

# GRADUATE MUSICAL THEATRE WRITING (MFA)

Department Website (<http://www.tisch.nyu.edu/grad-musical-theatre-writing/>)

NYSED: 80290 HEGIS: 1099.00 CIP: 50.0504

## Program Description

The Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program curriculum is designed in a nontraditional format with a major emphasis on collaboration. This involves both team-teaching by the core and adjunct faculty and extensive writing collaborations among the students. At the heart of the program are the writing labs, which are supported by ongoing seminars.

Most class time is devoted to these labs, led by the core faculty and adjuncts. The labs focus heavily on craft; collaboration and communication between artists of different disciplines; storytelling in music, lyrics, bookwriting and meaningful content. In the first year, students are divided into frequently rotating teams. Together they conceive, write, and present writing projects for peers and teachers.

Concurrently, in ongoing seminars, students learn how creators of theatre and music theatre throughout history have treated the same musical-dramatic issues they are grappling with in the writing labs.

In addition to studying classic works of the American Musical Theatre which have most often been created by white artists, we also study the contributions of artists of color and elements of world music that are foundational in the evolution of our art form.

The Program is dedicated to the concept of including all voices equally in the creation of the musical theatre in the future with a special emphasis on the collaborative fusion of those voices. Our students come from across the United States and around the world to share their lived experiences and their desire to express them in words and music.

During the course of the program, students learn both how to give constructive criticism and how to incorporate feedback that is useful to them as individuals and to their collaborative teams in the rewriting of their work.

## Admissions

All graduate applicants to the Tisch School of the Arts are required to submit the General Graduate Application (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/generalapplicationrequirements/>), as well as a department-specific portfolio or creative supplement. Each of these can be submitted online.

See Graduate Admissions (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

For international applicants, see International Applicant Requirements (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/internationalapplicantrequirements/>). Applicants with international credentials should be sure to check to see if their credentials are equivalent to an American Bachelor's degree (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/USbaequivalency/>) before applying.

## Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 64 credits, comprised of the following:

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
GMTW-GT 1001	Writing Workshop I	4
GMTW-GT 1025	The American Musical I	4
GMTW-GT 1003	Theatre/Music Theatre I	3
GMTW-GT 1026	Writing Workshop IB	4
GMTW-GT 1007	Writing Workshop Phase 2	5
GMTW-GT 1008	The American Musical II	4
GMTW-GT 1009	Theatre/Musical Thtre II	3
GMTW-GT 1027	Writing Workshop IIB	4
GMTW-GT 1014	The American Musical III	4
GMTW-GT 1015	Theatre/Musical Theatre	3
GMTW-GT 1019	Writing Workshop IV	4
GMTW-GT 1020	The American Musical IV	4
GMTW-GT 1021	Theatre/Musical Thtre IV	3
<b>Electives</b>		
Other Elective Credits <sup>1</sup>		15-23
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>64-72</b>

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Chosen in consultation with an academic adviser.

## Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
<b>1st Semester/Term</b>		
GMTW-GT 1001	Writing Workshop I	1-5
GMTW-GT 1025	The American Musical I	4
GMTW-GT 1003	Theatre/Music Theatre I	3
Crafts of Musical Theatre		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>2nd Semester/Term</b>		
GMTW-GT 1007	Writing Workshop Phase 2	5
GMTW-GT 1008	The American Musical II	4
GMTW-GT 1009	Theatre/Musical Thtre II	3
Crafts of Musical Theatre		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>3rd Semester/Term</b>		
GMTW-GT 1013	Writing Wkshp Phase III	1-5
GMTW-GT 1014	The American Musical III	4
GMTW-GT 1015	Theatre/Musical Theatre	3
Crafts of Musical Theatre		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>4th Semester/Term</b>		
GMTW-GT 1019	Writing Workshop IV	1-5
GMTW-GT 1020	The American Musical IV	4
GMTW-GT 1021	Theatre/Musical Thtre IV	3
Crafts of Musical Theatre		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>64</b>

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will have:

1. The ability to create works for the musical theatre that wed form to content in original ways that most closely fulfill their unique artistic visions and successfully communicate their dramatic intentions to the audience.
2. The ability to work collaboratively.
3. Professional conduct and knowledge of the musical theatre industry.
4. The specific skills and strategies required of them to function as a composer, bookwriter or lyricist participating in a collaborative art form.

## **Policies**

### **NYU Policies**

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

### **Tisch Policies**

Additional academic policies can be found on the Tisch academic policy page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/arts/academic-policies/>).