



# USC University of Southern California

**MUSC 200gmw:** The Broadway Musical: Reflections of American Diversity

**4 units**

**Fall 2024:** Tuesdays, and Thursdays 4:00 – 5:50pm

**Location:** THH 202

**Instructor:** Professor Daniel Lincoln

**Office Hours:** By request, via zoom

**Contact Info:** [dlincoln@usc.edu](mailto:dlincoln@usc.edu)

**Teaching Assistant:** Stephen Pitters

**TA Contact Info:** [pitters@usc.edu](mailto:pitters@usc.edu)

## Course Description

The Broadway Musical originated in the United States and is a uniquely American genre, incorporating music, (classical, jazz, blues, folk, Pop, rock, country, R&B, hip-hop, jukebox, etc.), literature, and dance. In completing the required work, students will develop a deep understanding of issues related to diversity in the creative arts, particularly with reference to social and historical context and the evolution of the Musical Theatre art form. This course is appropriate for students with or without any musical or theatrical experience.

## Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Reflect on nuanced positions with respect to diversity and creativity in the Broadway Musical
- Write 1–2-page reflective papers
- Work in groups to create in-depth class presentations that focus on diversity issues in Broadway musicals
- Engage in a broader social dialogue/discussion about issues of diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion in Broadway musicals.
- Create a substantial written document that explores in depth the diversity issues reflected in Broadway musicals across the history of the art form.

Pre-requisite(s): NONE

Co-Requisite(s): NONE

Concurrent Enrollment: NONE

Recommended Preparation: NONE

## **Communication**

No video/audio recording during class.

## **Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required**

Students are expected to be able to generate PDFs and should be proficient in any technologies they wish to use for their class presentations.

## **USC Technology Rental Program**

If you need resources to successfully participate in your classes, such as a laptop or internet hotspot, you may be eligible for the university's equipment rental program. To apply, please submit an [USC Technology Rental Program Application](#).

## **USC Technology Support Links**

[Blackboard help for students](#)

[Software available to USC Campus](#)

## **Required Materials**

None

## **Brightspace Online Learning Platform:**

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

### **How to Log In**

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](#).

### **Support Resources**

Do you want to learn more about Brightspace? Check out training and resources in the [Brightspace Student Tutorials](#). Find technical support information below:

- **Student Guides:** [Brightspace Student Guides](#)
- **Brightspace Technical Support Line:** 888-895-2812
- **Brightspace Email Support:** [usc@d2l.com](mailto:usc@d2l.com)

## Description and Assessment of Assignments

**Reflection Papers:** Students will write and submit Reflection Papers during the semester and according to the course schedule (below). You may not submit a Reflection Paper on the same musical your group presented.

- **Submit on Brightspace.**
- See the Reflection Papers Document linked on Brightspace for a detailed description of the requirements for your Group Presentations.

**Group Presentation:** Group presentations are a major portion of student learning and grading in MUSC 200. Students will be placed into groups to learn and effectively present information about Broadway Musicals. **Group presentations will occur in class “LIVE”.**

- Slides for the presentation should be uploaded to the appropriate subfolder in the [Group Presentation Slides and Resources folder](#) by **11:59pm the night before your presentation.**
- **Students are required to watch and read the scripts of their assigned musicals.** Links to scripts and video recordings can be found in the Scripts and Recording Document linked on Brightspace.
- See the Presentations Document linked on Brightspace for a detailed description of the requirements for your Group Presentations.

**Presentation Proposal:** Each group will submit a detailed proposal for their presentation 1 week and 1 day (8 days) prior to their presentation date (i.e., if you present on a Tuesday, your proposal is due by 11:59pm Monday night of the previous week; if you present on a Thursday, your proposal is due by 11:59pm Wednesday night of the previous week). In particular, the proposal must make clear and identify the responsibilities of individual members of the group toward the final product.

- Follow the Proposal Template (provided in the Presentation Proposals Document linked on Brightspace).
- **To submit your proposal, one member from the group should upload it to Brightspace under the assignments tab.**
- See the Presentation Proposals Document linked on Brightspace for a detailed description of the requirements for your Presentation Proposals.

**In-Class Exercises:** During class meetings, students will form small groups to participate in exercises designed to delve deeper into course topics. Many of these exercises will culminate in the creation of a document which will be submitted in person. To account for potential absences, each student is automatically allowed to miss two in-class exercises

without penalty. **In the event that a student needs to miss more than two classes, the student must communicate with Professor Lincoln and TA Stephen Pitters via email prior to the start of class.**

*(If you have to miss a class that meets Tuesday at 4pm, your email must be time-stamped prior to Tuesday at 3:59pm... so if you know you are going to miss class, communicate this AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If your email is time-stamped as sent at 4pm or later, your absence from that day's in-class exercise will not be excused and you will receive a "0" for that class meeting's exercise).*

**Final Paper Proposal:** Students will submit a proposal for their Final Exam paper **due no later than 11:59pm on Monday, December 2** (the Monday of Week 15). See the Final Paper Proposal document linked on Brightspace for a detailed description of the requirements for your Final Paper Proposal.

