

Show Questionnaire Guidelines

You will satisfy a portion of the activity unit for this course by **watching two musicals**. The only restrictions are:

- these need to be musicals that you have watched after *this* quarter has started, not some show from your past experience (even if it was *just* before the quarter started)
- no YouTube shows. You need to view the whole show without being interrupted every ten minutes
- no television shows that happen to involve singing (*Glee*, etc.) The point is to watch a finite “story,” not just one episode in an ongoing drama.

There usually are a few live local productions presented during the quarter, and I will try to give you information about those shows in class. Of course you could watch a show in some other city if you are out of town at some point in the quarter. However, you can satisfy this requirement by watching video recordings of musicals as well. **TO CLARIFY: IT IS OKAY TO WATCH MOVIE VERSIONS OF MUSICALS FOR THESE QUESTIONNAIRES (but you need to choose a “stage” version for your TERM PAPER—**see the list of some stage-show possibilities on the preceding pages).

There are many ways to locate recordings of productions. You could watch a television or cable broadcast (Bravo, A&E, and AMC offer a lot of musicals). You could watch one of the small handful of videos in the Music Department Office, Room 129 in the Music Building (which must be watched *in* the Music Department; our videos do not circulate). You could watch one of the many videotapes or DVDs in Kennedy Library (primarily shelved in 792.6); these *can* be taken home, or watched in the library. You can borrow a video from a theater-buff friend. The county’s public libraries have quite a few videos/DVDs for check-out. You can rent a video or DVD at a local video store, or through on-line services like Blockbuster.com or Netflix.

Can you watch the show you've chosen for your paper? Yes—and it’s a good idea to do so!—but be aware that *many* film versions of shows are **very** different from the stage production. Sometimes the plot is changed completely. So, be sure that you use the STAGE show's recording (not the video) to analyze the songs for your Song Chart and the final paper – but a MOVIE version *is* fine for these questionnaires.

If you aren't sure what to watch, feel free to ask me for suggestions. If you like certain styles of music, I may be able to suggest a show that might suit your taste.

No matter whether you watch a live or taped show, you need to **attach some sort of proof** that you saw the show. If it is a live show, you could staple the ticket onto your questionnaire. If you rent a video, include a copy of your rental slip. If you watch a friend's video, or a video at school, photocopy or scan the case. If you watched it on TV, photocopy the TV guide listing. Or be inventive! (People have done creative things with digital cameras!)

Please read the questionnaire before watching the show so that you are aware of some of the questions you'll need to answer. When you are ready to fill out the questionnaire, please answer each question *completely*—one-word answers are not sufficient. Please use complete sentences, and, of course, write legibly. If your grammar is so poor that it interferes with my comprehension (or if your responses are *too* short), I will return the questionnaire to you for a “re-do.” Please make sure it’s clear what version you watched.

Can you type your questionnaires? Of course, but hand-written forms *are* acceptable (if legible)

In order to prod you along on this assignment, there will be two “**due dates**” for the questionnaires:

Questionnaire No. 1: Thursday, January 12 (Week 2)

Questionnaire No. 2: Tuesday, March 6 (Week 10)

I usually don’t return the questionnaires, since they often give me ideas for future listening assignments, but if you *do* want your questionnaire (or your “proof”) back after I've read it, write “Please Return” on the top.

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MUSIC 324 - MUSICAL THEATER - QUESTIONNAIRE No. _____

Your Name: _____ Show Title: _____

Which Production (*movie [year] / stage video / live*): _____ Date watched: _____

Please use complete sentences, and write legibly.

1) Why did you choose this show?

2) What was the general 'mood' of the show?

3. What do you feel was the peak point, dramatically, of the show? Why?

4. What do you feel was the peak point, musically, of the show? How was this achieved?

5. With which character do you identify the most? Why?

[over]

6. With which character do you identify the least? Can you say what makes the character unsympathetic to you?

7. Choose a song from the show and describe what you can remember about it. What makes it memorable?

8. After watching the whole show, do you think I should use this show for future in-class listening assignments? If I cover only one song from this musical, what one should it be? Please explain your reasoning.

9. Would you recommend this show to a friend who liked musical theater? Why or why not?

10. Would you recommend this show to a friend who did not like musical theater? Why or why not?

11. Other comments?

Don't forget to attach your "proof" of viewing!

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