

Subject card

Subject name and code	Musical Theatre and Film: Motifs, Contexts, Transformations, PG_00176450						
Field of study	Cultural Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Grzegorz Piotrowski				
	Teachers		Barbara Pitak-Piaskowska				
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		2.0		18.0	50
Subject objectives	General objective: To familiarize the audience with the history of the musical a native American theatre genre. Specific objectives: To familiarize the audience with the origins, fate and structure of the genre and the ways of including music in the dramatic action of musical performances. The course also aims to draw attention to the process of a clear departure in the musical from light, easy and pleasant topics towards current social problems. The musical will be treated here as a cultural text that can carry an important message. The classes will include multimedia presentations and fragments of music and film recordings. The primary objective is to expand basic knowledge about the musical. Thanks to an in-depth analysis of the history and development of the genre, the audience will acquire knowledge about the subsequent stages of the creation of the musical, will be able to define and interpret this genre its structure and characteristics. During the classes, they will analyze its development in the socio-cultural context. Participants will be able to provide a definition of the musical and distinguish its characteristic features, while being able to recognize and distinguish the specificity of productions from a selected period. They will also be able to name the most popular creators of the genre and the main works that contributed to its development.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[KULMU2_U01] The student demonstrates fluent skills in searching, interpreting, and selecting information, utilizing various sources, media, and technologies, and formulates independent conclusions based on them.	The student searches for information about musical.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[KULMU2_U06] The student can create synthetic approaches to cultural phenomena based on scientific knowledge and research and professional experience related to the chosen specialization.	The students creates syntetic presentations on the theme of the musical.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[KULMU2_W04] The student has profound and organized knowledge concerning contemporary global issues and the theoretical, philosophical, and aesthetic foundations for reflecting on culture and art.	The student has knowledge about evolution of the musical.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[KULMU2_W05] The student possesses well-established, specialized knowledge in the field of audiovisual culture or cultural management.	The student has specialist knowledge of theatre and film musical.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[KULMU2_K04] The student Actively promotes knowledge about culture and art.	The student popularizes knowledge about the musical.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[KULMU2_U07] The student proficiently prepares various types of written papers in Polish and a chosen foreign language.	The student develops texts about the musical for presentation purposes.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
Subject contents	1. Burlesque, extravaganza, minstrel show, revue, vaudeville discussion of typical forms of American entertainment at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, which directly contributed to the creation of the musical. George M. Cohan the man who owned Broadway. The work of the so-called father of American musical comedy. 2. The beginnings of the musical theatre: the work of Florenz Ziegfeld on Broadway, discussion of the phenomenon of the revue The Ziegfeld Follies (1907-1931) and the production Ship of Comedians (1927/1951). 3. When Broadway came to Hollywood, film musical productions of the Great Depression. 4. Oklahoma! (1943/1955); the so-called integrated musical and the work of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. 5. West Side Story (1957/1961); Jerome Robbins and his choreography. 6. Singin' in the Rain (1952); the self-reflexivity of the musical. 7. Hair (1967/1979); American counterculture, the musical in the face of political and social issues. 8. Chicago (1977/2004); the musical work of Bob Fosse. 9. Cabaret (1966/1972); the grotesque and the aesthetics of ugliness. 10. Sunday in the Park with George (1984), Stephen Sondheim and the conceptual musical. 11. All That Jazz (1979); The Limits of Autobiography: The Film Musical and the Myth of the Creator. 12. RENT (1994/2005) and Tic, Tic... Boom! (2021); from autobiography to a generational voice - about the genre in a comparative perspective. 13. La La Land (2016); dancing with the past, or a dialogue with a classic musical. 14. The voice of an immigrant on Broadway: In the Heights (2005/2021), Hamilton (2015/2020) and the work of Lin-Manuel Miranda. 15. Two stories, one Oz: The Wizard of Oz (1939) and Wicked (2003/2025).		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Active participation in discussions	51.0%	40.0%
	Presentation	51.0%	60.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Marek Bielacki, <i>Musical. Geneza i rozwój formy dramatyczno-muzycznej</i>. Łódź 1994. Marek Gołębiowski, <i>Musical amerykański na tle kultury popularnej USA</i>, Warszawa 1989. <i>Musical. Poszerzanie pola gatunku</i>, pod red. J. Maleszyńskiej, J. Roszak i R. Koschanego, Poznań 2013. <i>Republika musicali. Historia gatunek interpretacje</i>, pod red. J. Maleszyńskiej, J. Roszak i R. Koschanego, Poznań 2020. <i>Musical i historia</i>, pod red. J. Maleszyńskiej, J. Roszak i R. Koschanego, Poznań 2023 <i>Mit-literatura-polityka. Źródła tematów musicali</i>, pod red. J. Maleszyńskiej, J. Roszak, R. Koschany, Wydawnictwo Naukowe UAM, Poznań 2024. Barbara Pitak-Piaskowska, Let the Sunshine In musical Hair wciąż aktualny?, [w:] <i>Kontrkultura motywy, manifestacje, dziedzictwo</i>, pod red. A. Węclawiak, Europejskie Stowarzyszenie Kulturoznawcze, Poznań 2018, s. 147-163.
	Supplementary literature	Barbara Pitak-Piaskowska, <i>Amerykański musical teatralny i filmowy w zwierciadle groteski</i>, Instytut Kultury Popularnej, Poznań 2020. Barbara Pitak-Piaskowska, <i>Imigracyjna tożsamość Ameryki w zwierciadle musicalu</i>, Społeczeństwo. Edukacja. Język 2018, t. 7, s. 87-98. Marek Hendrykowski, <i>Kinemy w Kabarecie</i>, Przestrzenie Teorii 2012, nr 17, s. 79-88. Dorota Skotarczak, <i>Historia amerykańskiego musicalu filmowego</i>, Wrocław, 2002. John Kenrick, <i>Musical Theatre: a History</i>, New York 2008.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	What are the genre determinants of a musical?	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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