

## Recommended Texts (Winter 2024)

NOTE: Of these two RECOMMENDED texts, the first is a general work that I've used in all of my "Broadway 101" courses; the second is volume 2 of Sondheim's own collection of his lyrics and his highly opinionated commentaries on them. Although I will designate certain chapters and pages for "class preparation," I will not assume that students have read them. (Links are to the Amazon.com page for each book, though you may, of course obtain the books anywhere you like.)

Kantor, Michael, and Laurence Maslon. (2019) [\*\*Broadway: The American Musical, Third Edition\*\*](#). Guilford, CT: Applause Theatre & Cinema Books. ISBN 978-1-4930-4767-3 (paperback) This is the companion book to the PBS documentary film of the same name, a six-part series first broadcast in 2004. The third edition of the book has been updated to include shows that opened in the 2018-19 Broadway season. We will watch the chapters of the DVDs that pertain to the course material, but the book provides a much more comprehensive treatment of American musicals and hundreds of photos. It's worth the heft and the cost—a doorstopper of a tome listing on Amazon.com for about \$40.

Sondheim, Stephen. (2011) [\*\*Look, I Made a Hat: Collected Lyrics \(1981-2011\) with Attendant Comments, Amplifications, Dogmas, Harangues, Digressions, Anecdotes and Miscellany\*\*](#). New York: Alfred A. Knopf. ISBN-13: 978-0-307-59341-2 The title pretty much says it all. From *Sunday in the Park with George* (1984) through *Road Show* (2008)—plus songs for movies, television, and various other occasions—the book provides the complete lyrics, including alternate versions and deleted songs, for each show. In addition to providing background on many of the songs, Sondheim also shares his opinions of his fellow lyricists (at least those who were no longer living as of 2011), critics, and a host of other targets.