

## **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 may 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 the 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 a live/online musical performance and write a review of the performance noting the many aspects of musical theatre performance we discuss in class. Your review should be 500-1000 words and a full rubric will be provided in class as well as a list of upcoming events.

## ASSESSMENT:

<b>Components</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Learning Goals</b>	<b>Methodology</b>
Exam	20%	1, 2, 3	Individual (MC questions and short essays)
Final Group Project / Performance	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:

<b>Teaching Activities</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
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Lecture	5 lectures	1, 2, 3
Singing and Movement Session And audition	Lessons in Singing, acting and movement will be offered, and culminate in a mock audition.	1, 4
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
Group Project 1	<p>Story for your final musical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Try to persuade your classmates that your story will have the greatest potential to be successful</li> <li>· Try to connect your story with societal issues and themes discussed in the course</li> <li>· 10-minute Presentation</li> <li>· Can be in any format (PowerPoint presentation, a skit, etc.), just be creative!</li> <li>· The class will vote for the top story right after the presentations.</li> </ul> <p>A 20-minute mini-performance with some basic staging, singing and choreography:</p>	1, 2, 5
Group Project 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Develop your story line into a book</li> <li>· Choose music, rewrite lyrics</li> <li>· Rehearse, Rehearse, Rehearse!</li> </ul>	All
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:

<b>Week</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	September 5 - Intro to the course & Lecture: What is Musical Theatre? September 7 - Lecture: Musical Theatre & it's early beginnings/Movement Lesson
2	September 12 – Lecture: Musical Movies v Live Theatre/Movement Lesson September 14 – Lecture: An Intro to Singing <b>(Last day for add/drop)</b>
3	September 19 – Lecture: An intro to Dancing & Choreography September 21– Lecture: How to put on a musical/your projects <b>Group forming and meeting –IMPORTANT</b>
4	September 26 – Group Workshop/Discussion September 28 - <b>Project 1 Presentation (Compulsory)</b>
5	October 3- Feedback from Project 1 & re-grouping October 5– Group Workshop/Discussion
6	October 10 – Lecture: Script-writing October 12– Movement & Group Rehearsal
7	October 17 – Acting / Diction/Group Meeting October 19 – Monologues & Group Rehearsal
8	October 24 – Lecture: How to Audition & Group Rehearsal October 26 – <b>Project 2 Presentation</b>
9	October 31 – Feedback from Project 2 & Re-Group (if necessary) November 2 – Movement & Group Rehearsal

- 10 November 7 – Mock Audition/ Group Rehearsals  
November 9 – Group Rehearsals
- 11 November 14 – Group Rehearsals  
November 16 – Group Rehearsals
- 12 November 21 – Group Rehearsals  
November 23 – Group Rehearsals & Exam Information
- 13 November 28 – Group Rehearsals  
**November 30 - Final Project**

**FINAL EXAM**

## Course Summary:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Due</b>
Sat Dec 3, 2022	Quiz <a href="#">Final Exam</a>	due by 6:30pm
Tue Sep 5, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: What is Musical Theatre?</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Sep 7, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: MT and its early beginnings</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Sep 12, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: Movies v Live Theatre</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Sep 14, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: Story &amp; Script Writing</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Sep 19, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: Intro to Dance &amp; Choreography</a>	3pm to 4:20pm

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Due</b>
	Assignment <a href="#">Script Formatting</a>	due by 11:59pm
Thu Sep 21, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: How to put on a musical</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Sep 26, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Workshop/Discussion</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Sep 28, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Project 1 Presentation</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
	Assignment <a href="#">Group Project 1</a>	due by 11:59pm
Tue Oct 3, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: How to audition &amp; Project 1 Feedback</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Oct 5, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Intro to Singing</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Oct 10, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Workshop</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Oct 12, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Mock Audition</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
	Assignment <a href="#">Mock Audition</a>	due by 11:59pm
Tue Oct 17, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Lecture: Acting &amp; Diction</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Oct 19, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Acting Exercises and Improv</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Oct 24, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Workshop</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Oct 26, 2023	Assignment <a href="#">Group Project 2</a>	due by 12pm
	Calendar Event <a href="#">Project 2 Presentation</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Oct 31, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Project 2 Feedback</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Nov 2, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Movement &amp; Group Rehearsal</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Nov 7, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Mock Audition</a>	3pm to 4:20pm

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Due</b>
Thu Nov 9, 2023	Assignment <a href="#">Final Project Performance</a>	due by 12pm
	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Rehearsal</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Nov 14, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Rehearsal</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Nov 16, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Rehearsal</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Nov 21, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Rehearsal</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Nov 23, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Rehearsal &amp; Exam Information</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Tue Nov 28, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">Group Rehearsal</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
Thu Nov 30, 2023	Calendar Event <a href="#">FINAL PROJECT - Dress Rehearsal</a>	3pm to 4:20pm
	Calendar Event <a href="#">FINAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE</a>	7pm to 8pm
	Assignment <a href="#">Attendance</a>	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment <a href="#">Performance Review</a>	due by 11:59pm