

Course Number: TPP 4287, Section 29HF

Title: Voice, Speech and Body Training for the Actor Semester 1

Fall Semester, 2016

Credit Hours: 3

Meeting Times and Location:

MFW; Period 4: Time: 10:40am-11:30am

Nadine McGuire Pavilion: CON G13

Professor: Nichole Hamilton

Instructor's Office: Nadine McGuire Pavilion #232

Office hours: MWF 9am-10am or by appointment.

Instructor Contact Information: Office: 352-273-0503; Email: nyhamilton@ufl.edu

Course Description:

Designed to recover and free the voice and integrate the body, mind and emotions of the actor in finding clear and honest expression in performance.

The course will deal with building the voice through organic instruction, searching, discovering and *doing*. It deals with finding one's own natural voice, training oneself to feel the sound, organically cultivating the body's vocal energy states, and re-enforcing and expanding one's communication skills and personality as a versatile and diverse actor.

Objectives/Goals:

-To learn and practice the techniques of alignment, relaxation, breath support, resonance, projection, and articulation for personal and professional benefit.

-To develop a daily habit, regime and system of practice, exploration, refinement and vocal 'problem solving' which will carry into the students' professional life.

-To apply the vocal techniques to a variety of scenes, texts, and roles and to leave the class with a better understanding and appreciation of the vocal instrument and its capabilities both intellectually and sensorially.

-To consciously and behavior-ally apply the vocal/speech tools as an aid in the actors' search for truth and believability.

REQUIRED READING LIST:

Arthur Lessac, *Voice and Speech, The Use and Training of the Human Voice* (McGraw Hill Higher Education, ISBN-13: 978-1-55934-696-2, 1997).

SUGGESTED READING LIST:

Speak with Distinction by Edith Skinner (Applause Publishers ISBN 1-55783-053-3); *Voice and the Actor* by Cicely Berry (Harrap ISBN 0245 52012); *Freeing the Natural Voice* by Kristin Linklater (Drama Publishers ISBN 0-89676-071-5).

Class Expectations:

Part lecture, discussion, explorations, and application of work and discoveries
Word lists assignments and devising of sentences
Assigned readings
Solo, partner and group work
Vocal and physical explorations: Be prepared to move in class (sometimes floor work).
Experiments and Drills
Preparation (de-construction and marking) of selected scenes, monologues, and other text materials
Performance based application of vocal work chosen from contemporary plays

Binder: Assignments, Notes, and Journal Entries.

Assignments will be given throughout the week. Word lists, devising of sentences and selections chosen from the various playwrights and authors will be handed in for grading and instructional purposes.

Note taking and journaling of class-work and home study (includes observations, questions, discoveries, and daily work out regime) is a requirement of the course - the journal will be reviewed at midterm and included in final grade.

Throughout the semester, at the discretion of the instructor, a class, or classes, may be devoted to special projects, assignments, independent study or one-on-one sessions.

Important Dates:

August 29-Sept. 2 Special Project

Sept. 5 – Labor Day

Sept. 7 & 9 – Project Due

Oct. 12 – Midterm

Oct. 14-15 – Homecoming

Nov. 11 – Veterans Day

Nov. 23-26 Thanksgiving

Dec. 7 Final

Grading: Grades will be based on attendance, professional work ethics, active participation in discussion and exercises, a demonstrated progress and accomplishment of voice and speech skills in everyday and performance situations, a strong effort to explore one's vocal instrument in all its many facets, completion of home-study assignments including fully memorized monologues and/or scenes, partner and group ensemble work in class, and subjective evaluations of intangibles such as experimentation, participation, discipline, enthusiasm, etc.

Make-up exams or other work:

Excused absences do not make one exempt from class obligations. Work must be made up in a timely fashion, at the discretion of the instructor, typically in the week follow the student's return to class. Unexcused late work will be penalized at the discretion of the instructor, with penalties increasing relative to lateness. In addition to all of the above, instructor may consult and meet with faculty to discuss your vocal/speech improvement as evidenced in other classes.

Note: Application of the skills learned must be applied to one’s everyday voice and speech in order to progress. Improvement generally occurs over a long period of concentrated effort. It requires the student to invest considerable time in order to achieve results and to discover the very best voice one has. Progress will be reflected by the amount of time one is willing to invest outside of class. At least forty-five minutes to an hour of concentrated work, everyday, is a necessity. Ninety percent of the student’s progress and discovery is a direct result of the practice, exploration, and experimentation performed at home. Do not compare your progress to others, as everyone develops at their own pace – Do observe your personal growth.

- Recognizable progress/improvement – 30%
- Written: class assignments, mid-term & finals – 20%
- Experimentation, exploration – 20%
- Performance presentations – 20%
- Class participation – 10%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	100-94	4.0
A-	93-90	3.67
B+	89-87	3.33
B	86-84	3.00
B-	83-80	2.67
C+	79-77	2.33
C	76-74	2.00
C- *	73-70	1.67
D+	69-67	1.33
D	66-64	1.00
D-	63-60	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF	59-0	0.00

***Please note that a C- is no longer an acceptable grade for any course in which a 2.0 GPA is required, for example, any course in the major.**

UF grading policy website:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#calculatinggpa>

Class Attendance: Absence due to illness must be documented. Other activity resulting in absence must be documented in advance. Excused absences will be considered (see UF Undergrad Catalog Attendance Policies) and includes the following:

- 1) Documented medical reason;
- 2) Documented university obligation that has been submitted in advance;
- 3) Documented family emergency;
- 4) Religious Holiday.

-You are allowed two unexcused absences. Each additional unexcused absence results in a reduction of one half a letter grade.

-You are allowed two tardy arrivals. Each additional tardy results in an unexcused absence.

Simply put: Do the math, show up for class, stay healthy, and develop a discipline that will keep you working.

Student Honors Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves, and our peers, to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Unauthorized Recordings - A student shall not without express authorization from the faculty member and, if required by law, from other participants, make or receive any recording, including but not limited to audio and video recordings of any class, co-curricular meeting, organizational meeting, or meeting with a faculty member.

Faculty Copyright - Worksheets and/or handouts devised and created by the instructor, including accompanying lectures, are copyright and are the property of the faculty member and may not be disseminated in any form, taped, or used for any commercial purposes.

Disabilities: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the students who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Academic Honesty: the University's policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and the student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. Full information regarding those policies is available at the following link:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/student-honorcode.aspx>.

University Counseling Services

Contact Information: UF Counseling Center 3190 Radio Road; P.O. Box 112662, Gainesville, FL 32611-2662 Tel: (352) 392-1575; Web: www.counsel.ufl.edu