MFA Voice & Speech Training 3
Speech For the Actor in the 21st Century
TPP 6717 University of Florida Fall 2018

Time: 3rd Period (9:35-10:25) **Days:** M/W/F **Room:** CON G014
Instructor: Susan Schuld **Office Hours:** MWF 10:30-11:30 or by appointment
Email: sschuld@ufl.edu
The recommended method of communication outside of scheduled class time is email.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Our first aim is to learn speech actions using the Knight Thompson Speechwork and learn a "So Called" General/Neutral American Accent. We will study vocal anatomy and physiology and move to a very full overview of phonetics based on a much more linguistic model than is usually taught in speech courses. The emphasis is on the physical awareness and experience of sound distinction and the ability to discern subtle changes in vocal articulated sound using sounds that are found in many languages other than English. Through this process, we continue to learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and develop phonetic transcription skills for future dialect study and script notation. At the same time we are guided by Patricia Fletcher's "Classically Speaking" to learn and apply a 'So Called" General/Neutral American Accent to text. We become more aware of the options available to the actor through speech. We explore the notion that proficiency in these American accents might open doors in terms of character choice and can assist the actor in learning the sounds essential to many other accents.

The section ambition is to practice voiceover acting techniques for radio and television commercials, multimedia, and other audio and video presentations. Class will provide information on the industry, professional work and studio etiquette. You will be building a voiceover career plan and collect information for a future website.

SPEECHWORK OUTCOMES:

The student who completes this course successfully will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of speech anatomy
- Aurally distinguish & demonstrate accent phonemes of "General American"
- Demonstrate transcription competency when using the International Phonetic Alphabet

VOICEOVER OUTCOMES:

Successful completion of the Voiceover coursework will provide the student with:

- A practical understanding of the voice over business and what it takes to succeed
- Experience reading a large variety of copy from numerous voiceover genres

- Self-awareness of current and potential abilities, by submitting assigned self-evaluations and selecting appropriate material for potential demo, including transcribing/collecting, rewriting and writing copy

TEXTBOOKS
Classically Speaking by Patricia Fletcher (2nd Edition)

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS
A final showing will be presented for other classes, instructors, and invited guests at the end of the term.

REQUIRED MATERIALS
Classically Speaking textbook, Binder for handouts, Yoga Mat, Water bottle, pencil, Small hand mirror, Digital recorder

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF PRACTICE: Syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Week 1- Introduction to Knight-Thompson Speechwork, Part I Making Sounds, Silence, The space that shapes sound, From silence to sound
The muscles that shape sound: the tool kit, "Phthong" Shaping, Obstruents: Obstructing the flow

Week 2- Part II Finding Language, Exploring the limits: Outlandish
Obstruents within Language, The physical actions of obstruents in Language, The empty Chart, Making your own language

Week 3 - Part III Phonetics, Writing it down, American vowel phonemes, New vowels for diphthongs, All the vowel phonemes, Combinations, Mid central off glide diphthongs, Polysyllabic words, Connected Speech

Week 4- (URTA recruiting)

Week 5- Introduction to SCGA Front Vowels /i/ /ɪ/ /ɛ/ /æ/ & /t/d/n/l / & /b/ /d/ /g/
KTS, Skills of Intelligibility, Formal and Informal Speech

Week 6- /s/ & /z/ & /sts/ /str/ /dr/ /tr/ , KTS Consonant Skills

Week 7- /ɔ/ & /ɑ/ & /m/ /n/ /ŋ/ /l/ & syllabics

Week 8-/u/ /ʊ/ /o/ & /oʊ̆ **Tongue Twisters and IPA Midterm**

Week Spring Break

Week 9- Mid Vowels /ʌ/ /ə/ & /r/ /j/ /l/

Week 10- Diphthongs /eĭ/ /aĭ/ /ɔĭ/, KTS Vowel Skills

Week 11- Diphthongs /oŭ/ /aŭ/ & /ʒ/ /ʤ/

Week 12- Diphthongs of /r/ /ɪə̆/ /eə̆/ ɔə̆/ /ɑə̆/ & /ʧ/ /ʃ/

Week 13- Triphthongs /aĭə̆/ /aŭə̆/ & /ɵ/ /ð/ /f/ v/ **Tongue Twisters and IPA FINAL**

Week 14- work final

Week 15- Final presentations TBA

GRADING

Class Participation/Professionalism 20% (*punctuality, communication, attitude)*
Conceptual Information 45% (*homework, quizzes, blogs, papers)*
Midterm 15% (*level of progress in voice skills, application of acting skills, and So Called General/Neutral American speech skills)*
Final Performance 20% (*level of progress in voice skills, application of acting skills, and So Called General/Neutral American speech skills)*

General Grade Guidelines

A+ **Exceptional Work** (Mastery of Work)

A **Exceptional Work** (Outstanding Work)
Inspired Work
Imaginative and through solutions to problems
Shows continuous and exceptional (above average) growth
Shows understanding of basic ideas and methods taught through exceptional application in projects
Timely preparation and submission of class work
Regular and constructive classroom participation in critiques and/or discussion as appropriate to class and subject
Perfect attendance

A - **Exceptional Work** (Noteworthy Work)

B+ **Above Average** (Well Above Average Work)

