

ACTING II: VOICE AND SPEECH Fall 2020

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Department of Theatre & Film

Course: FLPA F320 F01

CRN: 75846, 3 credits

Prerequisites: FLPA F121

Location: Fine Arts Building, Salisbury/Lab Theatre

Dates: August 24- December 12, 2020

Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:30AM-1PM, in-person course

CARRIE BAKER, Professor, Theatre & Film Department Chair

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Office: THEA 104

Office Hours: I will be holding office hours *only* via Zoom this semester. Email me to set up an appointment time.

I. Course Objectives:

The goal of this course is to expose students to vocal training for stage and screen through the Catherine Fitzmaurice technique of vocal production. The course will include introduction to basic vocal anatomy, Linklater centering and release work, introduction to the International Phonetic Alphabet, monologue performance, and scene work.

II. Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes:

- To acquire techniques to relax the body to communicate more freely.
- To gain a practical experience with Catherine Fitzmaurice's deconstructing work.
- To discover vibrations through all your senses.
- To develop vocal resonance.
- To develop and access your full vocal range.
- To acquire techniques to protect and care for your vocal instrument.
- To achieve a greater facility with articulators that shape sound and to explore the physical actions of consonants and use of articulators.
- To gain a preliminary understanding of vocal anatomy and the International Phonetics Alphabet (IPA) as a tool for exploring articulation.
- To apply all the above in performance.

III. Instructional Methods:

This class is very active. You will participate in vocal exercises, lie on the floor for relaxation exercises, and engage the body in modified yoga positions that can be physically strenuous. The class will include discussions, two exams, a monologue performance, a scene performance, and a final self-assessment paper.

IV. Required Reading:

- Freeing the Natural Voice, Revised & Expanded edition, Kristin Linklater, Drama Publishers. ISBN: 978-0-89676-250-3
**This text is on 24-hour reserve in the library and available for purchase online.
- Chekhov's Three Sisters and Woolf's Orlando: Two Renderings for the Stage, Sarah Ruhl, Theatre Communications Group. ISBN:978-1-55936-404-1
**This text is available via our Rasmuson Library website as an e-book at: <http://library.uaf.edu/>.
- Various handouts during the semester.

V. Required Equipment:

- YOGA MAT: Each student must bring a personal yoga mat to class each day. If you do not own one, they are available for purchase at the bookstore or any sporting goods store in town or online.
- WINDOW MASK: Each student must wear a "window mask" to class each day. The department is providing the "window mask" for use for this class; you will only get one.
- Theatre UAF Tumbling Mats: You will each have an assigned mat for floor work to use under your yoga mat. You will sanitize your mat before and after each use. Tumbling mats will stay in the theatre between classes.
- You may reserve a locker through Student Drama Association to store your mat/mask. Please do not leave them in the theatre or dressing rooms.
- If we must move to online at any point in the semester you will need:
 - computer (with camera, mic)
 - yoga mat
 - SPACE to work on floor
 - SPACE to make noise and act with emotion and volume
 - Fast, reliable internet connectivity to:
 - Zoom bi-weekly synchronous class meetings
 - Zoom scene rehearsals with partner
 - create/upload/share video final performances
 - use Blackboard and Google drive shared (and individual) folders
- Class sessions may be recorded via Zoom and shared with only other enrolled students via Blackboard.

VI. Required Safety Procedures:

The following safety procedures will be followed each class.

- Wear a mask upon building entry and keep it on for the duration of your time in the building.
- Enter the space through the Salisbury Theatre, using the stairs stage right.
- Sanitize your hands upon entry to the theatre and before you leave class.
- Stay 6 feet apart from others.

- Touch as few surfaces as possible. (I will be using handouts in this class, so if you prefer not to touch handouts, please bring a laptop to class so you can follow along electronically via Blackboard documents.)
- Do not touch your face.
- Do not attend class if you have a fever, cough, or any COVID-19 symptoms.
- Please think of safety first in all circumstances: make personal choices that protect your community.

VII. COVID-19 Syllabus Statement

Students should keep up to date on the university's policies, practices, and mandates related to COVID-19 by regularly checking this website:

<https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/coronavirus/uaf/uaf-students?authuser=0>

Further, students are expected to adhere to the university's policies, practices, and mandates and are subject to disciplinary actions if they do not comply.

VIII. Recommended Reading: (available in Carrie's office)

- Speaking with Skill, Dudley Knight, Bloomsbury Publishing
ISBN: 978-1-4081-5689-6
- The Right to Speak, Patsy Rodenburg, Routledge Publishers
ISBN: 0-87830-055-4

IX. Audition:

All Acting II: *Voice and Speech* students are encouraged to attend auditions throughout the semester as they come up. Find more information about this and the Theatre/Film season at uaf.edu/theatrefilm/. The department will be producing an online play this semester via Zoom; you can get performance practicum credit if cast in this production. Audition information is posted at www.uaf.edu/theatrefilm/auditions/

X. Absence Policy:

****COVID-19 POLICY: Do NOT come to class if you have a fever, cough, or any other COVID-19 symptoms. I will adjust the below policy as necessary on a case by case basis this semester. Please communicate with me if you are ill or will be absent. Below are my expectations during a normal semester; this is not a normal semester, so I will be flexible.**

Attendance to all classes is mandatory. Exercises, lectures, discussions, and monologue and scene work cannot be made up for the simple reason that they happen in class. If you miss classes, you are missing the course.

