MUSICAL THEATRE
THEA 3385.001
Monday/Wednesday 3:30-4:45 OCNR 132
Spring 2016

“The Broadway musical defines our culture and is, in turn, defined by it.” —Maslon and Kantor

Instructor: Alison Frost
Office Hours: Tuesday/10:00-1:00, Wednesday/12:00-1:00, Thursday/2-3 or by appointment.
Office Location: BH 3.36
Office Phone: 361.825.2500
Instructors’ E-mail: alison.frost@tamucc.edu / alison.frost@gmail.com
Blank book/notebook to serve as journal
Suggested Textbooks: Acting Songs by David Brunetti ISBN: 1419651986
The Actor Sings by Kevin Robison ISBN: 0-325-00177-4

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The focus of the course is on musical theatre history, exploring trends in the genre, audition
techniques, characterization, staging and choreography.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Through this course, students will be able to:
• identify the elements of Musical Theatre (book, lyrics, score, dance, and design)
• identify and discuss the contributions made by significant musical theater artists to the 19th-21st
centuries American musical
• identify and discuss Musical Theatre as an art form with social relevance
• identify, discuss, and demonstrate the unique skills involved with performing in a musical
• critique musical theatre elements and performances
• categorize and examine key musical theatre events, elements, and artists
• command knowledge of 20+ productions key to the repertoire of the 19th-21st century.

COURSE GUIDELINES:
1. Clothing: Regular dress for daily class work during the performance portion of the class should include clothing that
you can move/breathe in. For the choreography portion, dance-type clothes are required. For scene
performances, you should dress to suggest a costume. For the history portion—wear what you like—
other than hats, please. No hats or other head covering under any circumstances—until appropriate
scene work begins.
2. Bring your binder/journal/handouts/textbook with pencil to every class meeting.
3. Be respectful. Bodies, voices, and abilities are different and will vary from person to person.
4. Due dates will be strictly observed. Assignments are due even if you are absent. If you know you will miss a
class, it is your responsibility to turn your work in early. There will be no make-up work unless you have a
verified medical emergency. Electronic submission is not allowed—unless stipulated by the faculty.
5. Students must keep duplicate copies of all work/sheet music/scenes submitted.
6. It is the responsibility of each student to let the instructor know of any injury or illness that could in any way
impact him/her in classes or in performance. Doctor’s documentation may be asked for verification.
7. Your participation in all discussion and exercises is necessary to the success of the class and to your personal
growth.
8. Cell phones. Please leave them in a stored/off position for the duration of the semester.
9. Web Access. Students must have a TAMUCC e-mail account as well as a preferred email address. Students
must have access to the Internet. Students should check their email daily—and definitely 24-hours before
each class meeting.
GRADED EXERCISES:
A. Participation in class discussions, performance activities, and performance review of RENT (10%)
B. Musical Theatre Presentation & Research Project (10%)
C. Research Paper (15%)
D. Reading assignments and quizzes (35%). You will be required to read handouts, book chapters, plays/scripts and articles. The readings will mean more if you take time to Google/YouTube musical numbers from musicals discussed in the text. Many of the musicals are available on Netflix/YouTube, etc... There is also an accompanying DVD that coordinates with this textbook. It is available through Amazon.com (DVD and Blu-ray) for $28.03—as well as Netflix. In addition to participation in class discussions, you will also take periodic quizzes to determine your comprehension of the material. Additional pop quizzes may be added if class discussions are impeded by lack of student preparation/participation. Most quizzes will comprise of 5-10 content questions from the musical assigned plus an additional 5-10 questions from the previous lectures and assigned readings as noted on the calendar. The instructor recommends you consider creating small reading/study groups for the assigned plays/soundtracks—meet, assign roles, and read/listen to the plays together.
E. Midterm. (15%) The midterm will only cover musical theatre artists, terminology, musicals, and history. There will be a listening portion on the exam that will include snippets of songs from the musicals listed in the syllabus. A review will be posted to Blackboard.
F. Final Examination. (15%) The final exam will only cover class material post-midterm. Questions will cover musical theatre artists, terminology, musicals, and history. There will be a listening portion on the exam that will include snippets of songs from the musicals listed in the syllabus. A review will be posted to Blackboard.

