



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

CTW643: MUSICAL SCRIPTWRITING

Course Name (English)	MUSICAL SCRIPTWRITING APPROVED
Course Code	CTW643
MQF Credit	3
Course Description	This course introduces the craft of musical theatre arts and libretto opera writing and writing exercises on one-act musical books. Apart from that the students are also exposed to the multi-methods of the musical theatre writing of its periods. After attending this course, students are able to produce their own script texts and also able to master the craft of musical script writing.
Transferable Skills	Demonstrate the ability to dream, imagine and visualize.
Teaching Methodologies	Lectures, Tutorial, Discussion, Presentation, Workshop
CLO	CLO1 Identify the techniques of musical theatre script writing. CLO2 Recognize the writing genres of musical lyrics. CLO3 Produce a script based on own ideas.
Pre-Requisite Courses	No course recommendations
Topics	
1. Course introduction and briefing 1.1) Explanation on course objectives and requirements	
2. Introduction to the history of musical theatre 2.1) Introducing the brief history of musical theatre	
3. Introducing the art of musical writing and stagecraft 3.1) Methods of musical script writing 3.2) Introduction to musical stagecraft	
4. Introducing one-act musical books 4.1) What is a one-act musical? 4.2) How to write a one-act musical?	
5. Introducing musical, libretti opera and allied forms of musicals 5.1) Offenbach 5.2) Viennese operetta 5.3) Zarzuela 5.4) Oriental musical theatre	
6. Song lyrics in musicals 6.1) Analysing and understanding song lyrics in musicals	
7. What is a good musical? 7.1) Choosing a good story for musicals 7.2) How to pitch an idea?	
8. Lyric writing in musical theatre 8.1) The essence of musical lyrics 8.2) How to write good musical lyrics	
9. Musical performance viewing 9.1) The audience and the critic	
10. Problems in one-act musicals 10.1) Identifying problems in one-act musicals	

11. What is a good musical script? 11.1) Formatting the script 11.2) Creating the right tones in musicals
12. Workshop 1 12.1) Refining plot structure
13. Workshop 2 13.1) Refining dialogues and lyrics
14. FINAL PRESENTATION 14.1) Group staged-reading

Assessment Breakdown	%
Continuous Assessment	60.00%
Final Assessment	40.00%

Details of Continuous Assessment	Assessment Type	Assessment Description	% of Total Mark	CLO
	Assignment	Students will be given a task on analyzing song lyrics selected from a musical screened in class, and to substitute the original song lyrics based on their own creativity.	20%	CLO1 , CLO2 , CLO3
	Assignment	Students are required to watch a musical performance and to write a critical essay on the performance.	30%	CLO1 , CLO2 , CLO3
	Practical	Attendance and participation.	10%	CLO1 , CLO2 , CLO3

Reading List	Recommended Text	• Millie Taylor, Dominic Symonds 2014, <i>Studying Musical Theatre: Theory and Practice</i> , Palgrave Macmillan [ISBN: 9781137270962]
	Reference Book Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Millie Taylor 2013, <i>Musical Theatre, Realism and Entertainment</i>, Ashgate Publishing, Ltd. [ISBN: 9781409495109] • Corinne J. Naden 2011, <i>The Golden Age of American Musical Theatre</i>, Scarecrow Press [ISBN: 9780810877344] • Stephen Hinton 2012, <i>Weill's Musical Theater</i>, Univ of California Press [ISBN: 9780520271777] • Joan Melton 2013, <i>Singing in Musical Theatre</i>, Skyhorse Publishing, Inc. [ISBN: 9781581158090] • Joe Deer 2014, <i>Directing in Musical Theatre</i>, Routledge [ISBN: 9781136246708]

Article/Paper List	This Course does not have any article/paper resources
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Other References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web/PDF John Kenrick 2010, <i>Musical Theatre: A History</i>, Bloomsbury Academic http://blanckd.yolasite.com/resources/Musical%20Theatre%20History%20(Kenrick)TheArts.pdf
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