Policy on Professionalism for the
Interdisciplinary Music Dance Theatre Program
Brigham Young University

Professionalism Outcomes: Students will:
* Operate with integrity in the professional world of musical theatre
* Treat others in the industry with a professionalism based on the principles of charity

The MDT faculty feels a keen responsibility to prepare students for workplace experiences. Therefore, this policy statement was created to assist both students and faculty in practicing professionalism in all situations while at Brigham Young University.

Policy
- Any MDT student found in violation of the university Honor Code, especially with regard to cheating and plagiarism, will receive a zero for the assignment involved, may receive an E in the course and will be referred to the Honor Code office. Execution of this policy will be at the instructor’s discretion.
- Students who demonstrate consistently unprofessional behavior in class or rehearsal will be dropped from the MDT program. Examples of unprofessional behavior include, but are not limited to –
  - Unexcused absences in class or rehearsal
  - Disruptive behavior of any kind in class or rehearsal
  - Chronic tardiness
  - Failure to honor memorization and preparation deadlines in class or production
  - Failure to be present in class when scheduled to perform
  - Reading non-course material during class
  - Sleeping during class
  - Playing computer games and/or checking e-mail during class
  - Use of cell phone or text-messaging during class
  - Regularly leaving class or rehearsal early without making arrangements with the instructor or director
  - Eating in class
  - Disturbances or distractions during student performances in class or rehearsal
  - Creating distractions of any kind during classroom lectures or discussions
  - Consistent failure to meet with performance partners and/or accompanists for scheduled rehearsals
  - Failure to attend required proficiency examinations
  - Failing scores in proficiency examinations

Policy Enforcement
If an instructor feels a student is in violation of this policy, the following protocol should be followed:

- **First warning:** This will come from the instructor. A meeting between the instructor and the student will be conducted to resolve the issues of unprofessional behavior. *(If the violation is extreme or recurring, the Music Dance Theatre Steering Committee will be notified).* Following a consultation between the professor and student, a signed letter that describes the problem and subsequent steps towards resolution will be drafted. The Music Dance Theatre Steering Committee will place this letter in the student’s file.
• **Second warning:** This will come from the MDT Steering Committee. At this time, the student will be reviewed for removal from the program. Both sides of the case will be presented to members of the MDT Steering Committee and a decision will follow deliberation. A letter explaining the decision will be signed by the members of the committee and placed in the student’s file.

• **Appeal:** The first appeal will be to the MDT Steering Committee. Second appeal will be to the Chair of Theatre and Media Arts, the Director of the School of Music, or the Chair of the Dance Department. Final appeal will be to the Music Dance Theatre Executive Committee, which consists of representatives from the Dean’s office of the College of Fine Arts and Communications and the College of Health and Human Performance.

**Student Signature**

Upon admittance into the Music Dance Theatre program, each student will be asked to sign a copy of this policy document that recognizes they understand and accept the Professionalism Policy and are prepared to conduct themselves within the framework the policy outlines. The student will then be provided with a signed copy of the policy statement for future reference.

*I_________________________________________________________ understand and accept the Professionalism Policy of the Music Dance Theatre Program at Brigham Young University and will conduct myself at all times according to the standards outlined in the document.*

**Student Signature:** __________________________________________

**Date:** __________________________

The MDT program gratefully acknowledges the Department of Communications *Statement on Professionalism* as a template for this document.

* Please visit [http://learningoutcomes.byu.edu](http://learningoutcomes.byu.edu) and follow the prompts to the College of Fine Arts and Communications. Then click on Music and go to the posting of the Music Dance Theatre Learning Outcomes to view the MDT document in its entirety.