

# SYLLABUS & SCHEDULE

Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll Musicals!

THE 3250

[Jim Brown](#)

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Spring 2017

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"CLICK" - VIDEO INTRODUCTION TO COURSE BY JIM BROWN

<http://engage.ucf.edu/v/p/39yDLjT>

## Course Information

<b>Course Name</b>	Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll Musicals
<b>Course ID &amp; Section</b>	THE 3250 / Section OW61
<b>Credit Hours</b>	3.0
<b>Semester/Year</b>	Spring 2017
<b>Location</b>	Online

## Course Description

Sex, Drugs and Rock & Roll Musicals is an in-depth survey of this most unique genre of Musical Theatre. Emphasis will be placed on analysis of structure, content, music form, and style. Analysis of content after listening to each Original Broadway Cast Recording, and conveying how it relates to society and to the individual, will also be emphasized. Students are expected to be familiar with original Broadway production information, including but not limited to creative team, production team, dates of original and revival productions, and related facts.

## Course Objectives

- To *familiarize* you with the musical theatre art form.
- To *open* your minds and hearts to the world of the Rock Musical.
- To *respond* to how these works affect you in thought, emotion, and/or action.

## Required Listening

- *Hair*
- *Tommy*
- *Jesus Christ Superstar*
- *Rent*
- *Spring Awakening*
- *In The Heights*

**IMPORTANT NOTE: PLEASE SECURE ACCESS TO EACH ORIGINAL BROADWAY CAST RECORDING IMMEDIATELY!** There are a variety of ways you can listen to each of the recordings. I suggest using **iTunes to PURCHASE the Recordings OR Spotify to STREAM the recordings.** I have confirmed that all of the recordings are available on Spotify. These recordings may be available for free listening, but are subject to limited availability and commercial advertising while listening. Hard

copies of CD's are also available through traditional purchasing retail locations. Some CD's can be found at the UCF Library or a local library near you for check out for listening. Again, please do everything you can to secure listening to these soundtracks **NOW**.

## Course Requirements and Instructions

1. **FAMILIARIZE** yourself with the **HOME PAGE**. Please locate the **MODULE** bar and **ASSIGNMENTS** bar under the **COURSE MENU**.

1. **READ** the **LINER NOTES** for each Musical which can be found in the **MODULE** for each Musical. **NOTE:** Answers to some of the Questions in your Assignments are directly found in these Liner Notes, so be sure to take the time and read them.

2. **LISTEN** to the corresponding **MUSICAL** for each Module & Assignment.

3. **RESPOND** to the Questions in each **ASSIGNMENT** by *connecting* to the Story, Characters, and Issues of each Musical.

4. **COMPLETE** the corresponding **ASSIGNMENT** for each Module by the **DUE DATE & TIME** as specified in the **SCHEDULE** below.

## Assignment Policies:

### Important! Please Read Regarding CLASS ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION

- Each Assignment has a **Date & Time when it OPENS** and a **Date & Time when it CLOSES** as specified in the SCHEDULE below. The Assignment is **ONLY available during that window of time. No Exceptions will be made beyond the specified Due Date & Time.**
- Each and every assignment is **DUE by the DATE & TIME** specified on the Syllabus Schedule. **No Exceptions will be made.**
- There will be **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED** after each specified Due Date & Time. **No Exceptions will be made.**
- Assignments will be **DUE on MONDAYS at 11:59 PM with the EXCEPTION of our FIRST ASSIGNMENT which will be DUE BEFORE 11:59 PM on the FIRST FRIDAY of classes. This First Assignment is to fulfill your ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION for this Online Class.** (See SCHEDULE below for specific details.)
- **ONLINE CLASS ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION: IMPORTANT... You are now REQUIRED to verify your Online Class Attendance by completing Assignment MODULE A by the END OF THE FIRST FRIDAY OF CLASSES.** (Please see Schedule below for specific details regarding Due Date and Time.)
- **NOTE:** There will be **NO Final Exam for this class.** The completion of your last Assignment will end the course for the semester. (See Schedule below for due date.)

