

MUSICAL THEATRE

New Course Proposal

School: Laramie High School

Department: Music

Grade levels: 10-11-12

Prerequisite: None

Status: Elective

Projected class size: 15-25

Projected number of sections: One

Rationale for proposed course –

- What are the direct needs of the students?
 - Currently there is not a class offered in which the fundamentals of Musical Theatre (singing, acting, dancing/choreography/movement, directing, designing, and producing) are being taught. Also, LHS does not produce a musical production on a regular basis.
- Who are the target students?
 - There are many sorts of students who would benefit from this type of course – students who like to sing, but are not interested in choir classes; students who don't want to participate in Drama club, but are interested in Musical Theatre; students who are looking for other avenues to pursue their talents; students who are in choir but also want to participate in musicals; students in Drama club that are looking for additional performance opportunities; students who are looking for a place to discover and develop their talents in a safe environment and atmosphere.
- How will students benefit?
 - Laramie High School's Mission Statement is: *Laramie Senior High School prepares and empowers all students for success in an ever-changing world through a balanced offering of challenging, high quality educational opportunities.*
 - This course will **prepare** and **empower** students by:
 - Students will gain self-confidence in themselves
 - Students will work collaboratively on many class projects – including a musical production
 - Students will gain musical, theatrical and dance/movement skills
 - Students will experience the many aspects of both on-stage and back-stage production work, including: costume & make-up design, set design, producing (budgeting), publicity, public relations, etc.
 - Students will understand that connections that exist between art, music, dance, drama and culture in a historical and cultural context
 - This course will be challenging and high quality by:
 - Using all of the multiple intelligences that students possess; give them opportunities to be creative in their choices; regularly using all types of learning as outlined in Bloom's taxonomy; a variety of musical theatre styles will be studied, mastered, and performed for this course.
- Reason course should be considered?
 - As stated previously, LHS does not produce a large scale musical production on a regular basis. Students are eager to do more with the talents that they have. Students have a desire to develop more talents and to learn more things related to Musical Theatre.

Musical Theatre Course Description and Objectives:

This course is for the student that is interested in Musical Theatre – both on stage and “behind the scenes”. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Performances will be both in-class and “main-stage” productions.

- Students will obtain training and skills associated with Musical Theatre: singing, acting and movement/choreography, and use correct terminology and vocabulary in written and oral discussion.
- Students will achieve understanding of the historical, creative, artistic, and aesthetic aspects of musical theatre.
- Students will gain knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural impact of the musical theatre art form on society and culture.
- Students will achieve a professional and personal understanding of the arts through rehearsals, auditions, performances and presentations.

Musical Theatre Standards & Benchmarks; Assessment Methods

Strand 1 – Artistic Skills and Knowledge: <i>Creating, Performing, Producing</i>			
Content Standard	Topic	Concept	Objective & Evaluation
1. Demonstrates and applies personal responsibility standards in all aspects of Musical Theatre	Artistic Discipline	Personal responsibility and teamwork	The student will demonstrate and fulfill personal responsibilities in a Musical Theatre production.
2. Develops and analyzes definitions of musical theatre, theatre, and music	Definition of terms	Vocabulary	The student will use vocabulary to define and analyze musical theatre terminology
3. Lists and defines aspects of musical theatre including music, dance, song, story, and design.	Definition of terms	Vocabulary	The student will list and define selected aspects of musical theatre
4. Identifies and uses appropriate music, theatre, and musical theatre vocabulary and terms in class, rehearsals, and performances	Theatre terms	Vocabulary and Artistic Discipline	The student will use appropriate vocabulary for musical theatre in class, rehearsals and in performance.
5. Identifies and applies the dramatic elements (<i>plot, theme, character, language, spectacle</i>)	Definition of terms	Dramatic Elements	The student will identify and apply dramatic elements as applied to Musical Theatre.

and <i>music</i>)			
6. Identifies and applies the basic elements of music (<i>melody, expression, harmony, rhythm, and timbre</i>)	Definition of terms	Musical Elements	The student will identify and apply the basic elements of music as applied to Musical Theatre.
7. Identifies and explains the basic elements of dance as applied to musical theatre	Definition of terms	Dance Elements	The student will identify and explain the basic elements of dance as applied to Musical Theatre
8. Identifies and explains the role of director, technical designers, conductor, musical director and choreographer as applied to Musical Theatre.	Technical Theatre	Careers in Musical Theatre	The student will identify and explain the role of director, technical designers, conductor, musical director and choreographer as applied to Musical Theatre.
9. Analyzes the role of the accompanist and orchestra/band musician in Musical Theatre	Musical Direction	Theatre Instrumentalists	The student will explain the purposes and expectations of accompanist and orchestra members
10. Comprehends and analyzes the role of the technician/producer in musical theatre	Technical Theatre	Theatre Tech for Musicals	The student will analyze and explain the role of the technician/producer and manager in Musical Theatre
11. Identifies works of musical theatre and their creators	Musical Structure	Literature of Musical Theatre	The student will identify the productions of major playwrights, lyricists, and composers.
12. Analyzes the function of composer, lyricist, and “book” writer in musical theatre	Musical Structure	Writers of Musical Theatre	The student will explain the function of the composer, lyricist, and “book” writer in musical theatre.
13. Identifies and demonstrates correct vocal production (<i>singing techniques including: support, tonality, diction, blending, posture and projection</i>) as applied to Musical	Vocal Production (Singing)		The student will identify and demonstrate correct vocal techniques for Musical Theatre.

