MUSICAL THEATRE: VOICE PRIMARY (B.F.A)

Program Overview
The musical theatre major at Rider prepares students for a professional career in musical theatre with veteran faculty and regular interface with top industry professionals. This program is provided in a nurturing liberal arts environment just one hour from New York City at Rider’s Lawrenceville campus.

The musical theatre program offers development of well-rounded, competitive musical theatre professionals. Rider’s professional musical theatre faculty members are committed to developing students’ talents and technique in all areas — vocal, dance and acting — preparing them to succeed in the highly competitive world of professional musical theatre. Rider musical theatre majors enjoy affordable, student-sponsored Broadway performance trips, special student discounts, class-related Broadway field-trips and backstage tours or just a quick visit via the nearby train.

Degree Offered
- B.F.A. in Musical Theatre (voice primary)

Contact
Ivan Fuller, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, School of Fine & Performing Arts
609-895-5630
ifuller@rider.edu

Program Website: www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/wca/sfpa/undergraduate/musical-the... (http://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/wca/sfpa/undergraduate/musical-theater)

Associated Department: Department of Theatre and Dance (http://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/westminster-college-of-the-arts/school-of-fine-performing-arts/undergraduate-programs/musical-theatre)

Related Programs
- Arts Administration (http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/westminster-college-arts/fine-performing-arts/majors-minors-certificates/arts-administration-ba)
- Dance (http://catalog.rider.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/westminster-college-arts/fine-performing-arts/majors-minors-certificates/dance-ba)
- Voice Performance (http://catalog.rider.edu/westminster-choir-college/program-course-descriptions/voice)

General Requirements
B.F.A.–Musical Theatre majors must earn a minimum grade of “B-” each semester in the primary applied music field in order to make satisfactory progress. If a grade of “C+” or lower is earned, the student must repeat the semester.

Students must meet attendance and performance requirements in studio performance classes and Musical Theatre Lab.

Applied Music – Voice Primary Study
Students in the B.F.A.-Musical Theatre degree must register for applied music in each semester of study, to a maximum of eight semesters. Six terms are taken under MUS 168A (2-credit, 1-hour lesson) and two semesters are taken under MUS 168B (1-credit, half-hour lesson). The section number corresponds to the instructor with whom the student will study.

Musical Theatre Lab
All majors are required to attend a weekly musical theatre lab during every semester of enrollment. The lab supplements curricular instruction with presentations by guest artists, managers, agents, and casting directors. This interface provides each student with an opportunity for interaction with some of the most important professionals in the musical theatre business.

Performing Opportunities at Rider University
The musical theatre program offers three fully staged productions led by faculty and experienced and notable directors, conductors and choreographers from the professional community. The Theatre and Dance Department also offers a well-established theatre program that provides additional performing opportunities in three major productions. Majors also are encouraged to participate in student-directed and produced events, presented each year on both campuses. The Voice Department at the Westminster campus offers two Opera Theater productions each year. All productions are open by audition to all Rider University students except first-semester freshmen. Consult the Musical Theatre Handbook for the Audition Policy.

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Theory, History, Technology

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<td>THE 105</td>
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<td>THE 115</td>
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Professional Studies: DANCE

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### Academic Plan of Study

The following educational plan is provided as a sample only. Rider students who do not declare a major during their freshman year; who change their major; or those who transfer to Rider may follow a different plan to ensure a timely graduation. Each student, with guidance from his or her academic advisor, will develop a personalized educational plan.

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Courses and Description

MTR 105 Musical Theatre Practicum 1 Credits
This course explores the literature of musical theatre vocal ensembles. It emphasizes examining a wide range of styles. This is a studio/academic class, not a performance ensemble.

MTR 109 Beginning Ballet I 1 Credits
This course introduces the basic elements of ballet technique. Technique is based on the five positions of the legs and feet, coupled with appropriate arm positions. The class consists of a basic ballet barre warm-up that includes stretching and developing strength and turn-out used in dance positions and combinations. Instruction includes jumping, turning, and connecting steps with movement. Ballet terminology is addressed.

MTR 110 Ballet II 1 Credits
Continuation of MTR 109, building upon techniques learned in that course. 
Prerequisite(s): MTR 109.

MTR 111 Musical Theatre Lab 0 Credits

MTR 112 Advanced Ballet I 1 Credits
Continuation of MTR 109, building upon techniques learned in that course.

MTR 113 Beginning Ballet II 1 Credits
Intermediate ballet, expanding upon Ballet I and concentrating upon the American lineage of ballet training.

MTR 114 Advanced Ballet II 1 Credits
Continuation of MTR 113. Intermediate ballet, expanding upon Ballet I and concentrating upon the American lineage of ballet training.

MTR 120 Hist of American Music Theater 3 Credits
The history of the American Musical from the first American production in 1750 of Gay's The Beggar's Opera up to the present will be traced. Emphasis will be placed upon those common elements which are solely intrinsic to the American stage. Developments and imported ideas (e.g., The British Invasion) will be highlighted.

MTR 131 Music Theory for MT 3 Credits
Teaches students to understand musical form, structure, melody, rhythm and harmony by applying these concepts to musical theatre literature. Includes full analysis of musical theatre songs. Required in the first year.

MTR 132 Group Piano I 1 Credits
Offers the musical theatre student appropriate keyboard technique to play any vocal part and to play a rudimentary accompaniment. Required of all second-year students.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 131.

