The Actor’s Voice
Theatre 151, 3 Credits
Course Syllabus, Spring 2019
Iowa State University

"To free the voice is to free the person.”

Kristin Linklater

Instructor Information:
Instructor: Amanda Petefish-Schrag
Office Hours: M & W 9:30 -11:30 AM, 2:00-3:00PM. Additional hours may be scheduled by appointment.
Office Phone: 515-294-8179
Office Location: 0318 Carver
E-mail: apschrag@iastate.edu

Meeting Information:
Time: 1:10-2:00 PM, M W F
Room: Carver 0308

Course Description:
Study and practice in fundamental use of actor’s instrument and vocal production: breathing, quality, articulation, projection, and expressiveness for the performing artist.

Learning Objectives:
• Expand and develop physical awareness related to the body’s expressive potential.
• Increase flexibility and coordination.
• Create a daily regiment focused on protecting and developing the performer's physical instrument.
• Communicate purpose, feeling, and intent by verbal and nonverbal means.
• Identify and apply theatre movement and voice theory to practical performance situations.

Content:
Body Awareness:
  Structure, Function, and Care
  Breathing and Relaxation
  Building Strength and Flexibility
  Improving Alignment
Body/Voice in Time and Space
Physical/Vocal Choices Based on Imagery and Metaphor
Interrelationship of Choices and Text
International Phonetic Alphabet
American Standard Dialect

Methods of Instruction:
This class involves intellectual and experiential exploration of theatre movement theories and techniques. The plan of study for this course includes solo movement exercises, partnered movement exercises, and group exercises. The class will also include readings, demonstrations, discussions, projects, performance critiques and analytical work.
Course Evaluation:

- Class Preparation and Participation: 25%
- Quizzes - Anatomy and Care, IPA/American Standard: 10%
- Process Journal Assignments: 25%
- Performance Challenges: 40%

Attendance and Participation: Attendance is vital to success in this class. As with any rehearsal or performance, absences affect both the individual student’s progress and the progress of the class as a whole. Plan to be on time, dressed in comfortable clothes and shoes that allow you to move, bend, sit on the floor, etc. You will be expected to participate fully in class exercises and to rehearse and memorize performance projects outside of class time.

A note on electronics: To allow for full engagement in class activities, cell phones and other electronic devices must be silenced and put away before the start of each class session.

Students are allowed one unexcused absence in the course. Each subsequent unexcused absence will lower the “Preparation and Participation” grade by 15%. It is possible to achieve negative points in this category. Arriving late to class more than once will impact your attendance grade.

An excused absence is defined as: 1) a medical emergency or illness, 2) death in the immediate family (grandparents included), 3) university sanctioned activities. Official documentation and advance notification is required for an absence to count as “excused.”

Assignments: Assignments are due in class on the day assigned. Late assignments drop one letter grade for each day they are late. Save your work, have ink in your printer, keep your dog from eating your thumb drive, etc. Work due on the date of campus-sanctioned activity absences must be turned in prior to the absence date. The student is responsible for making up all work missed because of absences.

Grading Scale:

A- to A = 90-100% Exceptional work: Always prepared; extensive outside-of-class preparation; self-motivated. Active, positive contributor to class. Punctual; always present. Demonstrates significant improvements in skill and knowledge during semester.

B- to B+ = 80-89% Good work: Always prepared; significant outside-of-class preparation, self-motivated. Punctual; always present. Positive contributor to class. Demonstrates notable improvement in skills and knowledge during semester.

C- to C+ = 70-79% Average work: Generally prepared; adequate outside-of-class preparation; often self-motivated. Often contributes to class. Punctual; almost always present. Demonstrates some improvement in skills and knowledge during semester.

D- to D+ = 60-69% Below average work: Often not prepared; shows little outside preparation; rarely self-motivated. Seldom contributes to class, and/or may have negative attitude. Sometimes late; some absences. Little skill and knowledge improvement demonstrated during semester.

F = 59% and below. Unacceptable work: Rarely prepared and lacks adequate outside-of-class preparation; not motivated. Does not contribute to class and/or may have negative attitude. Not punctual; several absences. Virtually no demonstrated growth in skills and knowledge.

(± and - grades will be assigned on the following scale: percentages ending in a 0-2 will result in a -; percentages ending in 7-9 will result in a +. Example: 70-72%=C-, 73-76%=C, 77-79=C+)

Final grades will be submitted to the registrar by 10am on the Monday after final exams. After this date and time, a grade will only be changed if there has been a mistake on the instructor’s part.
University Policy Statements:
The instructor of this course abides by University policies and regulations concerning attendance, academic honesty (including plagiarism), and all others as stated in the current Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Academic Dishonesty:
All work should be your own. Cheating, plagiarism (copying or paraphrasing the ideas of others and passing them off as your own), and other forms of academic dishonesty are very serious issues. Penalties for academic dishonesty may range from failure of the assignment to dismissal from the university. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.
http://www.dso.iastate.edu/ia/academic/misconduct.html

To avoid plagiarism, document the source when using words or ideas from another person's work, (including printed, spoken, and electronic sources).

To document direct quotations in APA or MLA style, writers must:
1. include quotation marks around the material or indent it within the text to indicate their use of the source;
2. provide appropriate parenthetical notation;
3. include the name of the author (if available) or the title (if no author is given) either in the introduction to the quotation or within the parenthetical citation.

