

Musical Theatre Workshop
Course Syllabus
Spring 2008

Sam Houston State University
Department of Theatre and Dance
THR 317.02
Tuesday 5-6:20 / UTC Showcase

Instructor – Dr. Laura Avery
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to be a performance preparation course. The topics covered are meant to inform students of the different aspects of being a professional performer with a career in musical theatre.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

1. To secure a working knowledge of production preparation.
2. To further development ensemble skills.
3. To create and perform in various roles.
4. To strengthen organizational skills and versatility.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Class participation is an important part of class, so it is imperative that you attend all classes. If you are absent from more than **two (2)** classes, your final grade will be reduced by **two (2)** points for **each** absence. Tardiness is unacceptable. If you are tardy **two (2)** times, that equals **one absence**. Excessive tardiness will result in a reduction of your final grade.

RULES OF CONDUCT:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, talking among each other at inappropriate times, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy. Please talk to me prior to class if you would like to bring a visitor to class.

REQUIREMENTS:

Production Folder: Students will be grouped together into casts. Each cast member will be required to research, create and write for their production. All work will be contained in a production folder to be turned in for a final grade.

Performance: Students will present a live performance near the end of the semester.

OFF CAMPUS PRODUCTION FULLFILLMENT:

For those students participating in a production outside of class which handicaps your ability to participate in the class production, you will need to prepare a production folder for that experience. The folder must reflect and include research, writings on the rehearsal process and experience and other aspects of the production.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy University policy states that if any student must be absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day, they must notify their instructor by the 12th calendar day after the first day of the semester.

Americans with Disabilities Act SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may adversely affect your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk to me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center by calling (936) 294-1720.

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

Production Folder	100
Performance	100
Total	200

Course Calendar

January

29 Cast assignments/Production planning

February

5 Special Topics (4-6:30 p.m. class session)

12* writing day

19* reading of first draft including song lyrics (no music);

26* reading of second draft (including songs); presentation of design renderings (set/costumes)

March

4* Special Topics (4-6:30 p.m. class session)

11 Spring Break

18 rehearsal; props list due (indicate what will be borrowed from SHSU)

25 rehearsal; presentation of publicity poster

April

1 Special Topics (4-6:30 p.m. class session)

8 rehearsal

15 rehearsal

22 dress performance given for critique

29 final dress rehearsal

May

6 Performance and Strike