MTR 133 Sight Singing for MT 3 Credits
Intensive class in reading music, designed for musical theatre students. Traditional solfeggio techniques used with musical theatre texts whenever possible. Required of first-year students.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 131.

MTR 207 Music Theater Vocal Coaching 3 Credits
Vocal coaching and repertoire preparation with a focus in developing the skill sets required to research and prepare music theater repertoire. Special emphasis is given to creating and maintaining the professional audition book. Open to music theater majors only.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 101.

MTR 209 Tap Dance I 1 Credits
Introduction to the basic elements of tap dancing. Tap technique is geared to enhance rhythm and motor skills, basic elements that will be used to connect several steps and movements into combinations. Other variations such as "soft shoe" or "clogging" are included.

MTR 210 Tap Dance II 1 Credits
Continuation of MTR 209. Combinations most often used in music theater productions are emphasized.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 209.

MTR 211 Ballet III 1 Credits
Intermediate ballet, expanding upon Ballet II and concentrating upon the American lineage of ballet training.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 110.

MTR 212 Ballet IV 1 Credits
Continuation of MTR 211. Intermediate ballet, expanding upon Ballet III and concentrating upon the American lineage of ballet training.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 211.

MTR 215 MT Performance: Song as Text 3 Credits
In this course the student will learn how to develop a performance of musical text by making doable, actable choices and applying those choices to musical monologues – solo songs.
Prerequisite(s): THE 110.

MTR 216 Acting for Music Theater I 3 Credits
This professional skills course, intended for music theater majors, builds upon the student's previous acting training. Through various exercises and activities (both individual and group), the student will begin to develop a clear method for preparation that addresses first their own instrument, and then (through various methods of analysis) the character and the play. Students will begin to utilize and apply the studied techniques and exercises to simple monologues and a scene. Behavioral truth will precede the more sophisticated studies of emotional truth.

MTR 217 Acting for Music Theater Major II 3 Credits
Continuation of MTR 216. Methods for preparation are expanded as students learn and experience techniques for exploring and developing characters. This semester will focus on the application of the skills and acting techniques studied in the first semester to the needs of dramatic and sung material. Students are expected to synthesize content and skills acquired in the Speech for the Actor, Body Awareness and Movement classes.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 216.
MTR 218 Musical Theatre Scene Study I 3 Credits
Scene study class exploring the literature of the musical theatre – emphasis placed on two- and three-character scenes. Required of all second-year students.
Prerequisite(s): THE 208.

MTR 219 Musical Theatre Scene Study II 3 Credits
Further exploration of scenes in the musical theatre literature – emphasis on more complex scenes. Required of all third-year students.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 218.

MTR 251 Styles and Genres I 3 Credits
Focuses teaching and learning on the ways in which musical and textual understanding inform the interpretation and performing of representative composers from the Standard, Classical, and Traditional periods of musical theater. Composers to be studied will include Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lerner and Loewe, Kern, Berlin, Gershwin, Porter, Arlen, Blitstein and Weill.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 218.

MTR 252 Styles and Genres II 3 Credits
Focuses teaching and learning on the ways in which musical and textual understanding inform the interpretation and performing of representative composers from the Contemporary (Non-Pop/Rock) period of music theater. Composers to be studied will include Sondheim, Styne, Kander and Ebb, Guettel, Matby and Shire, and Bernstein.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 111, MUS 111L, THE 107, MTR 216.

MTR 255 Musical Theatre Repertoire I 3 Credits
This course provides the opportunity to encounter/examine the repertoire of the major musical theatre writers through the 1950s. The thrust of this class is split between studio work and academic work.
Prerequisite(s): THE 106, THE 208.

MTR 256 Musical Theater Repertoire II 3 Credits
This course provides the opportunity to encounter/examine the repertoire of the major musical theatre writers since the 1950s. The thrust of this class is split between studio work and academic work.
Prerequisite(s): THE 106, THE 108.

MTR 307 Tap III I Credits
This course is designed for the moderately advanced tap dancer. Course to be taken in the fall.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 210.

MTR 308 Tap IV I Credits
The course will allow the more advanced student to complete the work begun in Tap III.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 307.

MTR 309 Beginning Jazz Dance I 1 Credits
Based upon the ballet foundation, this course explores the expressive style of jazz dance, and basic Western theatrical dance forms and social dances used most often on the stage.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 109.

MTR 310 Jazz Dance II 1 Credits
Continuation of work begun in MTR 309.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 309.

MTR 311 Jazz Dance III I Credits
This course continues the work begun in MTR 309 and 310.

MTR 315 Advanced Jazz Dance I I Credits
This course continues the work begun in MTR 309, MTR 310 and MTR 311.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 311.

MTR 313 Ballet V 1 Credits
Advanced ballet, expanding upon Ballet IV and concentrating upon the American lineage of ballet training. Inclusion of advanced combinations, physical development and coordination skills.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 212.

MTR 314 Ballet VI 1 Credits
Continuation of MTR 313. Advanced ballet, expanding upon Ballet IV and concentrating upon the American lineage of ballet training. Inclusion of advanced combinations, physical development and coordination skills.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 313.

MTR 315 Advanced Jazz Dance I I Credits
Continuation of work begun in MTR 309.

MTR 316 Beginning Jazz Dance II 1 Credits
This course continues the work begun in MTR 309 and 310.