GRADING SCALE: The final course grade will be based on the student’s earned percentage of total points available.
90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
0-59% = F

ATTENDANCE
Attendance in this course is critical to your success. For purposes of grading, no distinction will be made between excused and unexcused absences (excluding absences for recognized religious holidays, death in your family, doctor’s excuse with documentation, and approved university functions.) Your absence affects the progress of the entire class. Two absences are without penalty; 3 absences will lower the final grade by a letter; and the fourth absence results in an automatic F. Exceptions under extreme circumstances may be made at the discretion of the instructor. You must consult with the instructor immediately to make such an exception viable.

Being on time: means being in the classroom ready to work and discuss the coursework.

Lateness: Two late arrivals constitute one absence. If you arrive more than ten minutes late you will be considered absent. Time management skills are one of the most significant tools of the profession. The practice and development of these skills is expected.

Missed Assignments: No make-up work for quizzes or missed in-class activities. Assignments are due on the assigned deadlines and will not be accepted late. If you know you will be absent, turn the assignment in early. An unexcused absence on the date of an assignment will result in a zero.

SAFE ZONES AND PERSONAL SPACE
It may be necessary for your instructor or fellow classmates to make physical contact with you to determine breathing, muscle tension, alignment, or perhaps in the form of interactive role play. If this ever makes you feel uncomfortable, please let the instructor know immediately.

DROPPING A CLASS
Should you find it necessary to drop this (or any) class, please consult with the instructor before doing so. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the
Student Services Center and completing a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

CLASSROOM / PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR
Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. This institution’s goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. It is expected that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated by TAMUCC.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Any student found guilty of academic misconduct or dishonesty, such as plagiarism or cheating will receive an “F” for the assignment, and, if the situation warrants it, for the entire course.

Definition of Academic Misconduct
Academic Misconduct is engaging in an act that violates the standards of the academic integrity policy as described in the Student Code of Conduct and Procedure for Academic Misconduct Cases. In addition, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct.

a. CHEATING:
Cheating is intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices or materials in any academic exercise.
Examples of Cheating: Copying from another student's paper or receiving unauthorized assistance during a quiz, test or examination. Using books, notes, note cards, or other devices (e.g., calculators, cell phones, or computers) when these are not authorized. The acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the University faculty or staff. Unauthorized collaboration on exams.

b. PLAGIARISM:
The intentionally, knowingly or carelessly presenting the work of another as one’s own. Exception is made when the ideas, information, etc. are common knowledge.
Examples of Plagiarism: Using another’s work from print, web or other sources without acknowledging the source. Quoting from a source without citation. Using facts, figures, graphs, charts or information without acknowledgement of the source.

c. MULTIPLE SUBMISSIONS:
The submission of substantial portions of the same work (including oral reports) for credit more than once without authorization from instructors of the class for which the student submits the work.
Examples of Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same paper for credit in two courses without instructor permission. Making minor revisions in a credited paper or report (including oral presentations) and submitting it again as if it were new work.

d. COMPLICITY:
Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.
Examples of Complicity: Knowingly allowing another to copy from one's paper during an examination or test. Distributing test questions or substantive information about the material to be tested before a scheduled exercise. Deliberately furnishing false information.

e. FABRICATION, FALSIFICATION, OR FORGERY:
The intentional and unauthorized altering or inventing of any information or citation that is used in assessing academic work.
Examples of Fabrication, Falsification, or Forgery: Inventing, counterfeiting or omitting data and/or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record. Falsely citing the source of information. Altering the record of or reporting false information about practicum or clinical experiences. Altering grade reports or other academic records.

