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Musical Theatre Performance II

TH 466 Section 001

Spring 2015, Activity Performance or Studio

Stacy Alley

Office Hours and Contact Information

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Office phone: 205-348-6247

Office: Rowand-Johnson Hall, Room 111

Hours: By appointment only.

Prerequisites

UA Course Catalog Prerequisites

Prerequisite(s): TH 465.

Course Description

UA Course Catalog Information

A special topics course exploring such areas as musical theatre history, cabaret performance, in-depth study of a single work, etc.

Musical Theatre Performance is a semester course designed to prepare you for the "real world" of musical theatre by enhancing performance and audition skills and teaching about marketing your product (YOU!) Students will study the work of the actor/singer/dancer and use their gained knowledge to develop as

performers. Students will prepare and present solo, duet, and/or small group material for class presentation and critique.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- *Choose and present appropriate audition material
- *Research the period, setting, and style of a show
- *Analyze a script and song in order to present a truthful character
- *Perform in a variety of musical theatre styles
- *Respond to constructive criticism in order to improve one's performance
- *Craft their own brand and provide appropriate materials for career advancement

Student Learning Outcomes

Recommended Texts

Audition Freedom by VP Boyle

The Thriving Artists by Joe Abraham and Christine Negherbon

Rock the Audition by Sheri Sanders

Get the Callback by Jonathan Flom

Required Texts

UA Supply Store Textbook Information

- FLOM / ACT LIKE IT'S YOUR BUSINESS (P) **(Required)**
- FLOM (RENTAL) / (RENTAL) ACT LIKE IT'S YOUR BUSINESS (P) **(RENTAL)**
- DEER (RENTAL) / (RENTAL) ACTING IN MUSICAL THEATRE **(RENTAL)**
- DEER / ACTING IN MUSICAL THEATRE **(Required)**

There is no textbook required for this course.

Other Course Materials

*It is expected that you will have access to musical scores and scripts. This is the time to build up your personal library of music and resources.

*An iphone or recorder-player of some type in order to record various material both inside and outside of class.

*Videos, CDs, books, and scores may be on reserve at the Music Division of Gorgas Library.

*youtube clips, etc.

Exams and Assignments

*Class participation: Students are expected to be fully engaged during class, participate in discussions, provide feedback, and ask questions. This class is a unique opportunity for you to receive critical feedback about your work and your progress. The more seriously you prepare, the more you will benefit as a performer. In addition, students in the "audience" are expected to provide thoughtful, intelligent feedback and constructive criticism. As a group, we will help each student develop his or her own work. Your participation in this feedback and critique is essential to your own success in the class.

*Journal assignments will be given each week.

*Performance assignments: Students are expected to learn music, lyrics, choreography (if appropriate), and blocking according to announced deadlines, and will be tested on these elements. You should be able to justify the acting, singing, and movement choices you are making within the musical context of your piece. Keep in mind, that while we will be able to spend some time selecting appropriate pieces for each student to study and prepare, we will not be able to have each student learn each piece during class time. You will learn much of your pieces outside of class.

*Readings and possible quizzes on the readings. You **MUST** stay on top of your reading assignments in order to succeed in this class!

*Other various assignments will be made throughout the semester including a headshot, resume, etc. (assignments are in **BOLD** on course schedule).

Grading Policy

There are 600 points possible in this class:

Class Participation: 100 pts.

Journal Entries/Various Assignments (10 @ 20 points each): 200 pts.

Performances (2 @ 100 points each): 100 pts.

Final Exam/Performance: 200 pts.

Policy on Missed Exams & Coursework

If a student is absent for a legitimate reason (illness, serious emergency) for an announced quiz or exam, the absence will be excused and a makeup exam will be scheduled. Unexcused absences from exams will result in a grade of zero. If a student is absent from the final performance for a legitimate reason (medical emergency or other compelling reason), makeup work will be assigned.

Attendance Policy

Regular and prompt attendance is required. After three unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by one third of a letter grade for each additional absence (whether excused or unexcused). On days when you are supposed to present or turn in an assignment, your presence is crucial and you will only be allowed to make up the assignment after I am presented with an official excuse. Three tardies equals one absence.

