



## **Broadway Legends: *on stage and off***

The Broadway musical is America's legendary contribution to the world of the performing arts. This class is designed for the serious Broadway aficionado. We will view and discuss documentaries about various aspects of life in the theatre, and view 3 classic Broadway musicals. Along the way, we will encounter renowned directors, choreographers, composers, performers and other legends of the world of Broadway.

### **Course Outline and *Revised* Schedule**

**February 15<sup>th</sup>**: Introduction and Overview &

Hal Prince was the single most important figure in the post war American Musical Theatre.

*Video: Harold Prince: The Director's Life (2018)*

**February 22nd & March 1st** The 1943 production of *Oklahoma* marked the birth of the Golden Age of Broadway. This 2011 production recreated the original orchestrations, choreography, set and costume designs as seen on Oklahoma's opening night in 1943.

*Video: Oklahoma (NC School of the Arts). Where it all began. (2 classes)*

**March 8th**: Far from just being a "Jewish musical" the message of *Fiddler on the Roof* has resonated in cultures around the world for almost sixty years.

*Video: Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles (2019)*

**March 15<sup>th</sup>**: For over 75 years, Al Hirschfeld's sketches and caricatures were at the heart of the theatrical life of New York. A Broadway theatre has been named in his honor.

*Video: The Line King (1996)*

**March 22nd:** Initially a commercial failure despite positive reviews, *She Loves Me* has become a beloved classic work from Broadway's Golden Age.

**Video:** *She Loves Me (Roundabout Theatre Company, 2016)*

**April 5th:** Stephen Sondheim's music and lyrics challenged and delighted Broadway audiences for over 60 years. This Peabody Award winning HBO documentary honors him.

**Video:** *Six By Sondheim (2014)*

**April 12<sup>th</sup>:** Sweeney Todd is considered the crowning achievement of the Sondheim / Prince collaboration. We will watch the original London production being mounted.

**Video:** *Scenes From The Making of a Musical (London, 1980)*

**April 19<sup>th</sup>:** The recording session of the landmark Sondheim / Prince musical *Company* was recorded as a documentary film.

**Video:** *Company: Original Cast Album (1970) plus Conversations with Sondheim.*

**April 26<sup>th</sup> & May 3rd:** *Gypsy* is considered by many to be the greatest American musical. The most recent major production, in London in 2016, won 4 Olivier Awards. (2 classes)

**Video:** *Gypsy (staring Imelda Staunton)*

**May 10th:** Even the most talented and experienced Broadway collaborators suffer failures. A young cast can be devastated by an unanticipated flop.

**Video:** *Best Worst Thing That Ever Could Have Happened (2016)*

**May 17<sup>th</sup>:** Broadway lives: A new generation of talent has emerged to carry America's cultural gift to the world into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Video:** *In The Heights: Chasing Broadway Dreams,*

*Hamilton: One Shot to Broadway*