Adapted from Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, used with permission of and our thanks to Dr. Jennifer Buchanan, Associate Dean of the Faculties Reference: Florida State University, Academic Honor Policy -http://academiconor.fsu.edu/policy/policy.html
PERSONAL COUNSELING: SHORT-TERM COUNSELING SERVICES: University Counseling Center staff provide short-term individual counseling and psychiatric services to help students address personal problems that interfere with meeting the demands of college life and their academic success. Counselors can work with you to aide you in increasing self-awareness, improving self-confidence and acceptance, enhancing your ability to cope during changes and challenges, improving your decision making and communication abilities, and teaching you strategies to replace hurtful or self-defeating thoughts, feelings, and actions with healthy, adaptive, alternatives. Services are available to TAMUCC students who are currently enrolled and whose needs match our services. Walk-ins are welcome 8am to 5pm. Driftwood Bldg. #107  361-825-2703

ACADEMIC ADVISING
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

DISABILITY SERVICES
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

GRADE APPEALS PROCESS
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.
# MUSICAL THEATRE

## TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

*(Subject to change at instructor’s discretion and depending upon the progress of the students in the class.)*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
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<th>ROOM</th>
<th>FOCUS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>OCNR-132</td>
<td>Musical Theatre</td>
<td>“What is Musical Theatre?”</td>
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</table>
| Mon | 1.25 | OCNR-132 | MT History | History of Musical Theatre  
Graded discussion of Text: BWAY: Chapter 1 |
| Wed | 1.27 | OCNR-132 | MT Theory | History of Musical Theatre Continued...  
Why sing and dance? |
| Mon | 1.2 | OCNR-132 | Lyricists, Composers, Librettists | Text: B’WAY/Chapter 2  
Gilbert and Sullivan / Pirates of Penzance (1879) |
| Wed | 2.3 | OCNR-132 | MT History | Racism as Entertainment: Musical Theatre the Early Years...and some not so early years. |
| Mon | 2.8 | OCNR-132 | MT History | Text: B’WAY/Chapter 3 Part 1: Overture - Cole Porter, Act Two  
Showboat/1927  
Porgy and Bess/1933  
Anything Goes/1924  
QUIZ: Showboat and Reading |
1930’s, The WPA and Cradle Will Rock/1937  
Research paper topic and tentative “thesis statement” DUE |
| Mon | 2.15 | OCNR-132 | MT History | 1930’s-1940’s Continued  
Text: B’WAY/Chapter 4 Part 1: Overture - Annie Get Your Gun  
Oklahoma! /1943  
Annie Get Your Gun/1946  
QUIZ: Oklahoma! and Reading |
| Wed | 2.17 | OCNR-132 | MT History | Post WWII-1950’s  
Text: B’WAY/Chapter 4 Part 2: Another Op’nin, Another show - End of Chapter.  
West Side Story/1957  
Gypsy/1959  
QUIZ: WSS & reading |
| Mon | 2.22 | OCNR-132 | Dance: Choreographers | Choreographers |
| Wed | 2.24 | OCNR-132 | MT History | Off-Broadway  
The Fantasticks/1964 |
| Mon | 2.29 | OCNR-132 | MT History | Producers: The Abominable Showmen  
Final Project Discussion |
| Wed | 3.2 | OCNR-132 | MT History | Sondheim Day |
| Mon | 3.7 | OCNR-132 | MT History | 1960’s Part 1  
Text: B’WAY/Chapter 5 Part 1: Overture - Fiddler on the Roof  
Fiddler on the Roof/1964  
QUIZ: Fiddler and Reading |
<p>| Wed | 3.9 | IH: Grace | DANCE WITH JILLISSA: Choreography: Jerome Robbins |</p>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 3.14</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>Wed 3.16</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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| Mon 3.21 | OCNR-132 | MT History | | Youth Rebellion Musicals  
Hair/1968  
Rent/1996  
Spring Awakening/2007  
Green Day's American Idiot/2010 |
| Wed 3.23 | IH: Grace | | | DANCE WITH JILISSA: Choreography: Bob Fosse  
Appropriate clothing required |
| Mon 3.28 | OCNR-132 | MT History | | 1960’s part 2  
Text: B’WAY/Chapter 5 Part 2: Broadway & Television – 1776  
Company/1970  
QUIZ: Company and Reading  
Review for Midterm and Catch-Up  
DUE: Presentation Project Plan |
| Wed 3.30 | OCNR-132 | MT History | | MIDTERM  
A review for the Midterm will be on Blackboard.  
Research Paper returned with corrections. |
| Mon 4.4 | OCNR-132 | MT History | | 1970’s Part 1  
Jesus Christ Superstar/1971  
QUIZ: JCS |
| Wed 4.6 | OCNR-132 | MT History | | 1970’s Part 2  
Text: B’WAY/Chapter 5 Part 1: It’s a City of Strangers – A Chorus Line  
A Chorus Line/1975  
QUIZ: A CHORUS LINE and Reading |
| Mon 4.11 | OCNR-132 | MT History | | 1980’s & The Mega Musical  
Starlight Express/1984 London/87 NYC  
Les Miserables/1985 London/87 NYC  
The Phantom of the Opera/1986 London/88 NYC  
Miss Saigon,1989 London/91 NYC  
DUE: Research Paper FINAL VERSION |
| Wed 4.13 | OCNR-132 | MT History | | 1980s & Sondheim vs. Webber  
Text: B’WAY/Chapter 5 Part 2: The Sun’ll Come Out Tomorrow – End of Chapter  
Sweeney Todd/1979  
Cats/1982  
QUIZ: Reading only |
| Mon 4.18 | OCNR-132 | | Working & Performing in the Musical Theatre Industry |
| Tue-Sat 4.19-24 | Warren | | | Jonathan Larson’s RENT. Must see for a grade. |
| Wed 4.20 | OCNR-132 | MT Project Presentations featuring Chapter 6-2015 | | DUE: In class presentations and research due. (4) |
| Mon 4.25 | OCNR-132 | MT Project Presentations featuring Chapter 6-2015 | | DUE: In class presentations and research due. (4) |
| Wed 4.27 | OCNR-132 | MT Project Presentations featuring Chapter 6-2015 | | DUE: In class presentations and research due. (4)  
DUE: Performance review of TAMUCC’s ASSASSINS. Format for review will be on Blackboard. |
<p>| Wed 4.27 | PAC | | | Island Dance Demo 7:30 p.m. |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>5.2</th>
<th>AMERICAN BANK CENTER PRESENTS:</th>
<th>DISNEY’S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST 7:30 PM</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>OCNR-132 MT Project Presentations featuring Chapter 6-2016</td>
<td><strong>DUE:</strong> In class presentations and research due. (4)</td>
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| Mon | 5.9 | OCNR-132 | **Final Exam 1:45-4:15**  
Exam: History from 1970’s-2016  
(Nothing prior to the Midterm will be on the Final Exam.)  
Review for the Final Exam will be available on Blackboard.  
**DUE:** Extra Credit assignment if you choose. |
HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN MUSICAL THEATRE
THEA 3385