MTR 317 MT Auditions:Preparation/Tech 3 Credits
This course, building upon skill-sets established in the Music Theatre singer-actor curriculum, will introduce and hone the required skill-sets for preparing to audition in Music Theatre. Genres and styles of music most often required for auditioning in the industry will be prepared and explored. An audition “book,” based upon the demands of the industry, as well as the most suitable material for each student will be built. When appropriate, guests from the industry will be invited to present master classes and evaluations in a “mock audition” process.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 207, MTR 216, MTR 217, MTR 492.

MTR 318 Advanced Jazz Dance II I Credits
This course continues the work begun in MTR 309, MTR 315 and MTR 316.

MTR 319 Jazz Dance III I Credits
This course continues the work begun in MTR 318.

MTR 320 Jazz Dance IV 1 Credits
This course continues the work begun in MTR 319.

MTR 335 Speech for the Actor 3 Credits
This course introduces and develops speech techniques, specifically in the areas of relaxation, posture and alignment, respiration, phonation, support, registration, resonance, and articulation. Students learn to consistently produce a free, resonant, fully supported speaking voice. Exercises will increase flexibility and range of speaking and will foster heightened responsiveness to feeling. Regular practice in the delivery of both impromptu and prepared monologues is required. This course includes studies in Neutral American Speech.

MTR 402 Directing Music Theater/Opera 3 Credits
This elective course investigates how conceptual ideas and the process of script analysis are used in putting together a music theatre production for performance. Instruction includes staging ideas and elements needed for a complete production. Other theatrical aspects of choreography, properties, costumes, lighting, and set design are addressed. It is recommended that students complete MTR 496 before taking MTR 402.
MTR 411 Musical Theatre Ensemble 1 Credits

MTR 415 Musical Theatre Dance I 1 Credits
First capstone course in the Musical Theatre dance sequence. Practical and historical study of Broadway dance styles; main focus on jazz idiom. Emphasizes placement on technique, performance quality, and auditioning skills.
Prerequisite(s): Completion of Ballet, Tap, and Jazz requirements; senior standing.

MTR 416 Musical Theatre Dance II 1 Credits
Second capstone course in the Musical Theatre dance sequence. Continuing study of Broadway dance styles. Emphasis is placed on technique, performance quality, and auditioning skills.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 416.

MTR 480 Dance for Performing Artist 3 Credits
This course is a culmination of the dance elements and forms studied in ballet, tap, and jazz dance. Context areas include movement used most often in performance of music theater and movement fundamentals applicable to all aspects of presentation and principle to refine and articulate the performer’s awareness and use of the body through singing and dance. Performance issues and movement as a basis for music and sound production are addressed.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 209, MTR 309.

MTR 490 Independent Research and Study 1-4 Credits
Students may pursue a special topic for which they have prepared through prior course work. Only one project may be scheduled in a semester. The project may involve 1-4 Credit hours. Approval of the faculty sponsor, department chair, and dean required prior to enrollment.
Prerequisite(s): junior or senior standing, good academic standing.

MTR 491 Internship in Music Theater 1-12 Credits
Provides junior or senior musical theatre majors with the opportunity to gain practical experience working within a professional environment. Students must be sponsored by a musical theatre or theatre professor. For each academic credit, interns must work 48 hours for the semester, or approximately 3.7 hours each week.
Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor.

MTR 492 Singing Actor: Music Theater 3 Credits
This semester combines all dramatic and musical studies to create an authentic and believable character that is both emotionally truthful and musically expressive. Music is studied as “script” and dramatic choices are prepared in relationship to all elements present in the score.
Prerequisite(s): MTR 216 and MTR 217.

MTR 493 Music Theater Production 1 Credits
Preparation and performance of a solo or ensemble role in a fully staged music theatre production. Concurrent participation in stage crew activities is required.

MTR 493T MTR Production (tech) 1 Credits

MTR 496 Music Theater Workshop 3 Credits
This class builds upon the foundational studies associated with preparation and exploration (both dramatic and musical), focuses on performances. Students are taught methods for synthesizing all former training in acting, music, and movement to the needs of the character and the play/score. Each student fully prepares at least two complete roles from the music theater repertoire. The class culminates in a performance of scenes—the Junior Cabaret!
Prerequisite(s): MTR 216, MTR 217, MTR 492.

MTR 511 Music Theater Ensemble 1 Credits
The performance-based, auditioned music theater ensemble engages multiple singers/actors/dancers in performance, utilizing scenes from music theater literature as the primary material. Emphasis is placed upon group interaction and building an ensemble. This ensemble often is asked to perform for University sponsored events.

MUS 001S Applied Voice Studio 0 Credits

MUS 105 Survey of Music History I 3 Credits
A chronological survey of Western music from the Medieval through the Baroque periods stressing the origin and evolution of musical forms, musical styles, and the important composers before 1750. The relation between the music and the aesthetic movements of each period is studied.

MUS 106 Survey of Music History II 3 Credits
A chronological survey of Western music from the classical through the contemporary periods stressing the origin and evolution of musical forms, musical styles, and the important composers since 1750. The relation between the music and the aesthetic movements of each period is studied.

MUS 109S Basic Music Theory 3 Credits
This is a beginner’s course in music theory. It familiarizes the student with the basic elements (e.g., staff, clefs, time signatures, musical notation, intervals, triads and chords). This course is ideal for both the student wanting to know only the essential, or the student wanting to go on to develop their theoretical skills. For non-music majors, MUS 109S counts toward graduation and grades are awarded on an A-F basis. For music majors, MUS 109S does not count toward graduation, and grading is on a pass (“Y”) or fail (“Z”) basis.

