

Statement of Rationale: Musical Theatre: From Past to Present (MUA-040)

Working Artistically Criteria

Courses satisfying this GE will...

1. Make/perform works of art

- **Musical Theatre Presentation (Final Week)**

- Each student will choose one aspect of musical theatre to make/perform. For example, if a student likes to write, he or she could draw an original design for a Broadway show; or if a student wants to dance, he or she could create their own dance number to a familiar Broadway tune. The presentation will be accompanied by a 2-3 page essay describing the artistic details of their presentation, how it relates to the continuum of Musical Theatre History, and how the creative process of making art has enlightened the student. They may choose to present their piece or, where appropriate, perform them.

2. Effectively demonstrate creative and interpretive processes

- **Essay (interpret art form)**

- Students will attend a live production of a musical during the course. They will then write a 2-3 page essay critiquing their experience and interpreting the art form. The essay will include a brief synopsis of the play, where it fits in the historical continuum of the musical theatre art form, what they like about the production, and why it is relevant today.

- **Readings & In-class Discussions**

- Kenrick, John. *Musical Theatre: A History*, 2nd ed. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2017.
- Students will read a chapter of the above listed textbook in preparation for each class. The readings will give the students a foundational knowledge of the art form of musical theatre, its history, and its modern-day projection. These readings will serve as a the springboard to in-class discussions about historical eras, the artistic form, and the creative process of musical theatre.

- **Online Homework**

- Each week, students will either complete online prompts by formulating opinions designed to assist them in interpreting aspects of musical theatre; or engage in online activities aimed at demonstrating a particular aspect of the art form.

- **Quizzes**

- There are four quizzes throughout the course. The questions will stem from the textbook and our in-class discussions. The quizzes are designed to reinforce a foundational understanding of the artistic process of creating a musical theatre production.

Working Artistically SLO's:

1. Students will demonstrate artistic processes and interpretive understanding in an artistic production.
 - Musical Theatre Presentation
 - At the culmination of this course, students will create an artistic component of musical theatre. This project will also include a self-reflection essay in which students will discuss the creative process of making their musical theatre piece. (See Musical Theatre Presentation listed above)
 - Readings, Online Homework, and Quizzes
 - In readings, online homework and quizzes, students will analyze the creative aspects of musical theatre. These assignments will establish a foundation of vocabulary, historical aspects, and artistic processes with which students will be able to confidently interpret musical theatre.
 - Essay
 - In the essay, students will diagram a musical theatre production. Using the knowledge they acquired from readings, online homework, and quizzes, students will critique a live performance. They will interpret the production based upon the various aspects of creating musical theatre that they have studied and in which they have engaged.