

# Summit High School Musical Theatre



Instructor: Mrs. Lara Okamoto  
Room: D127  
Office: D127  
Phone: (541) 355-4190  
Email: [lara.okamoto@bend.k12.or.us](mailto:lara.okamoto@bend.k12.or.us)  
Google Classroom: hylap5

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Musical Theatre is a semester long course that is part historical tour through musical theatre past, present and future as well as a skill building workshop in the triple threat aspects of theatre: acting, singing and dance. This course serves as a broad overview of the history, styles, works and artists of the musical theatre genre as well as a practical study in the development of the skills necessary for performing in musical theatre. Students will develop their acting, movement, voice and dance skills through a variety of genres and activities throughout the semester. The course concludes with a Musical Theatre Revue performance.

### Essential Questions:

1. What is musical theatre and what people and events have influenced the progression of musical theatre throughout the decades?
2. What does it mean to be a triple threat actor and why is it important?
3. What makes for a good musical theatre performance?
4. What is voice training and why is it important?
5. What dance styles are used in musical theatre?
6. How is acting for a musical different than a straight play?

## ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are largely performance based; however, there will be various written tasks including: music theory worksheets, journaling, critiques, quizzes and play analysis.

### Absences

Students with an excused absence will need to contact the teacher *prior to or the day of* the absence to find out what they are missing, turn in any due assignments upon return and schedule any makeup performances to be completed within a week's time. ***If student does not take these steps, the student may receive a "0" for assignments due and given on the day of the absence, even if excused.***

### Live Theatre Performances & Extra Credit

Students will be required to attend or participate in a musical theatre production during the course of the semester. Participation includes being part of the cast or crew for the production as well as an audience member. Students can simply attend the performance as an audience member. The class will organize several group outings during the semester to see local and regional musical theatre performances, but students can also fulfill this portion of the class on their own. The production must be high school level or above.

Extra Credit can be earned by going to an additional live musical theatrical performances. Local opportunities will be posted on the information board in the classroom. Students will be required to turn in a 2 page critique of the performance. Other extra credit opportunities might include workshops or tech days working on shows outside of class.

### **Late/Missing Work Policy**

For students with excused absences, assignments given before a student's absence must be turned in upon their return to classes, and performances must be performed or scheduled at a later date with the teacher immediately upon return. For assignments and performances assigned during the absence, the student has two days for every one day of absence to makeup the work. If a student has an unexcused absence, zeros will be given for participation points, assignments and performances due on that date. Late work will only be accepted on the class period following the due date for half credit.

## **UNITS OF STUDY**

### **UNIT 1: The Invention of the Musical**

- Introduction Minstrelsy & Vaudeville
- Spotlight: Gilbert & Sullivan
- Singing: Basics & Music Theory
- Dance Foundations: Ballet

### **UNIT 2: The Golden Age of Broadway**

- Spotlight: Rodgers & Hammerstein
- Spotlight: Hal Prince
- Dance Foundations: Tap
- Singing: Large Group Chorus

### **UNIT 3: Reinventing Broadway**

- Spotlight: Stephen Sondheim
- Spotlight: Bob Fosse
- Singing: Classical Solos
- Dance Foundations: Jazz

### **UNIT 4: Pop-Opera Broadway**

- Spotlight: Andrew Lloyd Webber
- Spotlight: Stephen Schwartz
- Singing: Pop Opera Duets
- Dance Foundations: Modern

### **UNIT 5: The Rock Musical**

- Spotlight: Tim Rice
- Spotlight: Along Came Disney
- Singing: Rock & Pop Solos
- Dance: Movement as choreography

### **UNIT 6: Modern Musicals**

- Spotlight: Tesori, Kitt/Yorkey, Miranda
- Singing: breakout exploration
- Dance: Hip-hop

### **MUSICAL THEATRE SHOWCASE FINAL**

**Thursday, January 24th @ 6 pm**