## Course Schedule

Available Dates & Time	Topic	Assignments	DUE Day - Date - Time
Monday, January 9 at 12:01 AM	Introduction Attendance Verification	Module A	Friday, January 13 at 11:59 PM
Monday, January 9 at 12:01 AM	Hair	Module 1	Monday, January 30 at 11:59 PM
Monday, January 30 at 12:01 AM	Tommy	Module 2	Monday, February 13 at 11:59 PM
Monday, February 13 at 12:01 AM	J.C. Superstar	Module 3	Monday, February 27 at 11:59 PM
Monday, February 27 at 12:01 AM	Rent	Module 4	Monday, March 13 at 11:59 PM
Monday, March 20 at 12:01 AM	Spring Awakening	Module 5	Monday, April 3 at 11:59 PM
Monday, April 3 at 12:01 AM	In The Heights	Module 6	Monday, April 17 at 11:59 PM

## Evaluation and Grading

Assignment	Points / Percentage of Grade
Assignment 1	100 Points / 14% of Grade
Assignment 2	100 Points / 14% of Grade
Assignment 3	100 Points / 14% of Grade
Assignment 4	100 Points / 14% of Grade

Assignment 5	100 Points / 14% of Grade
Assignment 6	100 Points / 14% of Grade
Assignment 7	100 Points / 14% of Grade
Total	700 Points / 100% of Grade

## Grading Scale: Plus and Minus Scale ( + / - ) will be used.

A 100% to 94%  
 A- < 94% to 90%  
 B+ < 90% to 87%  
 B < 87% to 84%  
 B- < 84% to 80%  
 C+ < 80% to 77%  
 C < 77% to 74%  
 C- < 74% to 70%  
 NC < 70% to 60%  
 F < 60% to 0%

## WRITING REQUIREMENTS

Dear SD&RRM Students...

I try not to give you too many rules for your writing, **but** I need to establish some *specific* guidelines before you begin your assignments for our class...

1. **PROOF-READ** your papers! I'm not overly picky about grammar, but *I do* expect to be able to make sense of your thoughts in your papers. Each sentence needs to contain a clear and complete thought. Also, please check your spelling. Nothing diminishes a paper filled with great thoughts more than bad spelling!
2. **BE SPECIFIC.** Many of you have great thoughts and speak about them passionately, but they are *too general*. Give SPECIFIC examples of ISSUES today and HOW and WHY they affect YOU, YOUR GENERATION, and our SOCIETY.
3. **Let's look at that again!** Be sure to answer HOW and WHY these issues affect YOU, YOUR GENERATION, and our SOCIETY. *All three!* Make the ISSUES *personal* to YOUR LIFE, your PEERS, your FAMILY, and also to our SOCIETY and to the WORLD around you.
4. **Look at an ISSUE from *Different Perspectives*:**
  - o *How* is an Issue **SIMILAR** in your life in *comparison* to the Story and Characters in each Musical?
  - o *How* is it **DIFFERENT** in *contrast* to the Story and Characters in each Musical? Tell me "how far we have come" on an issue... and also "how far we still have to go" on that same issue.
  - o **LOOK** beyond the obvious! A key element of Theatre is the *empathy* that is created between the Audience and the Characters in the Story they are watching on the stage. Even if you are of a *different* gender, race, age, religion, political party, sexual orientation, or economic background, you must *connect* with what you have in *common* with that character's *humanity* rather than what is merely on the surface. To answer... "I really didn't have anything in common with any of these characters"... means that you didn't work at it very hard, and you are missing the point of the entire class.
5. **Each ISSUE** you address (and I usually ask you to talk about 3 per assignment) should be **no less than about 12 sentences each.**  
 So... that means that *each* assignment should have at least **3 paragraphs with EACH PARAGRAPH being about 12 sentences long.**  
 \* Please *separate* each paragraph with a *space!* (It makes it easier for me to read!)
6. Find a favorite **NEWS SOURCE** that you can refer to for current events as we learn and relate to the ISSUES in the Stories of the Musicals. You can use any OBJECTIVE Online News Source or traditional Newspaper. Please try to stay away from heavy 'opinion' oriented sources. I prefer to hear YOUR opinion instead of someone else's.

**IMPORTANT:** Be sure to do the following suggestions...

- **Listen to each show early! Don't wait to the last minute!** The questions get harder as we go along. You also have to cite *specific songs* from now on.
- **Take your time when answering the questions!** This class is not hard, **but you have to invest yourself into it** or else you will *not* do well!
- **"Dig deeply"** when you answer these questions! "Skimming" over them will not cut it. You have to realize that there are students in the class that *thoroughly* listen to the shows and answer the questions, so, compared to their papers... you have a pretty high bar to reach if you want to get an "A".

**Have Fun, Everyone, Work Hard, and ROCK ON!**