USC University of Southern California

MPVA 402 – Musical Theatre Workshop I (3-units)
Fall 2024 – Tuesdays/Thursdays 11:30am - 12:50pm
Location: Schoenfeld Symphonic Hall - AES138A
Instructor: Professor Daniel Lincoln
Office Hours: By appointment
Contact Info: dlincoln@usc.edu
Music Director / Pianist: Jung Hee An
Contact Info: jungan@usc.edu

Course Description
In this course, we will study and workshop the preparation, development, and performance of the Musical Theatre canon. We will focus on preparing Musical Theatre repertoire for solo auditions and Cabaret performance. MPVA 402 is the first of a series and should be followed by MPVA 412 Musical Theatre Workshop II in Spring semester.

Learning Objectives
Learning how to successfully execute both solo and ensemble repertoire is a vital part of performing Musical Theatre. In this course we will learn the first of these skills and workshop assigned "pocket" songs for success in presentation and performance.

Students will prepare, workshop and perform during class. All students are required to study, research, and analyze each character offered and memorize all music assigned before presenting in class.

The class will culminate in a public performance as a Final project.

Course Notes
This course is being offered in an in-person modality. Please be attentive to the class attendance policy found in this syllabus. Since this is largely a performance-based class, regular attendance is

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necessary. If a class must be missed for an emergency or excused absence, arrangements should be made with Professor Lincoln or your colleagues at a later date to learn of the activities during class.

Recommended Texts/Scores:

Repertoire will be assigned by Professor Lincoln. **Students should be prepared to present one song from the Musical Theatre repertoire (a 32-bar cut will be accepted) on the first day of class.** Be sure to choose a song that demonstrates your range and vocal ability. Song assignments will be determined based on the initial presentation.

Brightspace Online Learning Platform:

USC is making a change in our online learning platform, and we are now using Brightspace.

> **How to Log In**
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> > To access Brightspace today, follow these steps:
> >
> > 1.   Go to https://brightspace.usc.edu/d2l/login to login. You can also find Brightspace on myUSC.
> > 2.   Enter your USC Net ID to access
> > 3.   Begin navigating through Brightspace
> >
> > I also encourage you to download the mobile app, Brightspace Pulse, available in both the Apple App Store and Google Play.
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> **Support Resources**
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> > Do you want to learn more about Brightspace? Check out training and resources in the Brightspace Student Tutorials. Find technical support information below:
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> > -   **Student Guides:** Brightspace Student Guides
> > -   **Brightspace Technical Support Line:** 888-895-2812
> > -   **Brightspace Email Support:** usc@d2l.com

Supplemental Materials

Any supplemental readings or audio/visual content required for preparation of class repertoire will be emailed or uploaded to Brightspace.

Sharing of course materials outside of the learning environment

USC prohibits sharing of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment. Please do not share or otherwise distribute class materials, music scores or recordings produced by me or any students in the conduct of this course without expressed permission.

Description and Assessment of Assignments

Assignment	% of Grade
Attendance / Class Participation	15%
Class Performances	30%
Six Degrees of Stephen Sondheim	5%
Midterm: Observation Notes	15%
Final: Observation Notes	20%
Class Final: (Performance & Observation Notes)	15%
Total	**100%**

Class Performances: Over the course of the semester, each student will perform a minimum of 2 solo selections from Broadway musicals; one Golden Age / Traditional, and one Contemporary. For each performance, the student will:
- prepare a brief presentation on the historical context, development, and content of their assigned musical (25% of **Class Performances** grade)
- complete a song dossier of their assigned song (25% of **Class Performances** grade)
- prepare and perform their assigned song (25% of **Class Performances** grade)
  - For full credit, students must be "off book," meaning melody and lyrics are memorized, and the song is ready to be performed without holding sheet music
- participate in a masterclass-style work session (25% of **Class Performances** grade)

- For full credit, students must be open to feedback, and be willing to actively apply tools, methodology, and direction.

One song will be selected for the final performance.

Extensive research, preparation, and memorization are required before each class presentation.

Observation Notes: When not presenting, each student is required to take notes on the information presented by their colleagues about the musicals in question, as well as keep record of the work that was done during the masterclass-style work session. These notes will be submitted to Professor Lincoln as part of the midterm and final exam grades for the class.