To document a direct quotation in an oral presentation, speakers must:
1. say the word "quote" to verbally replace written quotation marks; and
2. include the name of the author (if available) or the title (if no author is given) either immediately before or after the quotation.
3. outline oral presentations consistent with the above rules for written material.

If you paraphrase facts and/or ideas of others, by fully considering the ideas, then stating them in your own words and sentence structure; you must still credit the sources.

Disability Accommodations:
Iowa State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Sect 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please contact (instructor name) to set up a meeting within the first two weeks of the semester or as soon as you become aware of your need. Before meeting with (instructor name), you will need to obtain a SAAR form with recommendations for accommodations from the Disability Resources Office, located in Room 1076 on the main floor of the Student Services Building. Their telephone number is 515-294-7220 or email disabilityresources@iastate.edu. Retroactive requests for accommodations will not be honored.

Dead Week:
This class follows the Iowa State University Dead Week guidelines as outlined in http://catalog.iastate.edu/academiclife/#deadweek

Harassment and Discrimination:
Iowa State University strives to maintain our campus as a place of work and study for faculty, staff, and students that is free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and harassment based upon race, ethnicity, sex (including sexual assault), pregnancy, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or status as a U.S. veteran. Any student who has concerns about such behavior should contact his/her instructor, Student Assistance at 515-294-1020 or email dso-sas@iastate.edu, or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance at 515-294-7612.

Religious Accommodation:
If an academic or work requirement conflicts with your religious practices and/or observances, you may request reasonable accommodations. Your request must be in writing, and your instructor or supervisor will review the request. You or your instructor may also seek assistance from the Dean of Students Office or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance.

Contact Information:
If you are experiencing, or have experienced, a problem with any of the above issues, email academicissues@iastate.edu
## TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic and Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 1/14</td>
<td>The Actor as Athlete/Introduction to course</td>
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<tr>
<td>W 1/16</td>
<td>Body Awareness: Alignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 1/18</td>
<td>Body Awareness: Strength and Flexibility</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/21-25</td>
<td>KC ACTF Week – Independent Work</td>
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*We will not meet as a class this week. Instead work independently on the following:*
- Body Awareness: Structure and Function (See learning resources in Canvas)
- Prepare for Anatomy and Care Quiz

**Complete Process Journal: Personal Inventory, Due 1/25 by 11:59PM**

| M 1/28     | Building Physicality: The Body in Time and Space |
| W 1/30     | **Anatomy and Care Quiz**; Building Expression: The Body in Time and Space |
| F 2/1      | Build Expressions: The Body in Time and Space |

**Complete Process Journal: Optimum and Habitual Pitch, Due 2/1 by 11:59PM**

| M 2/4      | Building Expression: The Body in Time and Space |
| W 2/6      | Building Expression: The Body in Time and Space |
| F 2/8      | Jabberwocky Challenge Assignment; Jabberwocky Lab |
| M 2/11     | Building Expression: Imagery and Metaphor |
| W 2/13     | Building Expression: Imagery and Metaphor |
| F 2/15     | Jabberwocky Lab |
| M 2/18     | Building Expression: Imagery and Metaphor |
| W 2/20     | Building Expression: Imagery and Metaphor |
| F 2/22     | Jabberwocky Lab |
| M 2/25     | **Jabberwocky Challenge Projects and Critiques** |
| W 2/27     | **Jabberwocky Challenge Projects and Critiques** |
| F 3/1      | **Jabberwocky Challenge Projects and Critiques** |
| M 3/4      | Language: Symbolic **PROJECT SELF-REFLECTIONS DUE** |
| W 3/6      | Language: Symbolic |
| F 3/8      | Language: Detailed vs. Essential; Soap Opera Challenge Assignment |

**Complete Process Journal: Symbolic Gesture/Vocalization, Due 3/8 by 11:59PM**

| M 3/11     | Language: Detailed vs. Essential |
| W 3/13     | Language: Detailed vs. Essential |
| F 3/15     | Soap Opera Lab |

**Complete Process Journal: Personal Goals Update, Due 3/15 11:59PM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3/18-22</th>
<th>SPRING BREAK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 3/25</td>
<td>Language: Dialects and Idiolects</td>
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<tr>
<td>W 3/27</td>
<td>Language: IPA and American Standard</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 3/29</td>
<td>Soap Opera Lab</td>
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Complete Process Journal: Listening and Identifying, Due 3/29 by 11:59PM

M 4/1  Language: IPA and American Standard
W 4/3  Language: IPA and American Standard
F 4/5  Soap Opera Lab

M 4/8  **Performance Projects and Critiques**
W 4/10 **Performance Projects and Critiques**
F 4/12 **Performance Projects and Critiques**

M 4/15 Application: Engagement and Impact; Radio Play Challenge Assignment
**PROJECT SELF-REFLECTIONS DUE**
W 4/17 Application: Engagement and Impact; Commercial Challenge Assignment
F 4/19 Commercial Challenge Lab

M 4/22 **Commercial Challenge Presentations**
**DIALECT and IPA LISTENING QUIZ DUE 4/22 11:59PM**
W 4/24 Commercial Challenge Discussion/ Voice-Over Q and A
F 4/26 Application: Engagement and Impact Q and A

M 4/29 Radio Play Challenge Lab
W 5/1 Radio Play Challenge Lab
F 5/3 Radio Play Challenge Lab

**Final Exam Period (Wednesday, May 8 2:15 - 4:15 p.m.) – Radio Plays and Critiques**
**Self-Reflections Due Thursday. 5/9 at NOON**