MUS 110 Music Theory I 3 Credits
A practical introduction to the basic elements of music, beginning with the reading of music notation. Practice in scales and chords; ear-training in rhythm and pitch. Techniques may be applied to the student’s own instrument (e.g., guitar, piano, winds) if he or she plays one. Prerequisite(s): MUS 109S or placement.
Corequisite(s): MUS 110L.

MUS 110L Music Theory I Lab 1 Credits
Dictation, aural skills training, sight singing, and keyboard skills to accompany MUS 110 (Music Theory I). Prerequisite(s): MUS 109S or placement.
Corequisite(s): MUS 110.

MUS 111 Music Theory II 3 Credits
Continuation of MUS 110, leading to some original composition. Prerequisite(s): MUS 110 and MUS 110L.
Corequisite(s): MUS 111L.

MUS 111L Music Theory II Lab 1 Credits
Dictation, aural skills training, sight singing, and keyboard skills to accompany MUS 111 (Music Theory II). Prerequisite(s): MUS 110 and MUS 110L or placement.
Corequisite(s): MUS 111.
MUS 113 Popular Music Theory I 3 Credits
Popular Music Theory I covers basic elements of music, including the reading of music notation in traditional formats as well as in audio wave form and in the visualization of standard Digital Audio Workstations. Practice in scales and chords, ear-training in rhythm, pitch, and timbre. Techniques may be applied to the student’s own instrument (e.g., guitar, piano, voice)
Corequisite(s): MUS 113L.

MUS 113L Popular Music Theory Lab I 1 Credits
Taken in conjunction with Popular Music Theory I, the lab applies theoretical concepts in a performance context. Applied aural training and improvisation skills on primary and secondary instruments.
Corequisite(s): MUS 113.

MUS 114 Popular Music Theory II 3 Credits
A continuation of Popular Music Theory I, progressing to intermediate elements of music, including the reading of music notation in traditional formats as well as in audio wave form and in the visualization of standard Digital Audio Workstations. Practice in scales and chords, ear-training in rhythm, pitch, and timbre. Techniques may be applied to the student’s own instrument (e.g., guitar, piano, voice).

MUS 114L Popular Music Theory Lab II 1 Credits
Taken in conjunction with Popular Music Theory II, the lab applies theoretical concepts in a performance context. Applied aural training and improvisation skills on primary and secondary instruments.

MUS 116 Digital DJing 3 Credits
Digital DJing is a three-week, software-based course that develops musical mixing skills for the purpose of creating the kinds of DJ sets one may play on the radio or at live events. Includes repertory building across several popular and dance genres.

MUS 120 Music and Society 3 Credits
Introduction to the basic elements of music (rhythm, melody, harmony, etc.) and the appreciation of representative types of music from all historical periods.

MUS 127 Instrumental Ensemble - Band 1 Credits
Ensemble rehearsal and performance of traditional and current concert band music. Maximum of eight credits are accepted in band, choir, and/or theater production.

MUS 128 Choir 1 Credits
Rehearsal and performance of multi-era Western and non-Western repertoire. Instruction in music fundamentals and vocal production. Pitch matching and part-singing abilities must be demonstrated in the first-week sectional hearing.

MUS 129 Contemporary Vocal Ensemble 1 Credits
The objective of the contemporary vocal ensemble course is to allow students to experience the aesthetics of popular music through the study, interpretation and performance of the music. Students will develop their ensemble skills, independent part singing, as they experience a wide range of popular music genres (jazz, pop, R&B, world, etc.) Students must pass an audition to participate in this course.

MUS 130 Music in Children’s Lives 3 Credits
Students in this course will study how music interacts in the lives of children as they sing, listen, play instruments and move. Song repertoire and selections for listening and moving from the American, European and non-Western cultures will be introduced. Playing recorder as well as pitched and non-pitched percussion instruments will be demonstrated.

MUS 131 Beginning Piano I 2 Credits
Class approach to learning to play the piano. How to read music, basic piano technique, and appropriate piano pieces and songs are studied.

MUS 132 Beginning Piano II 2 Credits
Continuation of MUS 131. Emphasis on further development of technique and the ability to interpret piano music from a variety of styles.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 131 or equivalent.

MUS 133 Class Voice I 2 Credits
Class approach to learning pop vocals. How to read music, basic vocal production technique and appropriate vocal pieces and songs are studied, especially in popular genres.

MUS 134 Class Voice II 2 Credits
Continuation of class approach to learning pop vocals started in Class Voice I. Intermediate vocal technique for popular music.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 133 or placement exam.

MUS 135 Class Guitar I 2 Credits
Class approach to learning to play the guitar. How to read tablature, basic guitar technique, and appropriate guitar pieces and songs are studied, especially in popular genres. Students must provide their own guitars; if electric, they should provide their own amps, too.

MUS 136 Class Guitar II 2 Credits
Continuation of class approach to learning to play the guitar started in Class Guitar I. Intermediate guitar technique for popular music. Students must provide their own guitars; if electric, they should provide their own amps, too.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 135 or placement exam.
television shows, anime, animated shorts including cartoons, and related
techniques that support musical form, including harmonic language, contrast/repetition, compositional process.

MUS 207 Masterworks in Music 3 Credits
Major works by great composers from different historical periods Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, and Wagner, among others are studied. Up to 10 compositions by six composers are covered, with an emphasis on listening to recorded and live performances of representative works.

MUS 208 Music of the Theater 3 Credits
A study of music drama both historical and contemporary covering European opera of the Baroque, classical and romantic periods, and the American musical theatre, especially the contemporary Broadway musical.

