SAMPLE SYLLABUS:
MUSIC THEATRE WORKSHOP

This course will be offered in Spring, odd number years (2011, '13, '15)
Proposed time slot: Mon/Wed 3:30-4:45

COURSE DESCRIPTION
THE290 and THE390 Meet simultaneously.

THE290 Musical Theatre Workshop is intended for beginning or intermediate students of musical theatre with some experience (high school, community theatre, prior course work). Class time is dedicated to the integration of music and acting in individual and group scenes. THE290 students will participate as crew and/or chorus and ensemble members of the Music Theatre Workshop Production staged in the Frances-Booth Theatre at the end of the semester. No audition is required. Prerequisites: THE 101 or THE111 or THE112.

THE390 Musical Theatre Workshop is intended for Theatre majors or students with advanced intermediate and advanced skills. An audition is required. Class time is dedicated to the integration of music and acting in individual and group scenes. THE390 students will be cast in significant roles in the Music Theatre Workshop Production staged in the Frances-Booth Theatre at the end of the semester. Prerequisites: THE295 (Sophomore Review) or consent of instructor and department chair. THE390 can be taken simultaneously with THE499 Senior Capstone Experience.

PURPOSE and LEARNING OUTCOMES
Course work will focus on individual, small group and ensemble performances culminating in final public performances of a music theatre text selected by the instructor/director. Upon completion of this course the student will advance in the ability to demonstrate appropriate musical, acting and movement skills in conceptualizing, preparing and performing music theatre solos, duets and ensembles. Students will also become familiar with professional procedures and etiquette, important musical theatre composers and their works, demonstrate knowledge of audition skills and develop the ability to appraise and evaluate performances in musical theatre.

[suggested] TEXTS

Next! by Steven Alper
On Singing Onstage by David Craig
How to Audition for the Musical Theatre by Donald Oliver
Auditioning for the Musical Theatre by Fred Silver
Acting in Musical Theatre by Joe Deer and Rocco Dal Vera

AUDITIONS
THE390 Music Theatre Workshop will be offered in the Spring Semester. Audition dates will be posted on campus and held in the last two weeks of the semester prior to the course offering. THE 290 and THE390 students should be prepared to present one song on the first day of class. Piano accompaniment will be available to students who bring legible music sheets to class.

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS
In addition to the participation in the final performance, each student will prepare and present in class two music theatre selections, including one solo song and one duet or trio. Songs from the Music Theatre Workshop (MTW) production (see below) may satisfy this requirement with the permission of the instructor. Each performance will have at least one replay. Students must perform dialogue that leads to the song and helps set up the scene.

MUSIC THEATRE WORKSHOP PERFORMANCE

Each class member will participate in rehearsals and performance of the Music Theatre Workshop Production staged in the Frances-Booth Experimental Theatre during the last two weeks of the semester. Selection of material and staging conventions will be at the desertion of the instructor. Depending on class enrollment, the Workshop Production may be a fully staged musical, a concert performance of a musical in its entirety, scenes from a specific musical or a compilation of scenes based on a specific unifying principle (theme, composer, era, etc.)

Performance #1 (class solos and workshop highlights only): Studio Stage, free admission
Date and Time

Performances #2 and 3 (full program): Studio Stage, $10 admission
Date and Time

ATTENDANCE

Because rehearsal takes place during the class period, attendance in this class is mandatory. Only official University Excuses will be accepted. Remember, theatre is a collaborative art and if you are not present in Mind as well as Body, your scene and singing partners will not be able to do their work.

If an Artist's Series music theatre production is available during the semester of course work, attendance will be required.

UNIVERSITY EXCUSED ABSENCE Immediately following any excused absence you must submit an official University Excuse or documentation for one of the following: (1) illness (2) car trouble (3) legal matters. No unexcused absences will be allowed. Tardiness may result in being recorded as an absence. Please note performance dates in your syllabus and make sure that you will be available. Again, theatre depends on close collaboration and if you are absent from the final performance FOR ANY REASON, your colleagues may forfeit their opportunity to perform.

Remember.... instructors are not responsible for dropping you.
If you choose to drop the class, please make sure you do so yourself.

GRADING CRITERIA

Performance presentations 60%

All scheduled solo, small group and large ensemble performances in class as well as public performances will be evaluated. Criteria will focus on presentation and integration of song, movement, and dialogue. You will be critiqued in the areas of vocal performance, dance/movement ability, acting skills, and mental preparation.

Ensemble Participation 40%

Includes attendance, ability to meet deadlines, active participation (above and beyond compliance) focus, commitment, energy, enthusiasm, and generosity on stage and off.

GRADES:

91% +	**A**
81% - 90%	**B**
71% - 80%	**C**
61% - 70%	**D**
Below 61%	**F**

CLASS STRUCTURE

The first four weeks of class will be structured to include discussion of reading assignments, improvisation and voice exercises, as well as lecture (introduction and dramaturgy for the musical text

selected for the Workshop Performance). You will have an opportunity to address specific performance issues and to record piano accompaniment for your chosen solo. First individual performances will be scheduled in week five. Weeks six to eight will be structured according to rehearsal needs for the Workshop Production. On those days when you are not scheduled for group or individual rehearsal, you'll have time to practice your solo performance. Please see the instructor to schedule a recording secession for your piano accompaniment and individual mentoring.

WORKSHOP RULES:

1) **No eating or drinking in class.**
2) **No damage to property in class. This means you cannot throw furniture in your scenes. Also, please do not use liquids in your scenes.**
3) **For scenes, no partial or full nudity allowed. Also, please wear clothing appropriate to your character, and within the boundaries of common decency.**
4) **Please remove any violence from scenes. No use of guns, knives or any weapon in scenes, not even toy weapons.**
5) **If you have any illness or physical limitation that does not allow you to participate fully in class scenes, please let me know so that I can make provisions for you.**
6) **Please turn off all cell phones and stow them away in a safe place. You may not receive or make phone calls or text messages during class hours.**
7) **No cheating of any kind is allowed. Please refer to student conduct guidelines.**
8) **No disruption of any kind is allowed. Please refer to student conduct guidelines.**
9) **No visitors are allowed in class except at the discretion of the instructor.**
10) **Please do not enter / leave the classroom while a performance is going on in class.**