☐ Attend class.

☐ Read the assigned material consistently—not 15 minutes before class. *Keep ahead of the reading/listening list.*

☐ Join a reading group—and read/listen to scripts/soundtracks together—aloud.

☐ For the semester, *commit* to listening to the required musical theatre soundtracks in your iPod, car player, computer, etc....

☐ Use Google / YouTube to supplement the text so you can SEE and HEAR the musicals being discussed in class and in your text.

☐ Ask questions in class.

☐ Join in the class discussion. Everyone has something to share.

☐ Take notes during class—especially of key concepts.

☐ Use a highlighter as you read the textbook—underline key concepts and write in the margins.

☐ Journal key concepts in your notebook.

☐ Participate fully on performance days.

☐ SIGN UP FOR OFFICE HOURS and meet with the instructor if you need assistance or clarification. She’s here to help! ☺ 3.36 Bay Hall. Alison.frost@tamucc.edu / Alison.frost@gmail.com
I have read the entire syllabus for THEA 3385.001, MUSICAL THEATRE, Spring 2016. I have read and understand the policies and requirements of the course particularly in regard to attendance, readings, exams, cheating, and assignments. I understand the fluidity of the syllabus and that all changes, updates and additions will be posted on Blackboard. I understand that any special provisions or accommodations must be presented in advance of any deadlines and that these accommodations will not be granted retroactively.

_____________________________  __________________________
Signature of Student            Date

Student Name (PRINTED)          ______________________________

Student Islander Email          ______________________________

Student Preferred Phone         ______________________________

This sheet must be returned to Alison Frost at the end of the first class day.