

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for THEA 57B

PERFORMANCE IN PRODUCTION -BEGINNING MUSICAL THEATER

Effective: Fall 2018

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

THEA 57B — PERFORMANCE IN PRODUCTION -BEGINNING MUSICAL THEATER — 3.00 units

As a continuation of THEA 57A, students will participate in the cast of a scheduled main stage musical production. Emphasis will be on character development, objectives, and actions.

2.00 Units Lecture 1.00 Units Lab

Prerequisite

THEA 57A - Performance in Production - Intro to Musical Theater
 with a minimum grade of C
 (May be taken concurrently)

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

- Drama/Theater Arts

Family: Theater Musical Theater

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	36.00
Expected Outside of Class Hours:	72.00
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	162.00

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. THEA57A

1. Demonstrate a strong work ethic within a professional framework of collaboration.
2. Recognize and demonstrate their collaborative responsibilities with the director, musical director, choreographer, and designers in rehearsal and in performance.

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. Evaluate and analyze a libretto and vocal score for rehearsal and musical performance.
- B. Complete a thorough and written character analysis, completed with imagined and specified historical background of the character
- C. Develop an understanding of the role of the character within the context of the play, identifying relationships and specific actions and character choices unique to the examination and portrayal of those relationships
- D. Use two rehearsal techniques for creating character and making acting choices, for instance (though not exclusively) from the text "Stanislavski Never Wore Tap Shoes: Musical Theater Acting Craft"
- E. Analyze the text and given character to create a live performance

V. CONTENT:

- A. Auditions and casting
- B. Rehearsals
 1. Introduction to a specific style and/or historical background
 2. Blocking and choreography
 3. Memorization of lines and music
 4. Character Analysis
 - a. Physical life
 - b. Vocal life
 - c. Inner/emotional life

5. Coaching by director, choreographer, musical director
 6. Work with the cast as an ensemble to create a completed product
 7. Complete multiple run throughs
 8. Participate in Technical and dress rehearsals, fittings, and design meetings as is necessary and required for the role
- C. Performance for a live audience

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Individual study, research and creative work by the actor
- B. **Student Presentations** - Public performance of a musical or play
- C. **Audio-visual Activity** - Observation and discussion of previous production, analysis of production history of the musical.
- D. Continued supervision, feedback and coaching during the performance period
- E. **Individualized Instruction** - Feedback and instruction given by choreographer/director/vocal coach.
- F. Group rehearsals with various cast members

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Writing a character analysis, including biography, social background, physical characteristics, inner life, creating a score and objectives.
- B. Preparing for "off book" rehearsals; learning all lines and cues through outside preparation in time for the first off book rehearsal, when no scripts are allowed on stage.
- C. Learning necessary songs and choreography.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Papers
2. Class Participation
3. Home Work
4. Class Performance
5. Final Public Performance

B. **Frequency**

1. Daily rehearsal participation
2. Frequency of public performances is determined by show and semester.
3. Final reflection
4. One Character Analysis assignment due by "off book" deadline, as determined by production

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Cramer, L. *Creating Musical Theater.*, Bloomsbury/Metheun Drama Press, 2013.
2. Moses, Burke. *Stanislavski Never Wore Tap Shoes.* 1st ed., CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014.
3. Everett, William, and Paul Laird. *The Cambridge Companion to the Musical (Cambridge Companions to Music)*. 3rd ed., Cambridge University Press, 2017.
4. Specific Libretto and score of musical being performed in a specific semester. Previous Scripts libretto and scores included: *Godspell*, *Rent*, *Hair*, *How To Succeed*, etc.
5. Specific libretto and vocal book from the production being performed for the semester. Varies by semester and production. Script might include: *West Side Story*, *The Wedding Singer*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Oklahoma*, etc.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Students may be required to bring special dance shoes, rehearsal skirts and jackets, as well as a theatrical make-up kit.