Minnesota State University, Mankato

Curriculum Proposal

Please type or select the requested information. Print completed forms, add appropriate paper attachments, and route through MSU's curricular process for recommendations and decisions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College: Arts and Humanities</th>
<th>Proposal #: 45</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department: Theatre and Dance</td>
<td>Effective Date of Change:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program:</td>
<td>(For Office Use Only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type of Change: COURSE PROPOSALS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed: New Course</td>
<td>Course Designator: THEA 212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Current:</td>
<td>Number of Credits: 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Proposed: Music Skills for Theatre I</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-Char. Abbrev: Mus.Skil Thea. I</td>
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Include a course or program description for the Bulletin (30-40 words maximum for courses, 100 for programs):

A group instruction course covering fundamental music theory and skills applicable to the theatre artist including the study of music notation, style, harmony and literature. Skills learned will include basic keyboarding, sight reading and sight singing music.

Rationale or Justification for change:
(see attached)

***For General Education or Cultural Diversity Courses Only***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GE Category #</th>
<th>GE Category Name (Maximum of 3 Categories)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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</table>

For Writing Intensive Courses, attach a description of the kind and quantity of writing.

For Upper Division Courses, include a description of the respects in which it is broad and general rather than narrow and specific, and so suitable as GE.

Attach paper copies of the following:

a. Syllabus or course outline.

b. Course's student learning outcomes associated with each GE competency or CD designation.

c. List of strategies to be used to assess students' achievement of each GE competency or CD designation.

***For New Courses***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructional Type: Lecture/Lab</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grading Format: Grade P/N</td>
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</table>

Course will be offered:
- Fall Semester
- Spring Semester
- Summer Session

Course content or title is similar to courses in other departments. (Attach copy of letter of agreement with other program(s) contacted. Indicate the nature of the discussions and/or resolution of differences or potential conflicts.)

Attach paper copies of the following:

a. Syllabus or course outline.

b. Course's student learning outcomes.

c. A list of resources required to offer and support this course.

d. A description of how teaching this course will affect department staffing.

e. If 400/500 level course, an explanation of added expectations of graduate students.

Revised September 2002
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Curriculum Proposal

***Signature Page***

**Department**
- Recommended (Category/ies______________)
- Not Recommended (Category/ies______________)

Comments:

**College Curriculum Committee**
- Recommended (Category/ies______________)
- Not Recommended (Category/ies______________)

Comments:

**College Dean**
- Recommended (Category/ies______________)
- Not Recommended (Category/ies______________)

Comments:

**General Education Subcommittee**
- Recommended (Category/ies______________)
- Not Recommended (Category/ies______________)

Comments:

**Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee**
- Recommended (Category/ies______________)
- Not Recommended (Category/ies______________)

Comments:

**Faculty Association Graduate Committee**
- Recommended
- Not Recommended

Comments:

**Graduate Dean**
- Recommended
- Not Recommended

Comments:

**Academic Affairs Council**
- Recommended (Category/ies______________)
- Not Recommended (Category/ies______________)

Comments:

**Senior Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs**
- Approved (Category/ies______________)
- Not Approved (Category/ies______________)

Comments:

Date: 11/20/07

Revised September 2002
DEPARTMENT OF THEATER AND DANCE
New Course Proposal

THEA 212: Music Skills for Theatre I

Rationale
With the inception of the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Music Theatre in 2005, we began to require that new majors take the fundamental music theory sequence in the Department of Music, namely: MUS 131 Music Theory I, MUS 132 Music Theory II, MUS 133 Aural Skills I and MUS 134 Aural Skills II. We knew this would be a challenge for our students because: 1. The degree was approved at 84 hours for the major, an extraordinary amount, including the above mentioned 8 credits; and 2. It might cause an inter-department scheduling difficulty given the nature of the other required courses in the major.

Now that we have “lived” with this requirement we have concluded two things. First and most importantly, the content in the 8-credit music sequence is considerably more advanced than that needed for a non-music major and, second, the scheduling difficulties were as complicated as we anticipated.

In addition, we have now been able to hire a Music Director for the Theatre and Dance Department who has the skills and the knowledge to tailor these classes “down” to our specific needs.

