

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for THEA 39C

MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP - ADVANCED

Effective: Fall 2014

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

THEA 39C — MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP - ADVANCED — 4.00 units

Advanced training in performance skills for the musical theater, with emphasis on acting, stage movement and vocal production. Study includes auditioning techniques and critical analyses of musical theater performances.

3.00 Units Lecture 1.00 Units Lab

Prerequisite

THEA 39B - Musical Theater Workshop - Intermediate

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

Family: Theater Musical Theater Studio

	<u>MIN</u>
Lecture Hours:	54.00
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	108.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering the course a student should be able to:

A. THEA39B

1. analyze in writing a musical theater scene, characters, music and lyrics in preparation for performing or directing musical theater
2. describe the techniques used in acting and movement in a musical theater duet or solo
3. critically evaluate the musical theater acting/singing performances of other students and performers
4. perform with improved skills in terms of acting, movement characterization and vocal production a musical theater scene/song duet with a partner - preferably from one of the genres not experienced in Theater 39 A - musical comedy, musical drama, operette, opera, rock opera, revue
5. perform with improved skills in terms of acting, movement, characterization and vocal production a musical theater solo - preferably from one of the genres not experienced in Theater 39 A - musical comedy, musical drama, operetta, opera, rock opera, revue
6. perform with improved skills in terms of acting and movement a musical theater ensemble number with a group

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. audition for a musical comedy or musical drama
- B. describe various musical theater styles, writers and performing artists
- C. evaluate in written form the production of a live musical
- D. create the staging for a musical theater solo or duet
- E. perform at an advanced level in terms of believable acting, appropriate movement, well defined characterization and vocal production a musical theater solo - preferably from one of these genres not experienced in Theater 39 A and 39 B - musical comedy, musical drama, operetta, opera, rock opera, revue
- F. perform in an advanced level in terms of acting, movement and group awareness and synchronization a musical theater ensemble number with a group
- G. perform at an advanced level in terms of believable acting, appropriate movement, well defined characterization and vocal production a musical theater duet with a partner - preferably from one of these genres not experienced in Theater 39 A or 39 B - musical comedy, musical drama, operetta, opera, rock opera, revue

V. CONTENT:

- A. Musical theater audition techniques and practice
- B. Study of musical theater artists, writers, styles and history
- C. Instruction in writing a critical review of a musical

- D. Staging musical theater solos and duets
- E. Rehearsals and performance of the following musical theater scenes and musical numbers:
 1. A duet scene and song
 2. A musical solo
 3. An ensemble musical number
 - Note: The duet, solo and ensemble number will be from a genre not experienced in Theater 39 A or 39 B: musical comedy, musical drama, operetta, opera, rock opera, revue. Choices to be determined and monitored by instructor and student.
- A. Coaching by the instructor in the preparation and performances of the above scenes/songs
- B. Feedback on prepared and performed work
- C. A second presentation of prepared work incorporating feedback from instructor and class

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Lecture, discussion and demonstration of audition techniques for musical theater
- B. Lecture and written assignments on musical theater artists, writers, styles and history
- C. A second presentation of performed work, incorporating things learned from the critiques and suggestions after the first presentation
- D. Coaching of the staging of solos and duets
- E. Feedback and reactions to performed work, both by students and instructors
- F. Discussion and shared written examples of theatrical reviews

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Write a critical review of a musical theater production seen outside of class.
- B. Write and then present to the class a report on Rodgers and Hammerstein.
- C. Present a solo as if you are auditioning for a musical theater company.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Papers
2. Oral Presentation
3. Class Participation
4. Class Work
5. Home Work
6. Class Performance
7. Other:
 - a. Grading of audition presentation
 - b. Grading of in class report on a musical theater performer, writer or style
 - c. Grading of the written review of a musical theater production
 - d. Grading of prepared duet scenes/songs and solos, based on the objective quality of the work, the discipline and seriousness demonstrated in rehearsals, and the amount of improvement and growth shown by the student.
 - e. Judgment of participation by the student in class technique work and discussions
 - f. Grades for performed work should be assigned and communicated to the student as soon as possible after work is done. Participation grade should be made known to student at least once in the middle of the semester.
 - g. Attendance

B. **Frequency**

One ensemble number, one duet scene/song and one solo (performed both as in the show and as an audition piece) spread throughout the semester.. Grades for performed work should be assigned and communicated to the student as soon as possible after the work is done. Participation and attendance grade should be made known to students at least once in the middle of the semester.

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. 1. Anthologies of musical theater songs, such as "The Singers Musical Theater Anthology", Richard Walters, Vol 5, Hal Leonard Corp. 2012
2. Piano/vocal scores of shows from which songs/scenes are done.
3. Libretti of shows from which songs/scenes are done.
4. "Acting in Musical Theater", Joe Deer and Rocco Del Verra, 2008, Routledge

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: