

Cal Poly SLO - Department of Music
Course Information - Music 324 (History of Musical Theater) – Winter 2011

Professor: Dr. Alyson McLamore
Office: 132 Davidson Music Center
Email: amclamor@calpoly.edu

Office Phone: 756-2612

Web Site: <http://cla.calpoly.edu/~amclamor>

Office Hours: Tues 11-12; Wed 1:30-3:30; Thurs 12-1; other times by appointment—just ask!

Course Description: Music 324: History of Musical Theater is a G.E. C.4 survey course for all students that examines the history and masterworks of musical theater, beginning with the birth of opera but focusing on musicals in the United States. The course consists of lecture/discussions, guided and independent listening and show-viewing, a course paper, and periodic examinations. It is NOT necessary to read music in this class—but it is essential to come to class and to do the reading assignments to earn a good grade.

Materials:

The **Textbook** is *Musical Theater: An Appreciation* (Alyson McLamore), Prentice Hall 2004. **Please bring your book with you every day, and please do your reading before each class.**

The **Course Reader**, which will be found at the course website (*not* in Blackboard):

<http://cla.calpoly.edu/~amclamor/324Theater/index.html> (the password will be distributed in class).

Please PRINT OUT and BRING the reader with you to class EVERY day. It contains texts for the supplemental selections we are covering, reading questions, guidelines for the course paper, contents of the course recordings, the show questionnaires, and many other wonderful and exciting things.

Streaming copies of our **Composite Recordings** are available at <http://cla.calpoly.edu/music/classes/> and you will be given loaner cds from the Music Department, to be returned at the end of the quarter. Set up regular listening times in your weekly schedule, and listen often! The individual tracks of the Recordings are listed in the Course Reader.

The Music Department office is open:

Mon-Thurs 8 am - 4:30 pm and 7 pm - 9 pm

Friday 8 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday 9 am - 12 pm

Sunday 12 pm - 3 pm

Prerequisites: completion of Area A and a foundation course in Area C.

Course Requirements (Please note: the percentages are calculated using the letter grades earned, *not* points; “the points don’t matter.” An “A” is calculated as 4.0, an A- is 3.7, a B+ is 3.3, and so forth):

I. Two Exams (20% each), on Jan. 20 and Feb. 15. You will need an 882 Scantron for each.

II. Two Show Questionnaires (not factored into your grade, but required in order to pass the class).

Questionnaire guidelines and forms are in the course reader; they are due **Jan. 13** and **Mar. 8** (yes, it's very okay to turn them in early!)

III. A Final, on Mar. 17 (30% of the grade). Again, bring an 882 Scantron form.

IV. A Paper (30%). You will compare two different songs in one stage show (not a movie version). Guidelines for the paper are in the Reader, and the due date is **Mar. 3**. (There are earlier due dates for the choice of **topic**, the **bibliography**, the **song chart**, and the **outline**.)

ALL PAPERS MUST CONTAIN FOOTNOTES AND A BIBLIOGRAPHY.

V. Set Your Alarm. A large portion of the material for which you are responsible will come out of the class lectures. It is impossible for you to 'hear' the music and 'see' the videos we covered when you review someone else's notes, so regular attendance is essential!

VI. All portions of the course requirements must be completed in order to receive a passing grade.

Music 324 - History of Musical Theater - Course Outline – Winter 2011

			Reading Assignments	
Week 1	Jan. 4	Tues.	Intro; Earliest Music for the Stage (1) Monteverdi - Excerpt from Act I of <i>The Coronation of Poppea</i> - 1642 <i>(reading questions are on p. 7 of the Reader)</i>	
	Jan. 6	Thurs.	Opera Gains a Sense of Humor <i>[start thinking about your paper topic!]</i> (2) Anonymous - "Our Polly is a Sad Slut" - <i>The Beggar's Opera</i> - 1728 (3) Mozart / Schachtner? - "Diggi Daggi" - <i>Bastien und Bastienne</i> - 1768 (51) Sondheim / Sondheim - "Getting Married Today" - <i>Company</i> - 1970	Ch. 1, 2 <u>Reader p. 13-20, 40-44</u>
Week 2	Jan. 11	Tues.	Opera in the Old and New World Sample Quiz (not graded; no Scantron needed) Mozart - "Dammi un bacio" - <i>Così fan tutte</i> - 1790 (37) Bernstein - "Tonight" - <i>West Side Story</i> - 1957 (5) Anonymous - "Alknomook" - <i>Tammany; or the Indian Chief</i> - 1794	Ch. 3, 4 <u>Reader p. 45</u>
	Jan. 13	Thurs.	Birth of Operetta; Show Questionnaire No. 1 due (8) Sullivan - "I am the Very Model" - <i>The Pirates of Penzance</i> - 1879 (14) Herbert - "Italian Street Song" - <i>Naughty Marietta</i> - 1910 (15) Tilzer - "I Wants to be a Actor Lady" - <i>In Dahomey</i> - 1902	Ch. 7, 9, 11, 12 <u>Rdr p. 14, 21</u>
Week 3	Jan. 18	Tues.	The Evolving American Musical Stage; Topic due for paper (17) Kern - "Cleopatterer" - <i>Leave It to Jane</i> - 1917 (21) Kern - "Ol' Man River" - <i>Showboat</i> - 1927 (23) Berlin - "Supper Time" - <i>As Thousands Cheer</i> - 1933	Ch. 13, 16, 20
	Jan. 20	Thurs.	Exam 1 <i>[start working on your bibliography!]</i>	<u>Reader pp. 14-16, 21</u>
Week 4	Jan. 25	Tues.	Books and Lyrics Intensify <i>[see me if you need help finding good sources!]</i> Gershwin - "I Got Plenty of Nuttin'" - <i>Porgy and Bess</i> - 1935 Gershwin - "Bess, You is My Woman Now" - <i>Porgy and Bess</i> - 1935 (28) Weill - "Mack the Knife" - <i>The Threepenny Opera</i> - 1928	Ch. 19, 24
	Jan. 27	Thurs.	The Musical Score: Style and Substance Bibliography due for paper <i>[Get going on analysis!]</i> (26) Berlin - "Anything You Can Do" - <i>Annie Get Your Gun</i> - 1946 (39) Loesser - "Fugue for Tinhorns" - <i>Guys and Dolls</i> - 1950 (59) Andersson - Ulvaeus - "One Night in Bangkok" - <i>Chess</i> - 1988	Ch. 22, 30, 42 <u>Rdr pp. 16, 21</u>
Week 5	Feb. 1	Tues.	The Dance (34) Loewe - "Almost Like Being in Love" - <i>Brigadoon</i> - 1947 (36) Bernstein - "America" - <i>West Side Story</i> - 1957 Lloyd Webber - "The Lady's Paying" - <i>Sunset Boulevard</i> - 1993	Ch. 28, 29, 40
	Feb. 3	Thurs.	Rodgers and Hammerstein; Song Chart due <i>[see me for help with analysis or thesis statements!]</i> (29) "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top" - <i>Oklahoma!</i> - 1943 (30) "What's the Use of Wond'rin'?" - <i>Carousel</i> - 1945 (31) "Bali Ha'i" - <i>South Pacific</i> - 1949	Ch. 25, 26 <u>Reader: 17-26</u>