Therefore, we have devised a specialized curriculum to deal with the specific kinds of skills that a typical theatre professional would need in dealing with the musical theatre genre.

a. See attached Course Outline

b. Learning Outcomes: Students will . . .
1. Be able to recognize various aspects of fundamental music theory, including the basic forms of music notation.
2. Be able to recognize and utilize expanded harmonies used by 20th and 21st century musical theater composers such as Sondheim, Yeston, and Schwartz.
3. Learn how to use a piano as a tool to help themselves learn solo music and choral pieces. This will include playing warm-ups and melody lines of songs and choral pieces on the piano, as well as learning to teach others the same techniques.
4. Learn how to read rhythms, melodies, lead sheets, and combinations of the three in order to “find” their way around a keyboard.

5. Learn how to sight sing a melody without the help of a keyboard so that they can learn new songs with limited resources.

6. Enhance their overall musicality. They will be able to take pride in understanding how their particular instrument, their voice, is working within the framework of the pieces they are learning.

c. No new resources will be required.

d. No new staffing will be required.

e. Not applicable
July 27, 2007

To whom it may concern:

Dr. Paul Hustoles, Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, has asked me to write a letter in support of curricular changes that are being proposed for the BFA in Musical Theatre.

Those changes include:

- Dropping four courses taught in the Department of Music, and replacing them with two new courses (Theatre 212 and 213).
- Adding four credits of Private Voice for Actors

The Department of Music supports the Department of Theatre and Dance in this curricular change. We assisted in the development of their new courses (Musical Skills for Theatre I and II), and believe that these courses are much more closely tailored to the needs of their program than the classes offered in the Department of Music. The new course, 311-Private Voice for the Actor, deals with techniques specifically appropriate to dramatic productions, and, again, fits the needs of their program.

We support these proposals.

John E. Lindberg
Chair, Department of Music
Department of Theater and Dance  
Minnesota State University

Course: THEA 212 Music Skills for Theatre I

Course Description:
Music Skills for Theatre I is a group instruction course covering the various aspects of music theory as it specifically relates to the theatre stage musical performer. This course will touch on subjects from the earliest forms of music notation and performance to the use of expanded harmony used by 20th and 21st century musical theater composers such as Sondheim, Yeston, and Schwartz. Students will be required to listen to many genres of musical theatre in order to further enhance the many concepts they will be studying in class.

Students will learn how to use a piano as a tool to help themselves learn solos and choral pieces. This will include playing warm-ups and melody lines of songs and choral pieces on the piano, as well as learning to teach others the same techniques. Students will learn how to read rhythms, melodies, lead sheets and combinations of the three in order to help the students “find” their way around a keyboard. This will allow the students to teach themselves new music in a short period of time.

Students will learn how to sight sing a melody without the help of a keyboard so that they can learn new songs and choral parts with limited resources. Finally, students will enhance their overall musicality. If they understand how and why music is constructed, they will perform as smarter musicians. They will be able to take pride in understanding how their particular instrument, their voice, is working within the framework of the pieces they are learning.

Required Text:
TBA

Class Requirements:
1. Attend class.
2. Read the required material.
3. Listen to all required pieces.
4. Participate in the discussions.
5. Prepare a final project
6. Take four exams.

Grading:
Participation, including:
- Attendance
- Quizzes
- Reading/Homework
- Discussion 30%
Final Presentation 20%
Exams 50%
Calendar (Subject to Change):

Week
1. Introduction: find out what they know
2. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
3. Rhythm
4. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
5. Scales-Major
6. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
7. Scales-Minor
8. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
9. Intervals
10. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
11. Triads
12. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
13. Seventh Chorcs
14. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
15. Harmony/Melody
16. Sight Singing/Piano Lab
B. Academics

8. Official Curriculum action:
   a. Number changes—Students need to take 40 credits at the 300/400 level. To help with this the following changes will be made.
      i. THEA 200 to 315—Careers in Theatre
      ii. THEA 211 to 410—Musical Theatre Acting I
      iii. THEA 281 to 381—Play Analysis
   b. Credit Change:
      i. THEA 311 from 0 to 1 credit
   c. New Music Skills classes:
      i. THEA 212 Music Skills for Theatre I
      ii. THEA 213 Music Skills for Theatre II
   d. BFA in Musical Theatre adjustment—distributed.

All of the above were approved.