MUS 209 Great Composers 3 Credits
A study of selected major composers life, works, and historical significance with an emphasis on the listening experience. Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky, or others.

MUS 210 Music Theory III 3 Credits
Analysis of musical forms, including binary, rounded binary, ternary, and popular song. Identification of techniques that support musical form, including harmonic language, contrast/repetition, compositional process. Advanced sight singing and aural drills.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 111 and MUS 111L.

MUS 211 Music Theory for Music Theater 3 Credits
Analysis of music theater songs, scenes and scores. Various techniques, placement of examples into historical, musical, artistic, and literary perspective. Reading of full and piano/vocal scores, conducting, orchestration and harmonic language will be emphasized.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 111 and MUS 111L.

MUS 212 Cartoon and Anime Culture 3 Credits
This course investigates the music and culture of animated films and television shows, anime, animated shorts including cartoons, and related incidental music for documentary films.
MUS 213 Digital Comp of Pop Music I 3 Credits
This course is about “the doing of music”. It ties music theory to pragmatic concerns with keyboards and software in the making and distribution of music.

MUS 214 Writing about Music 3 Credits
This course instructs students in the art of writing about music, from small-form criticism to large scale scholarship, focusing especially on the ability to translate what one hears into engaging prose.
Prerequisite(s): CMP 120 and 125, MUS 110, 110L and 213.

MUS 215 Music & Techn/Mobile Society 3 Credits
This course compares the recent history of music technology to past innovations, focusing on the aesthetic implications and ideological influences of an increasingly mobilized musical milieu.

MUS 216 Digital Comp of Pop Music II 3 Credits
This course is about “the doing of music.” It ties music theory to pragmatic concerns with keyboards and software in the making and distribution of music, continuing the content begun in The Digital Composition of Popular Music I.

MUS 217 Black Music in America 3 Credits
This course covers the history of music made by and/or about African Americans, from minstrel shows to hip hop and everything in between.

MUS 218 Postmodernism & Populr Culture 3 Credits
This course considers music in light of the ideological trends of postmodernism in order to better understand contemporary music in its cultural context.

MUS 219 Pop Music Arranging I 3 Credits
The Pop Music Arranging I course is the first of a two-semester course sequence whose goal is to explore the fundamental arranging techniques for popular music styles. Students will learn to arrange popular music for the standard instrumentation found in a pop/rock ensemble (bass guitar, drumset, rhythm guitar, and keyboard). This course will develop comprehensive musicianship and fundamental arranging techniques, as well as develop skills as they relate to the software platforms Logic Pro X and Finale notation.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 110, MUS 110L.

MUS 220 Pop Songwriting I 3 Credits
The Songwriting I course is an introduction to songwriting in popular music styles. Students will learn to compose music by themselves and collaboratively. This course will develop comprehensive musicianship and compositional techniques, as well as learn to use the software platforms Logic Pro X and Finale notation.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 110, MUS 110L.

MUS 233 Intermediate Piano 3-12 Credits
Continuation of MUS 132 with further development of reading skills, piano techniques and interpretation. Each student studies a set of pieces selected together with the instructor tailored specifically to the students' needs and interests.

MUS 300 Beethoven and the Romantic Age 3 Credits
A study of the Romantic period with particular emphasis on Beethoven. The classical heritage, the transformation of that heritage into romantic terms, the prominent influence of Beethoven on 19th century musical style.

MUS 301 Skills Ensemble II 1 Credits
The Contemporary Performance Skills Ensemble II is a course whose focus is interactive musicianship, composition, ear training, transcription, and notation, for popular music studies majors. This course will require a higher level of musical ability, aptitude, and technical development than the Skills I Ensemble course. Students will develop proficiency in the following areas: • Developing ensemble skills • Preparing and rehearsing original compositions • Recognizing scales, intervals and chords • Harmonic, Melodic, and Rhythmic Transcription • Recognizing basic structural elements in different musical genres: Pop(Hip-Hop, R&B, Rock)/Jazz/Classical as well as understand their basic vernacular • Writing legible and clear musical scores (charts) • Improvisation.

MUS 302 Music Literature: Baroque Era 3 Credits
A survey of European musical styles from c. 1600 to 1750, approached by listening to the music of the period, including Bach, Handel, and many lesser known masters. Topics include the development of modern musical sound, instrumental forms, Lutheran and Catholic church music, and the beginnings of dramatic music.

MUS 303 Music Literature: Continental Era 3 Credits
A survey of European musical styles from 1750 to 1850, approached by listening to the music of the period, including Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn, and many lesser known masters. Topics include the development of modern musical sound, instrumental forms, and choral music from church, opera, and oratorio.

MUS 304 Music of the Beatles 3 Credits
This course is a very in-depth analysis of the music and personalities of the Beatles. The student will gain in depth insight to the Beatles songs and albums as the course proceeds through the music chronologically. This will be contextualized historically and sociologically where required.

MUS 305 Words and Music 3 Credits
This course examines the flexible and varied relationship between music and literature. Topics range from medieval and Renaissance vocal and instrumental music through the music of the 20th century, with emphasis on the relationship between text and music, and on the ways in which music and literature can inform and expand one another. Prerequisite(s): MUS 110, MUS 110L.

MUS 306 Contemp Music Experience 3 Credits
A survey of European and American musical styles of the late 19th and 20th centuries. Topics include postromantic music, neoclassicism, serialism, electronic music, and the current avant garde.

