#### **THEA 1113**

Voice I: Voice and Diction (3cr FA)

Fall 2024 TR 11:30-12:50

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A comprehensive study of the human voice and its physiology as it relates to the production and quality of sound. A comprehensive study of phonetic sound using the International Phonetic Alphabet, and the skills involved in developing flexibility and range related to the craft of acting.

This course will introduce students to the basic fundamentals of "Standard American Speech" for the American stage as well as the fundamentals of dialect development. Students will learn the International Phonetic Alphabet, address specific individual speech challenges, develop awareness of and achieve proficiency in the variety of speech needs and challenges present for actors on the American Stage.

## **OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to do all of the following:

- 1. Demonstrate understanding of the basic functions, physiology, and capabilities of the human voice.
  - 2. Demonstrate artistic insight and ability to create a variety of characters through the use, range, flexibility and variations of the human voice.
  - 3. Aurally discriminate and verbally explain the different qualities, colors, textures, range, flexibility and variations of the human voice.
  - 4. Demonstrate understanding of the International Phonetic Alphabet through written work and performance.
  - 5. Demonstrate insight into the student's own artistic abilities that relate to acting and performing through use of the voice.
  - 6. Demonstrate the ability to analyze voice acting, from an artistic, expressive, and stylistic perspective.

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:** Speaking with Skill – Dudley Knight

Supplemental texts, scenes and plays will be used in this course. Students may be responsible for obtaining copies of the texts, scenes and plays as assigned in the course.

### **ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES**

A personal audio recording device, mirror, pencils and notebook paper are required.

## REQUIRED PERFORMANCE VIEWING/CRITIQUE - Tips for Writing a Critique

## **Download Tips for Writing a Critique**

View and critique a live or recorded theatrical production. Critique focusing on vocal performance.

- o Flash 24 Theatre Festival Sept. 7 8pm
- o The 39 Steps Nov. 7-9, 14-16
- May use an outside theatrical production
- Recorded theatrical options may include
  - Digital Theatre at <a href="http://libweb.slcc.edu/research/database-listing/D(Links">http://libweb.slcc.edu/research/database-listing/D(Links</a> to an external site.)
  - Links to an external site.
  - o . (Must login with an SLCC ID.)
  - Broadway HD
  - PBS Great Performances <a href="https://www.pbs.org/wnet/gperf/(Links">https://www.pbs.org/wnet/gperf/(Links</a>
    to an external site.)
  - Links to an external site.

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Other online resources available

A written play critique will be submitted for each. Production critiques due on Canvas by the first class of the week following the performance.

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY

#### **COURSE ATTENDANCE POLICY**

This is an interactive class. Attendance is extremely important to the experience. If you are going to miss a class, please contact the professor and group members in advance.

Your group will perform without you if necessary. If you are experiencing any illness symptoms wear a mask and take the necessary precautions.

You are allowed three free absences for any reason. Each absence beyond that will drop your final grade by 5% (50 points) up to 300 points. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to continue learning. Each unit will have one extra credit/makeup assignment that can be completed to make up for one absence. Complete the unit's makeup assignment in Canvas to demonstrate that learning and make up the points. While these assignments will help your attendance grade, they will not change your actual attendance record. In-class performances and assignments may not be made up without instructor approval. Communicate extreme circumstances to your instructor. Communication is key.

Absence 1-3 - Free. Communicate in advance and make up any missing work.

Absence 4 -7 - Drop final grade by 50 points (5%)

- Complete one of five Canvas makeup assignments to make up points.

Absence 8+ - Drop final grade by 50 points (5%)

#### DEPARTMENTAL ATTENDANCE POLICY

In the Salt Lake Community College Theatre Department, attendance is an extremely important part of the educational experience. Students are expected to attend every meeting of their classes. In case of a necessary absence, students should contact their professor and any group members in advance and stay caught up on any missed work. Students are accountable for all academic activities, and faculty may require additional assignments to make up for the missed class or classes. In addition, faculty members are encouraged to make reasonable accommodations for students requesting to miss class due to health issues, emergencies, and the observance of religious holidays.

When a student reaches 3 absences in a course, or 3 tardies in a course, or a combination of the two, the student will be called to have a meeting with the department head to discuss their attendance. If the attendance problems persist, the student may be put on departmental probation for one semester. This probation will prohibit the student from auditioning or participating in departmental productions.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

- 1. No food or drink in class. This includes GUM. Please bring a water bottle.
- 2. This is a great semester to consider quitting smoking! No E-cigarettes allowed in class.