Week 6	Feb. 8	Tues.	Rodgers and Hammerstein—and Beyond (33) "Do-Re-Mi" - <i>The Sound of Music</i> - 1959 (41) Rodgers (Mary) - "Shy" - <i>Once Upon a Mattress</i> – 1959 Guettel – "Statues and Stories" – <i>The Light in the Piazza</i> – 2005	Ch. 27, 31
	Feb. 10	Thurs.	Layers of Subtext (44) Bock - "A Trip to the Library" - <i>She Loves Me</i> - 1963 (46) Kander - "Tomorrow Belongs to Me" - <i>Cabaret</i> - 1966 (47) Kander - "The Cell Block Tango" - <i>Chicago</i> - 1975	Ch. 34, 35
Week 7	Feb. 15	Tues.	<u>Exam 2</u>	
	Feb. 17	Thurs.	Performance Traditions and Choices; Outline due for Paper Brooks - "You Never Say Good Luck on Opening Night" – <i>The Producers</i> - 2001 Brown - "Climbing Uphill" - <i>The Last Five Years</i> - 2002 Sondheim - "Ladies who Lunch" - <i>Company</i> -1970 Lopez and Marx – “I Wish I Could Go Back to College” – <i>Avenue Q</i> - 2003	Ch. 38, p. 238 <u>Reader: 18-28</u>
Week 8	Feb. 22	Tues.	[no class meeting – Monday Schedule on Tuesday]	
	Feb. 24	Thurs.	Directorial and Compositional Choices Lloyd Webber - "King Herod's Song" - <i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i> - 1970 Lloyd Webber - "Mungojerrie and Rumpleteazer" - <i>Cats</i> - 1981 - U.K. recording (53) Lloyd Webber - "Mungojerrie and Rumpleteazer" - <i>Cats</i> - 1982 - U.S. recording	Ch. 36, 39
Week 9	Mar. 1	Tues.	Andrew Lloyd Webber (49) "Another Suitcase in Another Hall" - <i>Evita</i> - 1979 (55) "The Phantom of the Opera" - <i>Phantom of the Opera</i> - 1986 (56) "With One Look" - <i>Sunset Boulevard</i> - 1993	Ch. [36, 40]
	Mar. 3	Thurs.	Stephen Sondheim; Paper due "Send in the Clowns" - <i>A Little Night Music</i> - 1973 (52) "A Little Priest" - <i>Sweeney Todd</i> - 1979 (60) "Agony" - <i>Into the Woods</i> - 1987 "Agony" (reprise) - <i>Into the Woods</i> - 1987	Ch. [38]
Week 10	Mar. 8	Tues.	Stephen Sondheim—and Beyond; Show Questionnaire No. 2 due (61) Sondheim - "The Ballad of Booth" - <i>Assassins</i> - 1990 (62) Larson - "Santa Fe" - <i>Rent</i> – 1996 Schwartz - "What is This Feeling?" – <i>Wicked</i> – 2003	Ch. 43, 44
	Mar. 10	Thurs.	Schönberg and Boublil "Work Song" - <i>Les Misérables</i> - 1980 (57) "Castle on a Cloud" - <i>Les Misérables</i> - 1980 (58) "I Still Believe" - <i>Miss Saigon</i> – 1989	Ch. 41, 45
Finals	Mar. 17	Thurs.	<u>Final</u> – 4:00 - 7:00 PM (please bring back your Loaner CDs!)	