MUS 307 The Music of Radiohead 3 Credits
This course investigates the music, lyrics, art and marketing strategies of the British so called “alternative” band, Radiohead, moving song by song through their demos, videos and albums.

MUS 308 World Music 3 Credits
This course considers music in light of the ideological trends of postmodernism in order to better understand contemporary music in its cultural context.

MUS 309 Film Music 3 Credits
A study of music in feature film, documentary film, and television. A chronological survey of film music from silent to contemporary film, animated shorts, and television, with emphasis on listening to recorded performance of representative works.

MUS 310 Black Music in America 3 Credits
This course covers the history of music made by and/or about African Americans, from minstrel shows to hip hop and everything in between.

MUS 311 Digital Mixing and Mastering 3 Credits
Digital Mixing and Mastering is a practical skills class focusing on post-production skills in software interfaces. Students will learn how to work with multiple editing softwares and plug-in tools to achieve balanced, lively, professional mixes.
MUS 319 Pop Music Arranging II 3 Credits
The Pop Music Arranging II course is the terminal course of a two-
semester sequence whose goal is to explore the advanced arranging
techniques for popular music styles. Students will learn to arrange
popular music for the standard instrumentation found in a pop/rock
ensemble (bass guitar, drumset, rhythm guitar, and keyboard). This
course will develop comprehensive musicianship and advanced arranging
techniques, as well as develop advanced skills as they relate to the
utilization of the software platforms Logic Pro X and Finale notation.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 110, MUS 110L, MUS 219.

MUS 320 Pop Songwriting II 3 Credits
The Pop Songwriting II course is a continuation of the songwriting course
sequence whose goal is to explore advanced compositional techniques
for popular music styles. Students will learn to compose music by
themselves and collaboratively. This course will develop comprehensive
musicianship and advanced compositional techniques, as well as
develop advanced skills as they relate to the software platforms Logic
Pro X and Finale notation.
Prerequisite(s): MUS 110, MUS 110L, MUS 220.
MUS 495 Selected Topics in Music 3 Credits
Studies specialized aspects of the literature, history, or theory of music, to supplement the established curriculum. Emphasis on creative investigative work and individual experiences in music.

MUS 498 Popular Music Culture Capstone 3 Credits
The capstone is an independent, student-led project resulting in a material product (recording/performance/event/presentation) that demonstrates a student's interests and skills in the area of popular music.

MUS 499 Senior Honors Program 3 Credits
A senior honors program may be submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for graduation with honors in fine arts. Honors work is limited to those departmental majors with a GPA of 3.5 in fine arts courses and cognates. The program, planned under the direction of a faculty advisor, represents a culmination of demonstrated excellence in a specific area of fine arts. Candidates for honors in fine arts must be approved by the department chairperson and the faculty.

THE 105 Theatre History to 1700 3 Credits
The history of theater from the primitive time through the Baroque era. Examines major plays and playwrights, emphasizing the Greek, Roman, Medieval, and Elizabethan eras. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Disciplinary Perspectives element of the CLAS general education curriculum.

THE 106 Theater History Since 1700 3 Credits
The history of theater from the Restoration to the present. Examines major plays and playwrights, emphasizing the Restoration, Romantic, and Realistic movements. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Disciplinary Perspectives element of the CLAS general education curriculum.

THE 107 Acting I: Intro to Acting 3 Credits
Exercises and improvisations developing the fundamental prerequisites for the actor are provided. The emphasis is on vocal and physical mobility and the ability to communicate emotional states from the stage.

THE 108 Acting II: Scene Study 3 Credits
Basic acting techniques. Emphasis on the ingredients of any action: what am I doing, where, why, who am I, what is my attitude toward partner? Prerequisite(s): THE 107.

THE 110 Acting III: Improvisation 3 Credits
This class serves as a forum for students to cultivate practical professional skills. Through seminars, guest speakers and master classes, this lab will give the students necessary tools to enter the professional theater. Theater majors must meet the weekly attendance and participation requirements during every semester up to a total of six.

THE 115 Stagecraft I 3 Credits
The theory and practice of construction and rigging of stage scenery is offered. Emphasis is on actual productions and road show set-ups. One lecture and two labs per week.

THE 116 Stagecraft Practicum I 3 Credits
Work in the various shops and stages specializing in different areas such as carpentry, scenic painting, lighting and electrics, costumes and props, assisting main stage productions under the supervision of the design or technical staff. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 116 Stagecraft Practicum II 3 Credits
Preparation of props, costumes, and scenery for main stage productions under the supervision of the design or technical staff. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 117 Stagecraft Practicum III 3 Credits
Preparation of props, costumes, and scenery for main stage productions under the supervision of the design or technical staff. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 118 Visual Imagination 3 Credits
Introduction to the visual world of theater design. Visual examples, physical exercises and handcraft of composition and style, with dramatic input and meaning. The course explores how to translate ideas in a dramatic text into a visual context.

THE 120 Theater Appreciation 3 Credits
By exploration of dramatic literature, conclusions are drawn as to man's relationship to his particular period, style, political, social, and psychological environment. Appreciation of the theatrical event is included. This course counts towards the fulfillment of the Disciplinary Perspectives element of the CLAS general education curriculum.

THE 121 Theatre Production Tech 1 Credits
Students rehearse and perform roles in a play produced by the department and directed by a member of its faculty. Students may also prepare a major element of design or technology for the production. Maximum of eight credits are accepted in theatre production, band and/or choir.