- 3. Cell Phones Phone should remain silent and put away during class.
- 4. Office Hours To guarantee that we can have time for a meeting during my office hours, please schedule with me in advance when possible, in person or via E-mail. If I am not in my office, you will find me in the shop.
- 5. Missed Assignments and Quizzes: May be made up at the discretion of the instructor if the absence results from a pre-excused absence or with a doctor's note. Otherwise, no performance, exam, or quiz will be given as makeup. You must arrange for make-up work. I won't come to you.
- 6. Late Assignments: Late assignments will be accepted until two weeks before the final regular class. All late assignments will be given 75% credit.
- 7. All written assignments should be typed into a word document using 12 point font, and submitted on Canvas as a .doc or a .pdf. Documents submitted in the incorrect format will be counted as missing or late until submitted correctly.

| Assignments                     | Poi  | nts |
|---------------------------------|------|-----|
|                                 |      |     |
| Production Critique             | 50   |     |
| IPA Quiz                        | 50   |     |
| Dialect Performance #1          | 100  |     |
| Dialect Performance #2          | 100  |     |
| Character Voice/Children's Book | 100  |     |
| Vocal Recipe Papers (2)         | 100  |     |
| Final Project                   | 200  |     |
| Attendance/Participation        | 300  |     |
| TOTAL                           | 1000 |     |

## **GRADING SCALE:**

| 1000-940     | Α  | 829-800 | B-  |    | 699-660 | D  |
|--------------|----|---------|-----|----|---------|----|
| 939-900      | A- | 799-760 | С   |    | 659-630 | D  |
| 899-860      | В  | 759-730 | С   |    | 629-600 | D- |
| 859-830<br>E | В  | 729-7   | 700 | C- | 599-0   | )  |

# Schedule – (subject to change)

|                     | In Class Today:  | Due Today:     | Recommended<br>Reading |
|---------------------|--|----------------|------------------------|
| Tue.<br>Aug.<br>20  | Introductions  | Introduce Book |                        |
| Thur.<br>Aug.<br>22 | 9 Ingredients of Voice   |                | PDF online             |
| Tue.<br>Aug.<br>27  | The range of human sound/ Vocal Warm-ups/Connecting to our voice |                | Ch. 1                  |

<sup>\*</sup>Articles and readings will be assigned throughout the semester

| Thur.                | Anatomy of the voice                            |                    | Ch. 2-3                                 |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| Aug.<br>29           |   |                    | My voice recipe<br>Paper #1<br>(Canvas) |
| Tue.<br>Sept.<br>3   | Omnish/Oral Posture/Placement                   |                    | Ch. 4-5                                 |
| Thur.<br>Sept.<br>5  | Present Speeches                                | Campaign<br>speech | Ch. 6                                   |
| Tue.<br>Sept.<br>10  | Fitzmaurice/Laban                               |                    | Bring in a piece of text                |
| Thur.<br>Sept.<br>12 | Fitzmaurice/Laban                               |                    |   |
| Tue.<br>Sept.<br>17  | Introduction to International Phonetic Alphabet |                    | Ch. 8-10                                |
| Thur.<br>Sept.<br>19 | IPA Consonants                                  |                    | Ch. 12-13                               |
| Tue.<br>Sept.<br>24  | IPA Vowels                                      |                    | Ch. 14-18                               |

**IPA Review** Thur. Sept. 26 **IPA Quiz** Tue. Oct. 1 Developing Thur. Character/Animation/Placement Oct. 3 Character voices/Reading Children's Bring in Tue. Book Children's Book Oct. 8 Thur. Oct. **NO CLASS** 10 Voice problems/Taking care of the Tue. voice Oct. 15 **FALL BREAK - NO CLASS** Thur. Oct. 17 Approaching Dialect Acquisition Tue. Oct. 22 Vocal Recipe Thur. Create A Dialect Paper #2 Due Oct.

24

| Tue.<br>Oct.<br>29  | Create A Dialect                          | Complete Dialect<br>Form                                  |           |
|---------------------|---|---|-----------|
| Thur.<br>Nov.<br>31 | Dialect Performances #1                   |   |           |
| Tue.<br>Nov. 5      | Dialect Rehearsal                         |   |           |
| Thur.<br>Nov. 7     | Dialect Rehearsal                         |   |           |
| Tue.<br>Nov.<br>12  | Dialect Rehearsal                         |   |           |
| Thur.<br>Nov.<br>14 | Dialect Performance #2                    | Present dialect monologues                                | Ch. 23-24 |
| Tue.<br>Nov.<br>19  | Prepare Final                             |   | Ch. 25-26 |
| Thur.<br>Nov.<br>21 |   | Find Monologue,<br>Select Final<br>Dialect<br>Performance |           |
| Tue.<br>Nov.<br>26  | Final Performance rehearsal/IPA<br>Review |   |           |

Thanksgiving - NO CLASS

Thur. Nov.

28

**Tue.** Final Performance rehearsal

Dec. 3

Production Critique Due

Last day to submit late assignments

Wed. Final Showcase Performance

Dec. 4

Thur. Final Performances in Class

Dec. 5

## **Final Project**

Select a Dialect we have not learned in class. Find an appropriate monologue from a play or film to showcase that dialect. You will perform memorized monologue in the dialect. In addition, you will present a text analysis of the monologue examining the following:

- Analysis of applicable 9 ingredients of voice
- Description of Oral Posture
- Dialect Sheet
- IPA dialect notes/transcription