**FINAL EXAM:** The Final for this class is a cumulative written paper **due no later than 6:30pm on Thursday December 12**. See the Final Paper document linked on Brightspace for a detailed description of the requirements for your Final Paper.

**\*\*\*ALL WORK MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE DEADLINE\*\*\***

### **Participation**

Students are expected to fully participate in class discussion and in their group work.

*(Continued on next page)*

## Grading Breakdown

Grading Rubric	
Assignment	% of Grade
In-Class Exercises	30
Reflections Papers (4) 5% each	20
Group Presentation Proposal	5
Group Presentation	20
Final Paper Proposal	5
Final Paper	20
<b>Total 100</b>	

### Grading Scale

This course is currently offered on a “letter grade” scale, as outlined below

Letter Grade	Points	Letter Grade	Points
A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

## Course-specific Policies (Assignment Submission, Grading Timeline, Late work, and Technology)

### Assignment Submission

- Reflection Papers, Presentation Proposals, Final Paper Proposals, and the Final Exam will be **submitted to Brightspace**. **Reflection Paper submissions need to be PDFs (not Word, not Pages, or other).**
- Group Presentations will occur “LIVE” in class AND should contain an element that will be posted to a Google class document.

**Late work:** Late work is not accepted. If you are struggling in any way, it is essential that you reach out immediately. Do not wait until you have already missed classes, assignments, or group work to address the issue. Early submissions are encouraged.

**Technology in the classroom**

No audio/video recording is allowed in the classroom.

**Attendance**

Attendance is expected at every class.

**Classroom norms**

No Zoom or class recording will be offered. Students are expected to come to class in person. In case of illness or unforeseen circumstances, contact TA Stephen Pitters.

**Course evaluation**

Students are expected to complete their course evaluations at the end of the semester with constructive feedback for the instructor, TA, and graders.

**Course Schedule:**

*(Subject to change)*

<b>Week #</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
1	8/27/24 Course Walkthru	8/29/24 MT Historical Context	
2	9/3/24 MT Historical Context (cont)	9/5/24 MT Historical Context (cont)	
3	9/10/24 Broadway Musicals: Elements and Process	9/12/24 Diversity Issues	9/15/24 Reflection Paper 1 (due by 11:59pm)
4	9/17/24 <i>Show Boat</i>	9/19/24 <i>Porgy and Bess</i>	
5	9/24/24 <i>Oklahoma!</i>	9/26/24 <i>Carousel</i>	

6	10/1/24 <i>West Side Story</i>	10/3/24 <i>Cabaret</i>	10/6/24 Reflection Paper 2 (due by 11:59pm)
7	10/8/24 <i>Chicago</i>	10/10/24 FALL RECESS	
8	10/15/24 <i>Sweeney Todd</i>	10/17/24 <i>Miss Saigon</i>	
9	10/22/24 <i>Rent</i>	10/24/24 <b>Group Presentations Begin:</b> <i>Ragtime</i>	10/27/24 Reflection Paper 3 (due by 11:59pm)
10	10/29/24 Presentation: <i>The Lion King</i>	10/31/24 Presentation: <i>Parade</i>	
11	11/5/24 Presentation: <i>Wicked</i>	11/7/24 Presentation: <i>The Color Purple</i>	
12	11/12/24 Presentation: <i>Fun Home</i>	11/14/24 Presentation: <i>Hamilton</i>	11/17/24 Reflection Paper 4 (due by 11:59pm)
13	11/19/24 Presentation: <i>Waitress</i>	11/21/24 Presentation: <i>Dear Evan Hansen</i>	
14	11/26/24 Presentation: <i>In the Heights</i>	11/28/24 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	THURSDAY
15	12/2/24 Final Paper Proposal (due by 11:59pm)	12/3/24 Final Paper Round-Tables	12/5/24 Final Paper Round-Tables
FINAL			12/12/24 Final Paper (due by 6:30pm)

### **University Attendance Policy:**

1. This course is being offered in an in-person modality. Deviations or exceptions will not be considered unless the instructor is presented with a directive from the offices of Student Health, Student Affairs, or OSAS.
2. Students are permitted a total of TWO (2) absences (excused or unexcused) for the entire semester without any grade penalty. (4 if the class meets twice per week). These absences may not include Test/Quiz or Presentation days.
3. In case of absence, it is your responsibility to find out about assignments and prepare accordingly. I encourage you to first contact a friend/colleague in the class to find out about any missed work to be made up following an absence. Students may also contact the instructor with questions. However, the instructor reserves the right to limit office-hour advising in the instance of excessive absences.
4. If a student must miss a Test/Quiz/Exam due to an emergency, proof of the absence (such as a doctor's note) may be required.
5. If you become persistently sick or have other personal problems that interfere with this course, please contact me so that we may address the situation together.
6. Each absence above the permitted number (excused or unexcused) will result in a 5% deduction in the course grade, e.g. 90% becomes 85%.
7. In the case of an official USC Athletic Event: an official letter from a representative of the USC team, etc., submitted at least one week in advance of the event.
8. In the case of religious observance: Notify me at least one week in advance of the holiday and preferably at the start of the semester.

### **Academic Integrity:**

The University of Southern California is foremost a learning community committed to fostering successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas. Academic misconduct is in contrast to the university's mission to educate students through a broad array of first-rank academic, professional, and extracurricular programs and includes any act of dishonesty in the submission of academic work (either in draft or final form).

This course will follow the expectations for academic integrity as stated in the USC Student Handbook. All students are expected to submit assignments that are original work and prepared specifically for the course/section in this academic term. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s). Students suspected of engaging in academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.



Other violations of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

Academic dishonesty has a far-reaching impact and is considered a serious offense against the university. Violations will result in a grade penalty, such as a failing grade on the assignment or in the course, and disciplinary action from the university itself, such as suspension or even expulsion.

For more information about academic integrity see the student handbook or the Office of Academic Integrity's website, and university policies on Research and Scholarship Misconduct.

Please ask your instructor if you are unsure what constitutes unauthorized assistance on an exam or assignment or what information requires citation and/or attribution.

**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](http://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on [Research and Scholarship Misconduct](#). If found responsible for an academic violation, students may be assigned university outcomes, such as suspension or expulsion from the university, and grade penalties, such as an "F" grade on the assignment, exam, or in the course.

**Use of Artificial Intelligence:** Text generated from AI, machine learning, or similar algorithmic tools cannot be used in course papers. Presenting AI-generated content as your own creation in this course will be considered **plagiarism**. However, students are encouraged to explore the use of AI as a research tool.

- It is each student's responsibility to assess the validity and applicability of any AI output; if you provide minimum-effort prompts, you will get low-quality results.
- Proceed with caution when using AI tools and do not assume the information provided is accurate or trustworthy. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that presentation and written assignments are based on peer-reviewed, fact-checked, third-party sources.

## **Course Content Distribution and Synchronous Session Recordings Policies**

USC has policies that prohibit recording and distribution of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment.

Recording a university class without the express permission of the instructor and announcement to the class, or unless conducted pursuant to an Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) accommodation. Recording can inhibit free discussion in the future, and thus infringe on the academic freedom of other students as well as the instructor. ([Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook](#), page 13).

Distribution or use of notes, recordings, exams, or other intellectual property, based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study is forbidden. This includes but is not limited to providing materials for distribution by services publishing course materials. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relation to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the internet, or via any other media. Distributing course material without the instructor's permission will be presumed to be an intentional act to facilitate or enable academic dishonesty and is strictly prohibited. ([Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook](#), page 13).

## **Statement on University Academic and Support Systems**

### **Students and Disability Accommodations:**

USC welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. [The Office of Student Accessibility Services](#) (OSAS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter disability-related barriers. Once a student has completed the OSAS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and accommodations are determined to be reasonable and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be available to generate for each course. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at [osas.usc.edu](https://osas.usc.edu). You may contact OSAS at (213) 740-0776 or via email at [osasfrontdesk@usc.edu](mailto:osasfrontdesk@usc.edu).

### **Student Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress:**

To be eligible for certain kinds of financial aid, students are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward their degree objectives. Visit the [Financial Aid Office webpage](#) for [undergraduate](#)- and [graduate-level](#) SAP eligibility requirements and the appeals process.

## **Support Systems:**

[\*Counseling and Mental Health\*](#) - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

[\*988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline\*](#) - 988 for both calls and text messages – 24/7 on call

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline consists of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. The new, shorter phone number makes it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services (though the previous 1 (800) 273-8255 number will continue to function indefinitely) and represents a continued commitment to those in crisis.

[\*Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services \(RSVP\)\*](#) - (213) 740-9355(WELL) – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender- and power-based harm (including sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking).

[\*Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX \(EEO-TIX\)\*](#) - (213) 740-5086

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) 740-2500

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

[\*The Office of Student Accessibility Services \(OSAS\)\*](#) - (213) 740-0776

OSAS ensures equal access for students with disabilities through providing academic accommodations and auxiliary aids in accordance with federal laws and university policy.

[\*USC Campus Support and Intervention\*](#) - (213) 740-0411

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

[Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) - (213) 740-2101

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

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.

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

Non-emergency assistance or information.

[Office of the Ombuds](#) - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)

A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

[Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice](#) - (323) 442-2850 or [otfp@med.usc.edu](mailto:otfp@med.usc.edu)

Confidential Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.