

**SPRING 2014 SYLLABUS:  
FA 589, LAB 801– Fine Arts Workshop II  
Musical Theatre for Performers: *URINETOWN***

<b>Instructors:</b>	Horne 901-233-7387 Bieneman	<b>Classroom:</b>	Mitchell 385/Mainstage
<b>Emails:</b>	horne@uwm.edu bieneman@uwm.edu	<b>Class Days/Times:</b>	6:00 – 10:00 pm
<b>Office Hours:</b>	by arrangement	<b>Credits:</b>	1 - 3
		<b>Course Call #:</b>	33013

**CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION**

Advanced project-oriented course, of variable content and duration, focusing around special aspects of art, dance, film, music and theatre. An interdisciplinary approach will be used.

**DESCRIPTION:**

This course is the rehearsal and performance process for the Inter-Arts Musical Theatre production of *URINETOWN* (a collaboration between the departments of Music, Theatre, and Dance). All students enrolled in this course will be participating in designated areas as singers, actors, dancers, understudies, and assistants. The course will culminate with a production of *URINETOWN*, April 30 – May, 2014 in the Mainstage Theatre

**TEACHING METHOD:**

This course uses experiential activities appropriate to a rehearsal setting.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:**

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) is dedicated to a safe, supportive, and non-discriminatory learning environment. It is the responsibility of all students to familiarize themselves with University policies. The policies can be found at this link:  
[http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/news\\_events/upload/SyllabusLinks.pdf](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/news_events/upload/SyllabusLinks.pdf)

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES – After successfully completing this course, each student will have:**

- gained proficiency in Music Theatre rehearsal and performance techniques.
- acquired the requisite physical/vocal conditioning for performance practice.
- fully integrated all aspects of musical theatre training into performance.
- learned to work on a thrust stage.
- practiced advanced character development through action and song.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- Pencil with eraser, notebook, script/score.
- Rehearsal clothes & shoes.
- Something to keep your hair out of your eyes & face, if needed.
- Water bottle.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

- *Urinetown* by Greg Kotis and Mark Hollmann

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**GRADING/EVALUATION:**

Participation, commitment, preparation, and growth	75%
Character Analysis	10%
Short Paper	10%
Evaluation	5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>93 – 100</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>73 – 76.99</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>90 – 92.99</b>	<b>A-</b>	<b>70 – 72.22</b>	<b>C-</b>
<b>87 – 89.99</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>67 – 69.99</b>	<b>D+</b>
<b>83 – 86.99</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>63 – 66.99</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>80 – 82.99</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>60 – 62.99</b>	<b>D-</b>
<b>77 – 79.99</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>59.99 and below</b>	<b>F</b>

**NOTE: All submissions must have a .doc or .docx extension. The following formats are not acceptable: .rtf and .odt.**

**Character Analysis**

**10%**

Each actor must complete a Character Analysis. Detailed information for the analysis can be found on the D2L site for this course. The Analysis must be written in the first person and include information gathered from the script as well as choices made by the actor.

**Formal Section**                      DUE IN D2L DROPBOX by 11:59 pm Tuesday, March 25

- 2+ pages in length.
- Typewritten, double-spaced, 12-point font.
- Using proper MLA formatting, include the following information on your first page along the left margin:
  - Your Name
  - Your Instructor's Name (Professor Tony Horne)
  - Your Course Name (Theatre 101)
  - Your Paper's Due Date (example: 30 January 2014)

**Creative Section**                      Bring to rehearsal Friday, April 4

Each actor must create or find a 2 or 3 dimensional object or piece of art that can serve to illuminate/address/highlight aspects of his/her character such as personality, mood, style, and activities. A collage is an acceptable option. Find something that really hits you in the gut, something that really speaks to you. Get right to the heart of your character. You will know it when you see it. **Don't be literal at all, think in more abstract terms.** You will present and explain this in rehearsal.