Course Schedule

JANUARY

- 7 Intro/go over syllabus; **read Section IV (Deer)**
- 9 Stacy in NY -- work on first performance assignment (*Wrong Song*) with Terry;
- 12 **Present** *Wrong Song*; **turn in headshot/resume as is**
- 14 Song Assignment given; **Discuss Section VI - Do You Have the Stuff?**
- 16 Guest instructor: Jonathan Flom, author of *Act Like It's Your Business* and *Get the Callback*; **Read Section I (Deer)**
- 19 MLK Day -- no class
- 21 Work Song #1, **Discuss Section I -- Fundamentals of Acting in Musical Theatre**
- 23 Work Song #1
- 26 Work Song #1, **Turn in Headshot/resume again**

28 Work Song #1

30 **Song Performance for a grade**

FEBRUARY

2 Begin work on scene/duets

4 Scene/duets

6 Scene/duets, **Read Section II (Deer)**

9 Scene/duets

11 Scene/duets

13 Scene/duets, **Discuss Section II -- Score and Libretto Analysis and Structure**

16 Scene/duets

18 **Read Section III (Deer)**

20 Scene/duets

23 **Scene/duet performance**, *Last Five Years* assignment due

25 **Discuss Section III -- The Journey of the Song**

27 Work SETC package

MARCH

2 Work SETC package, **read Section IV (Deer)**

4 SETC -- TBA

6 SETC -- No class

9 **Discuss Section IV -- Making it a Performance**

11 Begin *A Chorus Line* (ACL) material

13 Work on ACL, **Read Section V (Deer)**

16 SPRING BREAK

18 SPRING BREAK

- 20 SPRING BREAK
- 23 **Discuss Section V** -- *Style in Musical Theatre*
- 25 Work on *ACL*
- 27 Work on *ACL*
- 30 Work on *ACL*

APRIL

- 1 Work on *ACL*
- 3 Honors Day -- no class
- 6 Work on *ACL*
- 8 *42nd Street* in Mobile -- research assignment
- 10 *42nd Street* in Mobile -- research assignment
- 13 Work on *ACL*
- 15 Work on *ACL*
- 17 Work on *ACL*
- 20 Final Exam review
- 22 Final Exam
- 24 Final Exam

PLEASE NOTE: This schedule is subject to change.

Attire

Comfortable clothes in which I can see your body (and appropriate clothing for performance dates) are required for this class. Points will be deducted from your participation grade for each day of class that you are not dressed appropriately. Also, please keep your hair out of your face and keep jewelry to a minimum.

Extra Credit Opportunities

TBA -- There will be possible extra credit opportunities such as building a website, seeing specific performances, etc.

Emergency Contact Information

UA's primary communication tool for sending out information is through its web site at www.ua.edu. In the event of an emergency, students should consult this site for further directions. Additional course information will be posted using Blackboard Learn.

Severe Weather Guidelines

The guiding principle at The University of Alabama is to promote the personal safety of our students, faculty and staff during severe weather events. It is impossible to develop policies which anticipate every weather-related emergency. These guidelines are intended to provide additional assistance for responding to severe weather on campus.

UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues safety warnings for the city of Tuscaloosa. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should follow the advice of the National Weather Service for that area taking the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Agency issue a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life saving actions.

When West Alabama is under a severe weather advisory, conditions can change rapidly. It is imperative to get to where you can receive information from the [National Weather Service](http://www.nws.gov) and to follow the instructions provided. Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take.

The Office of University Relations will disseminate the latest information regarding conditions on campus in the following ways:

- Weather advisory posted on the UA homepage
- Weather advisory sent out through UA Alerts to faculty, staff and students
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA at 90.7 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over Alabama Public Radio (WUAL) at 91.5 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA-TV/WUOA-TV, and on the website at <http://wvuatv.com/content/weather>. WVUA-TV Home Team Weather provides a free service you can subscribe to which allows you to receive weather warnings for Tuscaloosa via e-mail or cell phone. Check <http://wvuatv.com/content/free-email-weather-alerts> for more details and to sign up for weather alerts.

In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar; sirens activated), all university activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories. If you are in a building, please move immediately to the lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, offices, or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor. Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.

Disability Statement

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary.

If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call (205) 348-4285 (Voice) or (205) 348-3081 (TTY) or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services, 133-B Martha Parham Hall East, before receiving academic adjustments.

Policy on Academic Misconduct

All students in attendance at The University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University of Alabama expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. At the beginning of each semester and on examinations and projects, the professor, department, or division may require that each student sign the following Academic Honor Pledge: "I promise or affirm that I will not at any time be involved with cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, or misrepresentation while enrolled as a student at The University of Alabama. I have read the Academic Honor Code, which explains disciplinary procedure resulting from the aforementioned. I understand that violation of this code will result in penalties as severe as indefinite suspension from the University."

See the [Code of Student Conduct](#) for more information.