

Department:

Theatre

Course Description:

This course provides a survey of American musical theatre. The course will cover the historical development of musical theatre, significant style periods, and significant composers. The course will emphasize music theatre as social, political, and cultural expression. **NOTE:** This course is the same as M 146. Students may enroll in and receive credit for either TH 146 or M 146 but cannot enroll in or receive credit for both courses.

Course Competencies:

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

1. Identify and describe the basic elements of musical theatre production.
2. Identify and describe the basic historical styles of musical theatre.
3. Identify and discuss major artists and works from various style periods.
4. Explain and critically evaluate the role of musical theatre as an expressive vehicle.
5. Explain the role of musical theatre as social commentary.

Course Content:

- A. Birth of Musical Theatre (Beginning through 1880)
 1. European Roots
 2. The Astor Place Riot
 3. Vaudeville and Minstrelsy
 4. Operetta and Light Opera
- B. Silly Little Love Songs (1880-1920)
 1. Irving Berlin
 2. Harrigan and Hart
 3. The Silver Age of Operetta
- C. The Great American Songbook (1920-1940)
 1. Tin Pan Alley
 2. The Gershwins
 3. Cole Porter
 4. Rodgers and Hart
- D. A Grand Scale (1940-1960)
 1. Rodgers and Hammerstein
 2. Lerner and Lowe
 3. Harnick and Bock
- E. Opera on Broadway
- F. Early Rock Musicals

- G. Fancy Footwork
 - 1. Jerome Robbins
 - 2. Bob Fosse
 - 3. Michael Bennett
 - 4. Gower Champion
- H. 1980s Mega Musicals
 - 1. Andrew Lloyd Webber
 - 2. Claude-Michel Schoenberg
 - 3. Tim Rice
- I. The Modern Revue
- J. Family Entertainment
 - 1. Disney Movicals
 - 2. Not Quite Musicals – Riverdance, Blue Man Group, Stomp
- K. Beyond Broadway – The Impact of Touring, TV, Movies, and Internet

Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by quizzes, exams, reading, viewing, and listening assignments, performance reviews, and Internet research.

Instructional Materials:

Showtime: A History of the Broadway Musical Theater, Stempel, 1st Ed., W.W. Norton, 2010.
ISBN: 978-0-393-06715-6

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link:
<https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services>.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.