

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for THEA 39B
MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP - INTERMEDIATE
Effective: Fall 2014

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

THEA 39B — MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP - INTERMEDIATE — 4.00 units

Intermediate training in performance skills for the musical theater, with emphasis on acting, stage movement and vocal production. Study includes written analyses, musical theater staging and basic acting and vocal techniques.

3.00 Units Lecture 1.00 Units Lab

Prerequisite

THEA 39A - Musical Theater Workshop - Beginning

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

Family: Theater Musical Theater Studio

| | MIN |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 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. THEA39A

1. perform a musical theater song and scene with a partner
2. perform a musical theater solo
3. perform successfully in a group musical theater number

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

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, opera, rock opera, revue
6. perform with improved skills in terms of acting and movement a musical theater ensemble number with a group

V. CONTENT:

- A. Show/scene/song/character analysis through written work
- B. Basic principles of musical theater staging
- C. Basic acting technique
- D. 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 number with a group
 - Note: The duet, solo and ensemble number will be from a genre not experienced in Theater 39 A: 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. Written and spoken feedback on prepared and performed work by fellow students

C. A second presentation of prepared work incorporating feedback from instructor and class

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Guidance by the instructor in the selection of material to be performed in solos and duets
- B. Guidance and instruction in the preparation of a written show/scene/song/character analysis
- C. Demonstrations and lectures on movement, staging and choreography
- D. **Demonstration** - Demonstrations, lectures and discussions on basic acting techniques and vocal production
- E. Coaching and evaluation of individual and group work
- F. Feedback and reactions to performed work, both by students and other instructors
- G. A second presentation of the performed work, incorporating things learned from the critiques and suggestions after the first presentation
- H. Preparation, rehearsal and in-class performance of musical theater ensemble numbers, duets and solos

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Writing an analysis of the show, the scene and the song that is being performed with a partner. Writing an analysis of the particular character being played. B Writing a critique of a performance by a fellow student. C. Presenting a rehearsed solo as if the character in a production of the musical it's from.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Papers
- 2. Class Participation
- 3. Class Work
- 4. Home Work
- 5. Class Performance
- 6. Final Class Performance
- 7. Final Performance
- 8. Final Public Performance
- 9. Other:
 - a. Grading of written work - show/song and character analyses for both the duet and solo
 - b. Evaluation of spoken critiques of other students' work
 - c. 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.
 - d. Judgment of participation by the student in class technique work and discussions
 - e. Attendance

B. **Frequency**

One ensemble number, one duet scene/song and one solo 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, Ed. 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 Vera, 2008, Rutledge

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: