



Musical Theater Department Statement of Philosophy

SPCPA's Musical Theatre Department offers students training for the aspiring musical theatre artist. Using a wide variety of techniques and approaches, students are guided in their education by working artists who help them realize their potential. SPCPA's training is modeled on college-level BFA theatre programs, and as such, graduates from our Musical Theatre Department transition easily into arts programs at post-secondary institutions. Using critical exploration, creativity and rigorous study, students examine the world around them and develop their own artistic voice.

Curriculum

The four-year curriculum at SPCPA immerses students in a variety of techniques and styles pertaining to dancing, acting and singing, as well as studies of dramatic literature and the collaborative process.

The first two years of the program the students move through a progression of foundational courses in acting, movement, dance (ballet, tap, jazz), singing/speech, and Theater/Musical Theater History. In their Junior and Senior years, students refine their skills and delve deeper into techniques while combining their knowledge of acting, singing and dancing in full scenes and shows.

Throughout all 4 years, Musical Theater students will have many opportunities to hone their skills in live performances such as showcases, workshops, auditions, concerts, J-Term and Juries.

The following is a current curriculum.
Specific classes are subject to change

Freshman Year

Dance Technique (1 Semester)

Fundamental ballet, tap and jazz vocabulary: Early American dance styles and social dances.

Movement (1 Semester)

Alignment and basic facility

Singing (1 Semester)

Ensemble singing: warm-ups, exercises and musical theater repertoire. Students develop a healthy vocal foundation for the study of singing techniques for the theater.

Voice (1 Semester)

Introduction to voice and speech through the knowledge of vocal anatomy and the production of sound.

Acting

Intro to Scene Study: Contemporary Drama (1 Semester)

Intro to Monologues: Contemporary Drama (1 Semester)



Theater Studies

Theater/Musical Theater History (1 Semester)

Music Theory: Note reading, sight singing and basic piano skills (1 Semester)

Example Electives (2 Semesters)

Intro to Theater

Ensemble Singing in Contemporary Theater

Text Analysis

Improvisation

Stretch and Strength

Sophomore Year

Dance Technique (1 Semester)

Continued exploration of ballet, tap and jazz vocabulary: Golden Age Musical Theater dance styles and mid-century American social dances

Movement (1 Semester)

Physical integration of text: Collaboration and Improvisation

Singing (1 Semester)

Continued exploration of singing techniques: Solo singing

Voice (1 Semester)

Continued exploration of voice and speech: Verse and Shakespeare

Acting

Continued exploration of scene study: American Realism (1 Semester)

Introduction of Play Workshop: American Realism (1 Semester)

Theater Studies

Theater/Musical Theater History (1 Semester)

Introduction to Contemporary Women Playwrights and Librettists (1 Semester)

Example Electives (2 Semesters)

Playwriting

Composition

Text and Movement

Health and Wellness



Junior Year

Dance Technique (1 Semester)

Exploration of Traditional Musical Theater Dance styles and choreographers (Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Tap)

Repertoire (1 Semester)

Song into Dance: Traditional Musical Theater canon with performance

Musical Theater Scene study (1 Semester)

Scene into Song: Traditional Musical Theater canon.

Student Directed Musicals (1 Semester)

Working with a Senior student director, creating a whole musical show for performance. (Vocal Rehearsals)

Classical Acting: Shakespeare (1 Semester)

Student Directed Musicals (1 Semester)

Working with a Senior student director, creating a whole musical show for performance. (Acting Rehearsals)

Theater Studies (2 Semesters)

Aesthetics

Theater for Social Change

Example Electives (2 Semesters)

Intergenerational Theater

Business of Acting

Stage Make-up

Advanced Improv

Singing Aerobics

Master Classes

LGBTQ Theater

Senior Year

Dance Technique (1 Semester)

Exploration of Modern Musical Theater Dance styles and choreographers (Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Tap, Hip Hop, Dance "Of the Moment")

Repertoire (1 Semester)

Song into Dance: Modern Musical Theater Dance canon for performance



Cabaret (1 Semester)

Exploration of Musical Theater songs and monologues to create a Cabaret performance

Student Directed Musicals (1 Semester)

Student Directed shows with performance (Vocal Rehearsals)

MT Scene Study: Scene into Song: Modern Psycho-Drama/Concept Musical (1 Semester)

Student Directed Musicals (1 Semester)

Student Directed shows with performance (Acting Rehearsals)

Theater Studies

Directing for Musical Theater

Physical Theater: High Comedy

Example Electives (2 Semesters)

Intergenerational Theater

Business of Acting

Stage Make-up

Advanced Improv

Singing Aerobics

Master Classes

LGBTQ Theater