Six Degrees of Stephen Sondheim: Students will be be periodically tasked with completing a round of the game "Six Degrees of Stephen Sondheim," a repertoire-finding exercise. When assigned, findings will be shared and discussed with the class.

Attendance/Class Participation: Each student is expected to be present in class whether or not they are performing on a given day. Participation in class discussion of each student's performance is vital to the class. In order for an absence to be excused, **the student is required to notify Professor Lincoln via email BEFORE the class that will be missed in order**. Each student is allowed **two excused absences** without penalty. Unexcused absences, or more than two excused absences may affect the student's "Attendance / Class Participation" grade for the semester.

Grading Breakdown

Course Schedule (subject to change)

Week #	Agenda
1	Course overview. Presentation of "First Day" songs. Song 1 assignments given.
2	Lectures: MT Foundational Concepts
3	Song 1 Presentations & Work Sessions
4	Song 1 Presentations & Work Sessions (cont)
5	Song 1 Presentations & Work Sessions (cont)
6	Song 1 Presentations & Work Sessions (cont)
7	Song 2 Presentations & Work Sessions
Midterm	Submit Observation Notes by Sunday Oct 13, 11:59pm

8	Song 2 Presentations & Work Sessions (cont)
9	Song 2 Presentations & Work Sessions (cont)
10	Song 2 Presentations & Work Sessions (cont)
11	Revisit Song 1 or 2 Work Sessions / potential Song 3 Presentations & Work
12	Revisit Song 1 or 2 Work Sessions / potential Song 3 Presentations & Work
13	Revisit Song 1 or 2 Work Sessions / potential Song 3 Presentations & Work
14	Revisit Song 1 or 2 Work Sessions / potential Song 3 Presentations & Work
15	Preparation for Class Final Performance Final: submit Observation Notes *(see below)*
FINAL	On the last day of class, each student will submit their Observation Notes for the semester; these notes will count for 50% of Class Final grade. Each student is required to perform a minimum of 1 song at the Class Final Performance, which will count for the remaining 50% of the Final grade. A minimum of 2 songs must be learned during the semester. Final Class Performance date may differ from the final exam schedule in the USC *Schedule of Classes* at classes.usc.edu.

Use of electronic devices

To promote an effective and respectful learning environment, for the full duration of each class meeting:

- All electronic devices must be silenced, and on (the equivalent of) "Airplane Mode"
- No electronic devices may be visible during class
- NO RECORDING (audio or video) of other people's work (including Prof. Lincoln)
- Students are encouraged to handwrite notes in a designated binder - or designated section of a binder - and bring them to each class session for reference.

The only exceptions to this policy are limited to:

Personal Performance Recording: Students may audio record their own performance and work sessions, to be used for their own exclusive reference.

Accessibility Accommodation: In the event that the student requires the use of an electronic devices for accessibility accommodations, the student is required to provide written documentation of the approved accommodation from the appropriate university office or department.

Family (or other) Emergency: In the event that a specific emergency situation exists where the student must be immediately reachable by someone outside of class, the student must **notify Prof. Lincoln in writing prior to the start of class**.

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, policy.usc.edu/research-and-scholarship-misconduct.

Other USC Technology Support Links
Blackboard help for students
Software available to USC Campus

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call
suicidepreventionlifeline.org
Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press "0" after hours – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity, Equal Opportunity and Title IX - (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298

eeotix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment *- (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298*

usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and micro-aggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services *- (213) 740-0776*

osas.usc.edu

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Campus Support and Intervention *- (213) 821-4710*

campussupport.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC *- (213) 740-2101*

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: *(213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call*

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

LiveSafe Mobile Safety App

TrojansAlert Emergency Notification System

USC Department of Public Safety *- UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-1200 – 24/7 on call*

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.

Thornton Emergency Services
Thornton Emergency Response Team: If evacuation or other actions are needed, members of the Thornton Emergency Response Team will provide verbal instructions. Thornton Business Continuity Team: Multi-channel messages will be sent to your phone, text, and email providing next steps in the case of an emergency or significant unexpected disruption to facilities or operations.