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Fall 9-1-2022

THTR 210.01: Voice and Speech I

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THTR 210 - 01 Voice and Speech 1 2 Credits Autumn 2022
MWF 2:00 – 2:50pm Education Auditorium
August 29, 2022 – December 15, 2022

Andy Taylor

Andrew3.taylor@mso.umt.edu **PARTV 198**

Office Hours: TBA

Course Description: This class is an introduction to the study of the voice for the stage actor. It is practice based, with an emphasis on vocal exercises to increase breath control and power, and to improve diction, projection, vocal health and flexibility. We will also include some script analysis and work to bring text to life vocally. Many classes throughout the semester will include various physical and vocal exercises, suitable loose attire is best.

Course Outcomes:

On completion of this course students will:

Have an understanding of useful first steps and exercises an aspiring actor can undertake to growth the range, power, and control of their voice.

Have an increased awareness and ability to engage an audience.

Have a clear understanding of healthy vocal production.

Using Shakespeare, have an expanded knowledge of script analysis, and how to reflect that understanding in one's vocal performances.

Perform in class for their peers in monologues and scenes of scripted work.

Choose and perform a memorized monologue in class focusing on the particular vocal demands inherent in the text, including possible dialect work as needed.

Required Texts:

All texts required for class will be available on Moodle or distributed by instructor.

Work for Assessment:

80% -- attendance and in-class contribution, participation, effort, attitude, and respect. **20% --Written assignments**, two reviews of fall productions at the UM Dept of Theatre and Dance, a journal of reflections on classwork.

Ground Rules:

It is your responsibility to keep up with your attendance. The “stuff” of acting happens in the room. If you are encountering any health or related issues that affect your attendance, please contact Andy Taylor about this as soon as possible.

Please feel free to ask and answer questions inside and outside class. If you have any questions about how you are doing, contact me by e-mail, or arrange to see me during office hours.

Voice and Speech 1, Fall 2022 Syllabus: (always subject to change)

Week 1: Introduction to the mechanics of healthy vocal production

Week 2: Physical and vocal exercises; Hamlet's advice to the players

Week 3: Singing with your whole body; using exercises to improve diction and breath control

Week 4: Shakespeare's sonnets

Week 5: Breaking down the text of your sonnet and employing that in performance

Week 6: More text work and recording sonnet presentations

Week 7: Music and musicality in your voice, introduction of the vocal "prop"

Week 8: Adapting your voice for character work (dialects, accents, quirks)

Week 9: Teaching yourself

Week 10: Scenes with a partner

Week 11: More scene work

Week 12: A solid self-tape, representing yourself, finding your own voice

Week 13-15: The inner split screen and TBA

Final: Thursday, December 15, 2022 1:10 – 3:10 pm, Education Auditorium

COURSE POLICIES

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND THE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE:

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php.

SCHOOL OF THEATRE & DANCE:

- **Handbook Practices & Procedures:** All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance/about/handbook>.
- **Class Etiquette:** Please limit your **eating or drinking** during the class. Please let me know in writing if you need a medical exception to this policy. **Liquids in a capped container** are acceptable. Absolutely **no weapons**, real or fake, are allowed in the classroom. When class has ended, please return space to its original condition (in other words, **clean up** after yourselves). Lastly, **electronic devices are to be stowed away** during class unless permission has been given to access them. It is crucial to the success of the course that you stay directly engaged during class. Please check with me if you feel you need an exception to this rule. Further, you may use your laptops and devices for all in-class assignments or project work, so bring them to class.

DISABILITY SERVICES: The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide a fully accessible learning environment for all students.

STUDENT WELLNESS:

The School of Theatre & Dance recognizes that theatre and performance content and processes can provoke; therefore, during the course of a class or rehearsal, students can choose to remove themselves from activities should they feel a threat to their well-being. Please communicate with your instructor and/or stage manager as soon as you can, prior to or after leaving.

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, and crosscultural challenges can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive in the university setting. For helpful resources, please contact the Curry Health Center Counseling department at 406-243-4711 or schedule an online appointment through the health portal: www.umt.edu/hportal. For a crisis or for after-hours care, you can contact: the emergency rooms at St. Patrick Hospital or Community Medical Center; the National Suicide Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255; or the Crisis Text line: text MT to 741-741.