THE 121T Theatre Production Tech 1 Credits
Preparation of props, costumes, and scenery for main stage productions under the supervision of the design or technical staff. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 122 Movement for the Actor 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to movement training methodologies, and emphasizes physical awareness and expressivity as it relates to development of character. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 123 Voice for the Actor 3 Credits
A general introduction to the voice for the actor and the acting process. Emphasis on the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the use of the IPA in learning dialects (including Standard Neutral American) for the stage. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 124 Acting Performance 1 Credits
Students rehearse and perform roles in a play produced by the department and directed by a member of its faculty. Students may also prepare a major element of design or technology for the production. Maximum of eight credits are accepted in theatre production, band and/or choir.

THE 124T Theatre Production Tech 1 Credits
Preparation of props, costumes, and scenery for main stage productions under the supervision of the design or technical staff. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 125 Stage Management 3 Credits
Provide necessary tools to get started as a production stage manager (PSM), including management, leadership, communication and organizational skills. Providing guidelines to prepare production paperwork. Overview of the relationship between the PSM and other production personnel. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 126 Stage Management 3 Credits
Preparation of props, costumes, and scenery for main stage productions under the supervision of the design or technical staff. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 127 Theatre Production 1 Credits
Students rehearse and perform roles in a play produced by the department and directed by a member of its faculty. Students may also prepare a major element of design or technology for the production. Maximum of eight credits are accepted in theatre production, band and/or choir.

THE 127T Theatre Production Tech 1 Credits
Preparation of props, costumes, and scenery for main stage productions under the supervision of the design or technical staff. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 128 Stage Lighting 3 Credits
The theory and practice of stage lighting as utilized in concept, dance, and theatre. Considers the nature of light, controlling light, color theory, electricity, electrical safety, and lighting design. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 129 Stage Management 3 Credits
Provide necessary tools to get started as a production stage manager (PSM), including management, leadership, communication and organizational skills. Providing guidelines to prepare production paperwork. Overview of the relationship between the PSM and other production personnel. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 131 Theatre Lab 0 Credits
This class serves as a forum for students to cultivate practical professional skills. Through seminars, guest speakers and master classes, this lab will give the students necessary tools to enter the professional theater. Theater majors must meet the weekly attendance and participation requirements during every semester up to a total of six.

THE 132 Stage Lighting 3 Credits
The theory and practice of stage lighting as utilized in concept, dance, and theatre. Considers the nature of light, controlling light, color theory, electricity, electrical safety, and lighting design. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 133 Movement for the Actor 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to movement training methodologies, and emphasizes physical awareness and expressivity as it relates to development of character. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 134 Voice for the Actor 3 Credits
A general introduction to the voice for the actor and the acting process. Emphasis on the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the use of the IPA in learning dialects (including Standard Neutral American) for the stage. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 135 Stage Lighting 3 Credits
The theory and practice of stage lighting as utilized in concept, dance, and theatre. Considers the nature of light, controlling light, color theory, electricity, electrical safety, and lighting design. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 136 Movement for the Actor 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to movement training methodologies, and emphasizes physical awareness and expressivity as it relates to development of character. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 137 Voice for the Actor 3 Credits
A general introduction to the voice for the actor and the acting process. Emphasis on the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the use of the IPA in learning dialects (including Standard Neutral American) for the stage. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 138 Stage Lighting 3 Credits
The theory and practice of stage lighting as utilized in concept, dance, and theatre. Considers the nature of light, controlling light, color theory, electricity, electrical safety, and lighting design. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 139 Movement for the Actor 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to movement training methodologies, and emphasizes physical awareness and expressivity as it relates to development of character. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 140 Voice for the Actor 3 Credits
A general introduction to the voice for the actor and the acting process. Emphasis on the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the use of the IPA in learning dialects (including Standard Neutral American) for the stage. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 141 Stage Lighting 3 Credits
The theory and practice of stage lighting as utilized in concept, dance, and theatre. Considers the nature of light, controlling light, color theory, electricity, electrical safety, and lighting design. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 142 Movement for the Actor 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to movement training methodologies, and emphasizes physical awareness and expressivity as it relates to development of character. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 143 Voice for the Actor 3 Credits
A general introduction to the voice for the actor and the acting process. Emphasis on the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the use of the IPA in learning dialects (including Standard Neutral American) for the stage. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 144 Stage Lighting 3 Credits
The theory and practice of stage lighting as utilized in concept, dance, and theatre. Considers the nature of light, controlling light, color theory, electricity, electrical safety, and lighting design. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 145 Movement for the Actor 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to movement training methodologies, and emphasizes physical awareness and expressivity as it relates to development of character. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 146 Voice for the Actor 3 Credits
A general introduction to the voice for the actor and the acting process. Emphasis on the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the use of the IPA in learning dialects (including Standard Neutral American) for the stage. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 147 Stage Lighting 3 Credits
The theory and practice of stage lighting as utilized in concept, dance, and theatre. Considers the nature of light, controlling light, color theory, electricity, electrical safety, and lighting design. Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 148 Movement for the Actor 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to movement training methodologies, and emphasizes physical awareness and expressivity as it relates to development of character. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.

THE 149 Voice for the Actor 3 Credits
A general introduction to the voice for the actor and the acting process. Emphasis on the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the use of the IPA in learning dialects (including Standard Neutral American) for the stage. Prerequisite(s): THE 107, Open to Theater majors or minor, or by permission of the instructor.
THE 223 Costume Design 3 Credits
Introduction to tasks, skills and expertise of costume design and
costuming techniques, relationship with other creative production
and cast members. Students will create sketches and develop basic
construction plans. Develop familiarity with fabrics, patterns, common
challenges in costume design.
Prerequisite(s): THE 115, THE 118.