Theatre			
14. Identifies and discriminates soprano, alto, tenor and bass vocal lines	Musical Structure		The student will identify and discriminate among soprano, alto, tenor and bass vocal lines as applied to Musical Theatre.
15. Performs successfully in vocal (singing) presentation either as a solo, in a duet, or ensemble.	Vocal Presentation	Performance	The student will perform a musical presentation as a soloist, in a duet, or in an ensemble.
16. Lists and explains areas of technical production as applied to Musical Theatre	Technical Theatre		The student will identify and explain the specific technical requirements needed for a musical theatre presentation.
17. Evaluates the elements of technical theatre and design and their effects on actors, directors, and musicians.	Technical Theatre		The student will discuss the effects technical and design elements have on actors, directors, and musicians.
18. Applies collaborative skills in musical theatre activities and productions	Acting	Sensory Awareness	The student will collaborate with others in musical theatre presentations or activities
19. Recalls and uses past emotional and sensory experiences to create a character in musical theatre activities	Acting	Sensory Awareness	The student will create a character for musical theatre based on past emotions and sensory experiences
20. Applies observation, movement, and imagination to create a character in musical theatre activities	Acting	Sensory Awareness	The student will create a character for musical theatre based on observation, movement and imagination.
21. Applies movement techniques for character in musical theatre activities and performances	Acting	Body Characterization	The student will utilize movement techniques to develop a character.
22. Identifies and applies appropriate vocal (acting) techniques of pitch,	Acting	Vocal Production (Speaking)	The student will recognize and utilize the vocal (acting) elements to create a

rate, articulation, volume, intensity, projection, and support to create a character in musical theatre			character for musical theatre.
23. Creates a character based on social and emotional dimensions found in musical theatre, particularly in tune with classical musical theatre (e.g., the romantic lead)	Acting	Character Development	The student will develop a character for musical theatre based on the social and emotional dimensions of musical theatre characters.
24. Uses stage areas effectively in blocking and in accepting direction in musical theatre.	Acting	Stage Movement	The student will effectively use the nine areas of a stage for a musical theatre presentation.
25. Identifies and practices appropriate dance preparation and performance techniques as applied to musical theatre	Acting	Body Movement	The student will identify and use appropriate musical theatre dance preparations and performance techniques.
26. Comprehends and analyzes dramatic texts as basis for musical theatre presentation	Acting	Textual Analysis	The student will analyze dramatic texts as basis for musical theatre presentations.
27. Assesses and explains discipline, knowledge, skills, and education required for career preparation in musical theatre	Careers		The student will assess and explain discipline, skills, and education required for career preparation in musical theatre.
28. Locates and uses available resources for musical theatre activities and performances	Research and Resources		The student will identify and use available resources for the production of musical theatre.

Strand 2 – Connections			
Content Standard	Topic	Concept	Objective & Evaluation
1. Analyzes and explains similar	Other Arts		The student will analyze and explain similar,

themes, content, and elements among other art forms and musical theatre			themes, content, and elements among other art forms and musical theatre.
2. Uses elements of other academic disciplines to create musical theatre	Other Areas		The student will utilize other academic disciplines to create a musical theatre presentation.
3. Uses existing technology equipment and resources for musical theatre activities and performances	Technology		The student will use existing technology equipment and resources for musical theatre activities and performances.

Strand 3 – Critical Analysis and Aesthetic Understanding

Content Standard	Topic	Concept	Objective & Evaluation
1. Recognizes the role and responsibilities of the audience as an integral part of musical theatre	Audience		The student will discuss the role and responsibility of the audience as an integral part of musical theatre.

Strand 4 – Historical and Cultural Context

Content Standard	Topic	Concept	Objective & Evaluation
1. Identifies and reports on styles and terms of theatre, music, and dance as applied to musical theatre	Historical, Cultural, and Social Context	Styles and Themes of Musical Theatre	The student will identify and report on styles and themes of theatre, music, and dance as applied to musical theatre.
2. Analyzes and explains music, theatre, and dance from other cultures	Historical, Cultural, and Social Context	Other Cultures	The student will analyze and explain theatre, music, and dance from other cultures.
3. Recognizes and explains the influences of heritage, culture, and historical periods on musical theatre styles.	Heritage and Culture	Influences	The student will recognize and explain the influence of heritage, culture, and historical periods on musical theatre styles.
4. Defines and applies cultural and social elements to coordinate with			The student will define and apply cultural and social elements to coordinate with dance,

dance, musical, and theatrical style of musical theatre.			musical, and theatrical style of musical theatre.
5. Investigates and reports musical theatre styles and trends throughout history in a social and cultural context.		Styles and Trends	The student will investigate and report musical theatre styles and trends throughout history in a social and cultural context.