B **Above Average** (Above Average Work)
Good workable solutions to problems
Shows some insight into problem solving
Shows continuous and above average growth
Shows understanding of basic ideas and methods taught through skillful application in projects
Regular attendance

B- **Above Average** (Narrowly Above Average Work)

C+ **Average** (Average in all respects)

C **Average** (Marginally Average in all respects)
Appropriate solutions to problems
Shows understanding of basic and methods taught through application in projects
Most class work is prepared and submitted in a timely manner
Participates in classroom critiques and/or discussions
Regular attendance

C - **Average** (Narrowly Average in all respects)

D+ **Below Average Work** (Marginally Acceptable)

D **Below Average Work** (Narrowly Acceptable)
Inconsistent solutions to problems
Shows little growth
Shows inconsistent understanding of basic idea and methods taught and applied to projects
Class work is often not prepared and submitted in a timely manner
Rarely participates in classroom critiques and/or discussions
Inconsistent and poor attendance

D- **Below Average Work** (Barely Acceptable)

F **Unacceptable Work** (Failed to meet requirements of the course)
Incomplete or no solutions to problems
Shows little or no growth
Shows little or no understanding of basic ideas and methods taught and the applications of these ideas are often missing or inconsistently presented in class work
Class work is not prepared and/or presented on time or at all
Participates rarely or not at all in classroom critiques and/or discussions
Poor attendance

Class Participation and Professionalism

20% of your grade for this class is based on your participation and Professionalism in discussion and the physical explorations.

Participating in the physical component of the class, means having a positive and rigorous attitude with exploring new work. In other words, resistance to change or negative attitudes towards the work or feedback from the instructor is not participating. It means arriving early, suited up, and ready to move right when class starts.

Participating in discussion does not necessarily mean talking a lot or showing everyone else that you know or have studied a lot. 'Good discussion' participation involves trying to build on, and synthesize, the physical experience that has transpired. It also involves showing, respect and appreciation for others' comments and contributions and learning how to "agree to disagree".

If you find yourself talking a lot in the feedback sessions, some of the most helpful things you can do are allow for a quiet interlude. Learning to live with unanswered questions is a valuable skill as an actor/artist.

Skills that define a Professional Attitude are:

- Demonstrate empathy, integrity, honesty, good interpersonal skills, curiosity, courage, and desire for change.
- Ability to adapt to a working environment that is both rigorous and demanding.
- Ability to show flexibility to changes.
- Ability to function in the face of uncertainties questions and stresses, which are inherent in the training and artistic process, as well as the profession.
- Ability and willingness to respond physically to appropriate verbal and tactile cues given by their teachers.

Mistakes to Avoid:

- Refusing to Ask for Help
- Insubordination to your Authority Figure
- Not Being Able to Handle Feedback
- Gossiping
- Being Afraid to Make Mistakes
- Not Admitting You Made a Mistake
- Having a Bad Attitude
- Not Learning from Your Classmates
- Not Being Prepared
- Comparing your Artistic Journey to Other's Journey's

Email Policy

Electronic mail or "email" is considered an official method for communication because it delivers information in a convenient, timely, cost effective and environmentally aware manner. Students are expected to check their official Illinois email on a frequent and consistent basis in order to remain informed of university-related communications. The university recommends checking email daily. Students are responsible for the consequences of not reading, in a timely fashion, university-related communications sent to their official student email account. This policy ensures that all students have access to this important form of communication. It ensures students can be reached through a standardized channel by faculty and other staff of the university as needed.

Attendance Policies:

Only a University sanctioned absence or medical absence will be excused (a note from your physician or school nurse). You, personally, MUST notify the teacher BEFORE class in order for the absence to be excused.

No absences of any kind will excuse you from class responsibilities. You, the student, will be held accountable for keeping up with class assignments and projects.

3 unexcused absences = a single letter grade reduction 4 unexcused absences = a two letter grade reduction

6 unexcused absences = a three letter grade reduction

Tardiness:
Tardiness is disruptive to a class of this nature and will not be tolerated. Any tardiness will be recorded along with attendance. Attendance will be taken promptly at the start of class. If you enter the room after the role-call has been completed, you will be considered tardy. If you enter the room anytime after 20 minutes of the official start of the class you will be marked absent for that class day.

2 tardies = 1absence

My communication policy:
Avoid using words such as "um", "like" or "kinda" when making observations or sharing with the group. This class' focus is on you expressing yourself more clearly and these words will not aid you in that purpose. If you feel a certain way about something, stick by it, don't take the power out of your observations and speech with these weak words.

UF Policies:
University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities (Required): "Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester."
University Policy on Academic Conduct: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.
Class Demeanor or Netiquette: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. [Describe what is expected and what will occur as a result of improper behavior See Sample Netiquette Document]

Getting Help:
For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:
http://helpdesk.ufl.edu
(352) 392-HELP (4357)
Walk-in: HUB 132
Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES:
UF Counseling Center 3190 Radio Rd. P.O. Box 112662, University of Florida Gainesville, FL 32611-2662 352-392-1575
www.counsel.ufl.edu

Other resources are available at http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help for:
Counseling and Wellness resources
Disability resources
Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
Library Help Desk support
Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints to submit a complaint.