THE 224 Stage Make Up 3 Credits
Basic application of make up artistry and techniques for the stage. How it
can help build a character, and how to apply to self and others.

THE 225 Sound Design 3 Credits
Introduction to sound design and its diverse use and practice for the
staged productions, e.g. plays, musicals, operas and dance.
Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 226 Drafting for the Stage 3 Credits
Covers essential drafting language for staged productions. Drafting of
ground plans, sections, elevations, and renderings by hand and with
computers.
Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 227 Properties and Scenic Painting 3 Credits
Covers general aspects of scenic painting and props for the stage. Hands
on exercises, needs and challenges of each area, how work is usually
accomplished in the professional world. Explore different textures,
materials and how to combine them.
Prerequisite(s): THE 115, THE 118.

THE 240 Script Analysis 3 Credits
This course provides students with a technique for analyzing any text
by breaking down scenes into objectives, conflicts, beats, activities and
subtext, allowing the actor to construct an approach to finding character.
Prerequisite(s): THE 115.

THE 300 Acting for the Camera 3 Credits
Focuses on the craft and artistry of acting in television and film.
Examination of TV production and the styles needed for work in various
media will be discussed. Physicalization, simplicity, listening, marking
and other technical requirements will be explored. Staging involving
different camera angles will be rehearsed. The emphasis of this class is
on adapting the performance to the special needs of the camera.
Prerequisite(s): THE 107.

THE 306 American Theatre History 3 Credits
The history of the American theater from the colonial period to the
present, emphasizing dramatic scripts and theatrical conventions.
Examines important playwrights, theorists, and practitioners
representative of each period of American history, emphasizing the 19th
and 20th centuries.

THE 307 Contemporary American Theater 3 Credits
Today’s most influential theatre artists are discussed. Focusing on
playwrights, the form and content of dramatic literature considered most
significant today are examined along with recent innovations in design
and staging practices.

THE 308 Modern Drama 3 Credits
Surveys American and European drama from 1920 to 1970. All plays are
read in English translation. In these plays, theatrical artists address the
great themes of this century. While doing so, they also expand the limits
of theatrical expression.

THE 309 Acting III 3 Credits
Students will study in-depth techniques for exploring characterization.
They will be introduced to the “magic if” and study techniques for placing
themselves in the circumstances of the characters they are portraying.
They will learn the interior and exterior analysis of characters using
“Adler” and “Practical Aesthetics” techniques.
Prerequisite(s): THE 107, THE 110.

THE 310 Acting IV 3 Credits
An opportunity to work an entire semester on a specific style or period of
theatre, e.g., Shakespeare, farce, Readers’ Theater.
Prerequisite(s): THE 107, THE 110, THE 115.

THE 311 Acting V 3 Credits

THE 312 The Arts Abroad 3 Credits
A two-week trip abroad that includes a critical study of the music and
theatre. Students are required to attend all performances, guided tours,
and classes before and after the trip. A travel journal and final paper is
required. A travel fee is required. Travel sites and artistic disciplines may
vary year to year. May be taken more than once for credit.
Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

THE 317 Scenic Design 3 Credits
The study and application of design principles as related to the stage.
Incorporates the design process, decor research, styles, materials, and
construction technology.

THE 400 Directing 3 Credits
The technique of play directing and production management. Lectures
present aesthetic and theoretical concepts that are explored in
workshops. Each student is required to direct and analyze a one-act play.
Prerequisite(s): THE 107, THE 110, THE 115.

THE 410 Advanced Performance Workshop 3 Credits
An opportunity to work an entire semester on a specific style or period of
theatre, e.g., Shakespeare, farce, Readers’ Theater.
Prerequisite(s): THE 107, THE 110.

THE 490 Independent Research and Study 1-4 Credits
Students may pursue a special topic for which they have prepared
through prior course work. Only one project may be scheduled in a
semester. The project may involve 1-4 Credits. Approval of the faculty
sponsor, department chair, and dean required prior to enrollment.

THE 491 Internship in Theater 1-12 Credits
Provides junior or senior theatre majors the practical experience of
working within a professional theater environment. Students must be
sponsored by a theatre professor. For each academic credit, interns must
work 48 hours for the semester, or approximately 3.7 hours each week.
Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor.

THE 495 Selected Topics in Theatre Hist 3 Credits
Intensive study of a particular topic, such as the work of one dramatic
movement, one period in dramatic history, or one nation’s history.
Students become deeply involved in an area through research, class
discussions, and individual consultation with the instructor.
THE 496 Senior Internship 6-12 Credits
THE 498 Senior Capstone 3 Credits
The senior capstone is intended for technical theatre students in their final year. Depending on the required abilities, students will be able to design sets, lights, costumes, props or sound for a mainstage show at Rider University, do research on topics related to technical Theatre, internships outside Rider University or work on projects that will improve the use of facilities, storage or equipment for Theater and Dance Department.
THE 499 Senior Honors Program 3 Credits
A senior honors program may be submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for graduation with honors in fine arts. Honors work is limited to those departmental majors with a GPA of 3.5 in fine arts courses and cognates. The program, to be planned under the direction of a faculty advisor, will represent a culmination of demonstrated excellence in a specific area of fine arts. Candidates for honors in fine arts must be approved by the department chairperson and the faculty.