

**A - New Course Proposal V. 7.2022 : Entry # 2914****DEAN Decision**

Approved

**Date**

09/12/2023

**Is this course intracollegiate or intercollegiate?**

Intracollegiate

**GEC Decision**

Approved

**Date**

09/22/2023

**APIRC Decision**

Approved

**Date**

10/20/2023

**Begin Form****Today's Date**

09/11/2023

**Your Name:**

Jesse Galas

**Your Email:**[jgalas@highpoint.edu](mailto:jgalas@highpoint.edu)**Are you a Department Chair?**

No

**Department Chair Name**

Doug Brown

**Email address of your Department Chair**[dbrown@highpoint.edu](mailto:dbrown@highpoint.edu)**By checking below, I certify that my department chair has seen and approved the new course that I am proposing.**

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Yes

**Please select the appropriate school overseeing this proposal:**

Arts &amp; Design

**Which semester is this course to be taught for the first time?**

Fall 2024

**Information for the Registrar****Choose the department designator from the list below.**

DIS

**Proposed Course Number?**

1000

**Is this course cross listed?**

No

**Does this course replace a current course?**

No

**What is the title of the new course?**

Musical Theater for Social Change

**Write the catalog description of your proposed course:**

This course explores the myriad ways that the American Musical reflects, challenges and inspires American culture sociologically from inception to the present day. The student will work solo and in groups to define and identify the musical's influence on issues of social justice in American culture; specifically in gender, race/ethnicity, disability, class, and ideology. The students will achieve this objective through reading, discussion, viewing of selected musicals, and presentations, which will culminate in the creation of a pitch of their group musical reflecting social justice to the class.

**How many credit hours will this course be?**

4

**How will the course be graded?**

Letter grade

**Please select the course repeat option for this course:**

Not repeatable for credit

**What is the offering cycle for this course?**

Fall semester

**A - New Course Proposal V. 7.2022 : Entry # 2914****Does your course have any prerequisites?**

No

**Gen Ed and Academic Programs****Is this course part of Gen Ed?**

- Yes

**Does your course count in the general education core (one of the core classes that cannot be double-dipped in your major or minor)?**

Intellectual Discovery

**Will this course be team-taught?**

No

**Does this course count towards a major or a minor?**

No, it does not count toward any particular major or minor

**Is this course part of an academic program?**

- This course does not fulfill academic program requirements

**Does this course include any community engagement?**

No

**Does this course participate in the GoGlobal Program?**

No

**Information for Curriculum Review****Rationale and evidence for new course's consistency with departmental mission:**

This Intellectual Discovery course, Musical Theater for Social Change, seeks to fulfill the mission of the Department of Theater and Dance by inspiring curiosity and empathy in practitioners of the craft of musical theater and audience members alike. This course seeks to elevate the experience of the musical beyond mere entertainment to a vehicle for social awareness, connectivity, and change. Our mission emphasizes a collaborative philosophy and the fostering of new work, and this course promotes both of these essential life skills, culminating in a final group pitch of a new musical for social change.

**List all student learning outcomes for this course.**

LEARNING OUTCOMES and LIFE SKILLS LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course fulfills the university general education requirement for Intellectual Discovery courses, requiring students to:

Intra & Interpersonal Skills #2: To foster a constructive team climate through polite communication, a positive and confident attitude, and helpfulness.

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- LO#1: Student will participate in verbal and written discussions of musicals through the lens of each issue of social justice.
- LO#2: Students will work together to present group projects on a facet of social justice.

Intra & Interpersonal Skills #4: To demonstrate emotional intelligence, a growth mindset, and resilience while addressing challenges and when facing new opportunities.

- LO#1: Students may find previously held theories on the social impact of the American musical to be outdated or incorrect and will learn to embrace constructive criticism that leads to growth.
- LO#2: Students will have exposure to musicals about a variety of what may be uncomfortable topics and will learn to balance both their lived experience and the lived experiences of their classmates.

Integrative Learning #1: To connect concepts, theories, and frameworks of fields of study to life experiences, drawn from a variety of contexts (e.g., family life, creative endeavors, civic participation, work experience).

- LO#1: Students will connect how the basic structure of dramatic literature appears in their daily life and jargon.
- LO#2: Students will recognize how musicals as a whole have permeated American culture through a variety of examples and eras.

Integrative Learning #2 :To adapt and apply skills, abilities, theories, or methodologies acquired in one situation or discipline to new situations or problems.

- LO#1: Students will draw from a variety of their lived experiences by creating an outline for a new musical that addresses an issue of social justice that is meaningful for them.
- LO#2: Students will work in groups to develop not only the central themes of the piece, but will flesh out main characters, song topics and the greater metaphors of the piece.

**List any units or content areas that will be required for all sections of this course.**

Major issues of Social Change, including, but not limited to: Race, Gender, Class, Disability and Ideology.  
A sampling of the evolution of Musical Theater from early 1900's to the present day.

**List any assignments, tests, or other assessments that will be required for all sections of this course.**

Viewing of Selected Musicals  
Oral Presentation of student researched and selected Musical  
Group Project - Company proposal of New musical for Social Change

**List any readings or other materials that will be required for all sections of this course.**

Various musicals  
Textbooks  
Online resources

**If you would like to specify how requirements for contact hours must be met for all sections of this course, please indicate below. (e.g., if any experiential learning activities will replace seat time)**

N/A

**Is there anything else the reviewing parties should know about this new course proposal that hasn't been addressed?**

N/A

**Sample Syllabus**

- [DIS-0000-Musical-Theatre-for-Social-Change.docx](#)