

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Title: Theory Skills and Analysis for Musical Theatre

**MM/TH 103
New: Spring 2006**

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

Development of analytical skills in musical theatre repertoire. Three sessions weekly, two lectures, one lab (3)

II. Prerequisite:

MP 101/TH 102 and MM105

III. Purpose or Objectives of the Course:

To enable the student to utilize theoretical knowledge of melodic and harmonic structures to analyze music of the Broadway stage and to render simple reductions at the keyboard.

IV. Expectation of Students:

- A. Attend all class sessions
- B. Prepare analysis/performance assignments
- C. Participate in discussion of analyses in class
- D. Demonstrate the ability to sing while playing simple accompaniments at the keyboard
- E. Earn a composite passing grade on daily assignments, written examinations (3), keyboard/vocal performances (3), and a comprehensive final exam

V. Course Content:

- A. Weeks 1-4 (12 class periods)
 - 1. Introduction
 - 2. Review of all triads and seventh chord construction
 - 3. Harmonic notation in popular music (pop symbols)
 - 4. Parameters of melody
 - 5. Performance of triads at the keyboard
- B. Weeks 5-8 (12 class periods)
 - 1. Song forms in popular music
 - 2. Modulation; types of modulation; circle of fifths
 - 3. Accompaniment textures
 - 4. Parameters of rhythm
 - 5. Performance of seventh chords at the keyboard
 - 6. Use of inversion

- C. Weeks 9-12
 - 1. Simple keyboard riffs using pop symbols
 - 2. Simple keyboard vamps
 - 3. Principles of transposition
 - 4. The pit orchestra
 - 5. Musical terminology (Italian)
- D. Weeks 13-15
 - 1. Alternative harmonic systems (quartal, secundal)
 - 2. Extended tertian harmony (9ths, 11ths)
 - 3. Performance of 9th chords at the keyboard
 - 4. “Simplifying” accompaniments

VI. Textbook and/or other required materials

Sorce, Richard. *Music Theory for the Music Professional: A Comparison of Common-Practice and Popular Genres*. New York: Ardsley House Publishers, 1995.

100 Years of Broadway: A Centennial Collection of Song. Milwaukee: Hall Leonard Corporation, 1994.

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

A. Three hourly exams @100 points each	300 points
B. Three performance exams @ 100 points each	300 points
C. Final written and performance exam	200 points
TOTAL	800 points

VIII. All grading done on 100% basis. (100-90=A; 80-89=B, etc.)

MoStep Standards: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 4.2, 5.2, 6.2, 7.1, and 8.3