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**Short Paper**

**10%**

DUE in D2L DROPBOX by 11:59 pm Monday, April 14

Each student will be assigned to do basic research on one of two shows that have inspired *URINETOWN: Threepenny Opera* or *The Cradle Will Rock*. It is OK for students to review/share source material with others who have been assigned the same show, but students **must** write their papers alone. Students will write a 2 page, double-spaced, typewritten paper and turn it in electronically via the D2L dropbox. Always make sure to include the following information on your first page along the left margin:

- Your Name
- Your Instructor's Name (Professor Tony Horne)
- Your Course Name (FA 589)
- Your Paper's Due Date (example: 30 January 2014)

Make sure that direct quotes are treated as such and that you include a Works Cited page. While MLA is preferred, you may use any recognized, standard format for your citations and your Works Cited. Each paper must include the following:

- A title.
- A strong opening paragraph.
- Original run dates AND the original New York run dates, if different.
- For the New York run: the names of the director, choreographer, and any major stars (and the roles they played).
- Major production history (Premiere, Original New York production, West End, Major revivals, Major overhauls/revisions to the book or songs in later productions. Include City Center Encores if appropriate.
- Basic Plot.
- Your interpretation of Critical Response from a major production of the show (find at least 2 reviews, one should be from the NY Times). Quote from the reviews as needed.
- Audience Response (if you can find it).
- What does this show have in common with *Urinetown*? How is it different? Compare and contrast the show with *Urinetown* based on the knowledge that you have.

**EVALUATION**

**5%**

DUE in D2L DROPBOX between May 4 at 5:00 pm and Friday, May 9 at 11:59 pm

Each student will be expected to complete an evaluation of the process and a self-evaluation. The evaluation form is posted on D2L.

**POLICIES:**

**General Policies**

- This is a participatory class and regular attendance is expected. Absences cannot be made up.
- All students will be on time for class, private coachings, fittings, and meetings.
- Students will be dressed appropriately for rehearsals. See note below on Class Attire.

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- Food and beverages are not permitted in class. (Note: you may bring a water bottle.)
- Scripts/Vocal Books – Students will be given rehearsal in 2 forms: photocopied and rented. The photocopied materials are yours to keep. But, please take care of the rented materials. Only write in them in #2 pencil and erase all markings prior to turning them in.
- All work will be turned on the assigned due date. The grade for late work will be reduced by 10% for each class period that it is late. Turning in late work is strongly discouraged. No work will be accepted via e-mail. Please Use D2L as requested. No work will be accepted after the last class period.
- All electronic communication devices will be completely turned off for the entire class period.

### **Rehearsal Attire**

- CLOTHING - You must wear comfortable rehearsal clothing/dance clothes that allow for maximum freedom of movement, yet show the line of the body. Clothing to avoid: short shorts, skirts, tight pants, low rider/hip hugger pants, cropped T's (or other revealing clothing), heavy jackets, clunky jewelry, or baseball hats. All of these restrict your movement and artistic choices. NOTE: Women will be expected to wear rehearsal skirts if their costume includes a skirt.
- SHOES - Wear appropriate shoes as directed that will allow you to move and dance safely in the space. (NO flip-flops, clogs, sandals, platforms, high heels, or cumbersome sneakers.)

### **Attendance/Late Policy**

**This is a course that requires the participation of everyone involved** because it is designed as a collaborative process. An actor or other team member who is late to rehearsal (or does not show up at all) seriously weakens the collaborative process to the point that it is disruptive to the other students/artists who attend the course.

Perfect attendance is your goal. If you must miss a class for any reason, please contact your stage manager immediately.

#### **The effects of absences and lateness are spelled out below:**

- Each student is allowed only ONE unexcused absence.
- Any student who misses more than three (3) rehearsals without permission will be dropped from the course and replaced in the production.
- After one absence, each absence will lower your final grade by 1 whole letter (for example, a B+ becomes a C+).
- Three lates amount to one absence. If you arrive after the call time, you will be considered late.
- In case of an emergency, unforeseen illness, or other extenuating circumstances that result in an accumulation of absences, please see me.

**NOTE: If you miss class for any reason, you must take the initiative to find out what material you have missed. You are still responsible for turning in all assignments on time. If you have to miss class due to required college business, you must alert the instructor and turn in all work early.**

### **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

Students will be given detailed weekly and daily schedules.