

HL333/3033 The World of Musicals and Intercultural Theatre

Class meets: T 2:30-5:30

Class Location: LHS-TR+38

Instructor: Hyunjung Lee

Office: HSS-03-70, Office Hours: By appointments (please email to set up date/time)

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Description:

Moving beyond performance as an art genre, this course examines how some of the world-widely well-known and commercially successful musical theatres of our time such as *Sound of Music* and *West Side Story* are shaped and forged by various socio-cultural values, memories, and the demands of global cultural market and social institutions. We will also be looking at the intersection between interculturality and theatre through various geographical movements of performances (via tours, varying spectatorship, cultural/linguistic adaptation, issues of race/cultural/ethnicity in performance, etc.) and through generic cross-overs (border-crossings between novels, short stories, operas, films, etc.). As we engage in the performance scripts, music, and the movie versions of these performances, the students will further explore how theatre builds connections within the live, immediate productions of knowledge, desires, images, and gesticulations. **The course is open to students of all levels who are interested in musicals and theatre (prior exposure to this genre/topic not necessary).**

Course Outline:

NOTE: All readings available @ NTU Learn. Students are required to read, and digest the assigned readings before coming to class.

Week 1: Introduction, explain syllabus and course policy

Week 2: George Gershwin, *Porgy and Bess*

Week 3: Dale Wasserman, *Man of La Mancha*

Week 4: Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe, *My Fair Lady* (Adapted from Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*)

Week 5: Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein, *The Sound of Music*

Week 6: Stephen Sondheim and Leonard Bernstein, *West Side Story* (Adapted from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*)

Week 7: In-Class film screening: Frank Loesser, *Guys and Dolls*

Week 8: RECESS

Week 9: CLASS CANCELLED DUE TO MY LECTURE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND URBAN STUDIES (HU9001)

Week 10: James Rado, Gerome Ragni, and Galt MacDermot, *Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical*

Week 11: Jonathan Larson, *Rent*

Week 12: Intercultural Theatre: On Asian Shakespeare

Week 13: Review & Exam Preparation

Student Assessment

1. Class Participation: 20% (various in-class activities, details TBA)
2. Term paper: 30%
3. Final Exam: 50%