



BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME

A HISTORY OF MUSICAL THEATRE: FROM THE WEST END TO BROADWAY

SIX WEEK COURSE AT BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME
WED 17 JAN - WED 21 FEB, 10.30AM - 12.30PM

“If you’ve always wanted to know where musicals came from and how they get from concept to stage, this is the course for you!”
– Adam Carver, course leader

WHAT IS IT?

A fascinating and entertaining introduction to the history of the musical, from its origins right up to the modern day. You’ll learn how musicals work, their impact on popular culture and theatre, and how musicals came to exist...

WHY BOOK?

This is the perfect chance to learn more about your favourite musicals, discover new ones, and enhance your enjoyment of the musicals on offer at Birmingham Hippodrome.

DO I NEED ANY PRIOR KNOWLEDGE?

You don’t need to be an expert in musical theory or stagecraft – you just need to have a love of musicals and the desire to learn more about them.

WHO’S RUNNING IT?

This course is led by Adam Carver, a Birmingham-based director and theatre-maker with a background in musical theatre, and the producer of SHOUT Festival of Queer Arts and Culture. Adam will be sharing his industry experience and insight with you throughout the course, and there will also be a chance to join him for a closing lunch at the end of the six weeks.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

Sessions will be in an informal seminar style, with plenty of discussion and audio-visual learning. There is no written work or assessment, so just sign up, come along and enjoy!

SOME OF THE QUESTIONS AND TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

-What is a musical and how do we define it?

What does musical theatre look and sound like? This first session will give you the toolkit you need to explore the next five weeks of musicals.

-Where did musical theatre come from? What are its origins?

-What are some key genre-changing or genre-making moments in the history of musical theatre? For example, Hair, West Side Story, Evita, RENT, Hamilton, Sunday in the Park with George.

-The early hits of musical theatre and what they looked like.

-‘Golden Era’ musicals, from Rodgers and Hammerstein to Fiddler on the Roof

-The 60s and 70s, e.g. Kander and Ebb, Cabaret and Chicago

-The 80s and 90s and the birth of mega musicals, e.g. Les Misérables and The Phantom of the Opera

-Musical theatre and adaptation – turning films, books, and musical artists into shows. The rise of the jukebox musical.

-The contemporary musical, from RENT to Hamilton

Please note: This is a comprehensive but flexible programme, so the exact musicals and topics covered may vary slightly from those listed above.

HOW MUCH IS IT AND HOW DO I BOOK?

The course costs £130 for six weeks, and you can book online at birminghamhippodrome.com/musicaltheatrecourse or call us on 0844 338 5000*

PLACES ARE LIMITED, SO BOOK NOW TO AVOID MISSING OUT!

*0844 calls to us will cost you 4.5p per minute plus your phone company's access charge. A 5% transaction charge may apply (excluding cash sales in person) with postage from £1. Prices and discounts can be changed at any time and are subject to limited availability.