

SYLLABUS Spring 2020- **TPP 4227C Music Theatre Audition**– 3 credit hours

Instructor	Lynn McNutt mcnuttl@fau.edu (646) 831-0033 Office 166, College of Arts and Letters, Boca Campus Office hours TBA and M by appointment only
Class Times	TBA
Room	TBA
Lab Times	TBA
Lab Fees	None
Required Accompanist Fees	TBA

Accompanist/Vocal Coach/Lab Instructor TBA

Pre-Requisites

This is for the BFA student who has completed Acting 2. Non-BFA students must receive permission from the instructor.

Required Texts

There is no text for this class.

Other Materials

You will be responsible for finding and/or paying for the music that you choose to sing. You will also be responsible for meeting with your accompanist outside of class for at least an hour slot on each of your songs for a required two one hour slots a semester. *You must bring clearly marked copies of your music for the instructor and the accompanist equaling two copies per song in addition to your copy.*

Course Description

This course will focus primarily on the music theatre audition. Acting skills learned in previous classes will be applied to the style of music theatre. Students will learn a classical music theatre song and a contemporary music theatre song that are audition ready by the end of this course.

Lab Description

This will be a technical lab where students will work as a group on vocal technique, music theory and sight singing. Handouts will be provided. Vocal and written homework will be assigned. This lab will be an advanced level lab building upon basics learned in the TPP 4252 Music Theatre Scene Study Lab. This will be a technical lab where students will work as a group on vocal technique, music theory and sight singing. Handouts will be provided. Vocal and written homework will be assigned.

Course Objectives

This class will be part technical and part practical. Technically we will learn basic musical theatre audition skills, including but not limited to: basic vocal and breath support work, what to wear, how to enter the room, how to work with an accompanist, general audition etiquette and discipline. Practically we will learn how to apply the technical aspects to the imaginative creative acting and singing work. We will work towards maintaining an active truth while reaching for the vocal and physical size needed to handle music theatre and applying that to an audition setting. Students will develop a confident music theatre audition. Students will learn a classical musical theatre song and a contemporary musical theatre song that are audition ready by the end of this course. The skills learned can be applied to future auditions and audition material.

Lab Objectives

Students will be able to understand the mechanics of voice and breath in a singing capacity and to improve their singing technique. Students will build upon knowledge of music theory and sight singing from the previous lab.

Class and Lab Schedules

Weekly Schedules will be provided but due to the nature of the creative acting process, the schedule is subject to change. Most schedule notices will be given verbally in class and/or on Canvas. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the schedule. See attached weekly schedule.

Course Requirements

- You will arrange and schedule to meet with your accompanist outside of class for a one hour slot per song for a total of two slots.
- Your active and enthusiastic participation in exercises, rehearsals, presentations and discussions is required.
- Song work will require memorization and rehearsal time outside of class. A *minimum* of 2 hours a week of outside rehearsal time will be required.
- You are required to bring a recording device to class and to your sessions with your accompanist to record your accompaniment of songs. Most phones have this feature.
- You will prepare and fully memorize two contrasting musical theatre songs appropriate to your vocal type which you will present to the class. One song must be from a contemporary musical and one from a classical musical.
- You will research the musical your song is from and do your actor homework on each song you choose to sing.
- On song presentation days for second showings, you must wear professional audition clothes.
- You will actively observe other student's work and provide feedback in a constructive way with guidelines given to you by the instructor.
- This class can be highly physical at times. If you have any physical problems that may keep you from participating fully please notify the instructor. Also realize that some physical contact between instructor and student may be necessary during exercises and demonstrations. Please inform the instructor if there is any issue that causes you discomfort.

Course Evaluation Method

Students will receive a daily grade for overall attitude, peer support, participation in classroom exercises, discussions and possible written homework. Students will receive a grade for every song showing. Award of points will be determined by the instructor and will be based on preparation as well as performance (i.e. playing actions), proper attire, improvement, written work, and courage. Participation grade will be based on peer support, observations and feedback, investment in class process, and discussions.

Song 1 first showing	15%
Song 1 second showing	15%
Song 2 first showing	15%
Song 2 second showing	15%
Participation	20%
Final audition with both songs	20%

Grade	Points
A	96-100
A-	92-95
B+	88-91
B	84-87

B-	80-83
C+	76-79
C	72-75
C-	68-71
D	64-67
D-	60-63
F	0-59
W (Withdrawn)	
I (Incomplete)	

Attendance/Tardiness Policy

Acting is not a skill you can learn from a book. This is an advanced acting class for the serious theatre student. Attendance is mandatory. Always being present, prepared, and on time is expected of true professionals and is a part of your training.

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance.

Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of a legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations, or participation in University approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholarship team, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absence and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting.

All legitimate class absences must have an accompanying letter or proof of legitimacy to be considered excused (i.e. University letters requesting the student's participation, court orders, police reports, obituaries, doctor's notes).

Illness, without a doctor's note, will only be excused with prior notice. Failure to notify the instructor prior to the class that you will not be attending due to illness will result in an unexcused absence. Illness, without a doctor's note, may only be used as an excused absence twice in a semester. If there is a third absence due to illness, a doctor's note *specifically stating the student was unable to come to class will be required*. A note from FAU's health center or other such health center that only notates a date and time will not be accepted.

For every *unexcused* absence the student's letter grade will be dropped one full grade.

Three unexcused tardies and/or leaving class early for unexcused reasons three times will be considered one unexcused absence. A doctor's appointment is not an excuse for arriving late or leaving early except in instructor approved cases.

Unexcused absences cannot be made up or compensated for with additional course work. Missed scene work or monologue work will only be rescheduled for excused absences.

Dress Code – Comfortable clothing that does not restrict movement or make you self-conscious. For second showings and final audition you will need to be in appropriate audition clothing approved by the instructor.

Cell phones/electronic devices - Turn off and put away. Do not even look at it. Take notes with pen and paper. *If I see it, or hear it, or I see you looking at it while in your purse or bag, it becomes mine for 24 hours or you may take a full grade lower on your final grade.* Please see the instructor if there is an emergency reason why you might need your phone during class.

Disability Policy Statement: *In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.*

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center: *Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>*

Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement: *Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001. If your college has particular policies relating to cheating and plagiarism, state so here or provide a link to the full policy—but be sure the college policy does not conflict with the University Regulation.*

Religious Accommodations: *Any student, upon notifying his or her instructor, will be excused from class or other scheduled academic or educational activity to observe a religious holy day of his or her personal faith. Such notification shall be made no later than the end of the second week of the applicable academic term. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic or educational activity because of religious observances, practices or beliefs. Students should review course requirements and meeting days and times to avoid foreseeable conflicts, as excessive absences in a given term may prevent a student from successfully completing the academic requirements of a course. Students who are excused from class or a specific work assignment or other academic or educational activity for the purpose of observing a religious holy day will be responsible for the material covered in their absence, but shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up any missed work. Missed work shall be made up in accordance with a timetable set by the student's instructor or as prescribed by the instructor at the beginning of the academic term.*