

Senior Showcase Course Syllabus

Sam Houston State University
Department of Theatre and Musical Theatre
THEA 4190
Wednesday 1-2:20 p.m. / PAC284

Instructor – Dr. Eric Gundersen
Office – PAC 284C
Office hours – by appt.
Phone – 936.294.3404
E-mail – jeg016@shsu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to be the final capstone experience of your training in the BFA Musical Theatre Program. This course will include beneficial career planning topics and preparation for the New York Showcase trip. Details about the trip can be found at the end of this document.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

1. To identify personal skills, career goals, and potential obstacles and threats.
2. To understand the business of theatre in New York and prepare auditions.
3. To strengthen audition repertoire and promotional materials.

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 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.

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 Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) 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:

SSD Office Location: Lee Drain Annex (next to the Farrington Building)

Telephone: 936-294-3512 / TDD: 936-294-3786

E-mail: disability@shsu.edu

Web Address: www.shsu.edu/disability

Course Calendar

January

- 17 Audition Review/Establish Goals/Intro to Trip
- 24 Trip discussion/Fundraising/Bios/Resumes
- 31 Publicity Photo Shoot

February

- 7 Promotions: interviews, reel, website, social media
- 14 Promotions cont'd /Audition Material Selection
- 21 Audition material cont'd/Dance rehearsal
- 28 Target graduation week! Graduation advising. (KCACTF)

March

- 7 Dance rehearsal
- 14 Spring Break
- 21 Business talk: work between gigs and taxes
- 28 Business talk: agents/contracts/equity

April

- 4 Rehearsal
- 11 Rehearsal
- 18 Rehearsal
- 25 NY Audition research and trip details (city scavenger hunt)

NEW YORK TRIP

All graduating seniors enrolled in THEA 4190 are eligible to travel to New York to participate in the Senior Showcase. Trip dates are Sunday, April 29 – Wednesday, May 2. Individuals are responsible for costs associated with travel (i.e. airfare, accommodations and transportation to/from the airport in Houston, meals, etc.) We can assist with group travel which will help reduce your individual cost. The New York Showcase experience includes publicity for the group in the way of a webpage and social media as well as a NY audition for industry professionals. Other possible trip experiences could include workshops and/or classes in New York and tickets to a Broadway show.