

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS GUIDELINES

STUDENT EVALUATIONS IN THE BFA PROGRAM

Performing professionally in music theatre is difficult, and a student's true potential for this profession is difficult to determine before college. For this reason, the music theatre faculty will evaluate progress of all students in the BFA program at the end of each semester. Students will be evaluated in the following areas: improvement, work ethic, attitude, academic progress, and ability. If a student fails to thrive in the music theatre program he/she will be placed on probation or counseled to consider other theatre degrees that better fit his/her talents.

AUDITIONING FOR SHOWS

Samford shows

Auditioning is an integral part of the music theatre career and it is a important component in the Bachelor of Fine Arts program. All BFA students are required to audition for every play and musical in the Theatre Department. Failure to audition without permission from the music theatre faculty (Sandley, Castle, and Richardson) may result in dismissal from the BFA degree.

Community Theatre

Students are encouraged to seek additional professional auditions in order to hone their skills. However, they must realize that their first allegiance is to the School of the Arts. Students who wish to audition for shows outside of Samford they must first obtain permission from the music theatre faculty. Permission will be granted if the faculty determines that the absence of the student will not adversely affect performances in the Theatre Department. The request for permission can be made to any of the music theatre faculty.

PRIVATE VOCAL STUDY

Students are expected to study voice every semester that they are at Samford.

VOICE SEMINAR

Each voice teacher has a voice seminar. Most of the seminars meet on Tuesday's (1:00 – 2:00) however, some teachers have another vocal seminar (1:50 – 2:30) following Music Seminar on Thursdays. BFA students should plan on attending the Tuesday voice seminar and schedule their production hours during the seminar time on Thursdays. If they are not scheduled during the Thursday voice seminar time they are free to attend it as well.

VOICE CLASS/LESSON NUMBERS – AN EXPLANATION

All voice classes and lessons are four digit numbers. The first number represents the student's year of study and the second number represents the number of credits. For example, Musa 3257 signifies that a junior (first number 3) is taking voice for two hours credit (second number 2). It is important that students sign up for the correct voice number. Failure to sign up for the correct number might result in a delayed graduation because of insufficient upper level credit hours.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR BFA VOICE STUDY

MUSA 157 (one hour credit) – 6 or more songs

 Taken the sophomore year

MUSA 257 (two hours credit) – 8 or more songs

 Taken during the freshmen, junior, and senior years

 The student must be approved to take two hours of voice credit (in Spring Juries) during
 the sophomore year.

BFA SENIOR CAPSTONE

During the senior year the BFA Music Theatre Major is required to perform in a main stage musical (a starring or supporting role),

or

perform a recital/cabaret (demonstrating the skills that the student has learned in the BFA degree) of 30-45 minutes duration. The performance will be titled *Music Theatre Recital* if it is performed in typical classical recital format. The performance will be titled *Music Theatre Cabaret* if the format is looser (perhaps with dialogue and dancing).

or

attend the Amy Murphy Studio Professional Broadway Intensive in New York City (Martin Luther King weekend)

Music Theatre Recital/Cabaret Preparation

A hearing for the recital must be presented before the student's voice teacher and one music theatre faculty member one month before the recital date.

The program notes and program must be completed and distributed to the faculty members who will hear the audition one week before the hearing.

Failure to complete the program/program notes or to demonstrate readiness for the recital in the hearing may result in a delayed recital and/or graduation.

The student is required to study voice during the semester that the performance/senior recital occurs.

MUSIC THEATRE ENSEMBLE CLASS NUMBERS– AN EXPLANATION

It is very important that students sign up for the correct class number. If a student is deficient in upper level hours graduation may be delayed.

MUSC 1722 – 01 Freshmen and Sophomores

MUSC 1722 – 02 Freshmen and Sophomores – Only with permission from a music theatre

advisor

MUSC 3722 – 01 Juniors and Seniors

MUSC 3722 – 02 Juniors and Seniors – Only with permission from a music theatre advisor