Students are permitted two unexcused absences. Excused absences must be supported with email communication with Carrie. Each unexcused absence will reduce your final grade. Missing a class in which you are scheduled to perform is unacceptable and will further reduce your grade. When possible, notify me via email or phone before class if

you will be absent. All handouts and assignments will be given in class; if you miss a class, you are responsible for getting all handouts and assignments. All course paperwork (syllabus, assignments) will also be posted on Blackboard (online).

Please arrive to class on time. You are graded each day on attendance (including lateness) and participation. Each unexcused absence will reduce your Participation grade by 1 point. Being late will also reduce your grade. Three lates will equal one unexcused absence and reduce your grade accordingly. Come to class every day and be on time. I expect the highest level of professionalism and responsibility from each of you. As an actor, if you are hired on any job and chronically late, you will be fired. My attendance policies are, in part, meant to instill in you a professional code of conduct that will benefit your future in theatre, film, and television.

XI. Grading Policy:

Please note: Grading will be based on a +/- system this semester. A minimum grade of C- is required for all prerequisites and major courses in the 2020-21 catalog. Your grades for each assignment are posted in Blackboard and you can check your grade in the “My Grades” tool on Blackboard.

Class Attendance & Participation.....	15 points
Exams (2).....	30 points
Performance Projects & Written Work.....	40 points
Shakespeare Monologue: 20 points	
Chekhov Scene: 20 points	
Performance Attendance.....	5 points
Final Self-Assessment.....	10 points
	TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS : 100

Grading System:				
97-100: A+	87-89: B+	77-79: C+	67-69: D+	Below 60: F
93-96: A	83-86: B	73-76: C	63-66: D	
90-92: A-	80-82: B-	70-72: C-	60-62: D-	

A. Class Attendance & Participation (15 points): Your level of participation, enthusiasm, energy, and willingness to risk in this class is of the utmost importance. The work we will be doing is physical and demanding. I expect each of you to be committed to creating a positive, supportive, respectful atmosphere. I have zero tolerance for mocking, ridiculing, or in any way insulting a classmate. This classroom is a safe and respectful space. You are graded each class for participation, attitude, and effort.

Some Important Points:

- Wear workout clothes to this class. No jeans please!
- Bring your YOGA MAT every day to class.

- We are trying to reduce foot traffic through the department hallways downstairs due to COVID-19, so please come to class in your workout clothes or change in the Lab Theatre bathroom.
- Silence cell phones.
- Bring a bottle of WATER to class every day.
- Please arrive to class on time, dressed properly, ready to work, and armed with an open mind and spirit. This means you need to arrive to class early if you need to change your clothes before class starts.
- Please follow all safety procedures stated above for every class.

B. Exams (30 points):

There will be two in-class exams during the semester:

September 15, 2020: ANATOMY EXAM (15 points)

October 8, 2020: IPA EXAM (15 points)

C. Performance Projects (40 points):

You will have two performance projects this semester: a Shakespeare monologue and a Chekhov/ Ruhl scene. You are required to read Sarah Ruhl's translation of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* (it is available as an e-book in the library). All material will be presented at the final exam performance in the Salisbury Theatre on Sunday December 6th (Actor call at 3pm, performance at 4pm).

- **Shakespeare Monologue (20 points):** You will choose your Shakespeare monologue, workshop it in class, have a second showing in the Salisbury, and a final exam performance of it in the Salisbury. I will hand out Monologue Guidelines later in the semester.
- **Chekhov Scene (20 points):** You will present one Chekhov scene from *Three Sisters* this semester. I will assign partners and scene material. We will workshop the scene in class, have a second showing in the Salisbury, and a final exam performance of it in the Salisbury. I will hand out Scene Guidelines later in the semester.

D. Performance Attendance (5 points):

You will attend one production this semester: *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms* by Qui Nguyen November 13-22, 2020 directed by Tom Robenolt, produced by Theatre UAF and performed via Zoom. You receive one free ticket for the show because you are in this class. Simply give your name to the box office when reserving your ticket and inform them that you are in this class.

E. Final Self-Assessment Paper (10 points):

Due at the final exam. Assess your own work and vocal development as an actor during the semester. I will handout Self-Assessment Guidelines later in the semester.

XII. Important selections from the UAF Student Code of Conduct:

“UAF requires students to conduct themselves honestly and responsibly, and to respect the rights of others. Conduct that unreasonably interferes with the learning environment or that violates the rights of others is prohibited.... Honesty is a primary responsibility of you and every other UAF student. The following are common guidelines regarding academic integrity:

- Students will not collaborate on any quizzes, in-class exams, or take-home exams that will contribute to their grade in a course, unless permission is granted by the instructor of the course. Only those materials permitted by the instructor may be used to assist in quizzes and examinations.
- Students will not represent the work of others as their own. A student will attribute the source of information not original with himself or herself (direct quotes or paraphrases) in compositions, theses and other reports.
- No work submitted for one course may be submitted for credit in another course without the explicit approval of both instructors.”

If you cheat or plagiarize in this class, you will FAIL the assignment and possibly the entire class.

XIII. Support Services:

- Disability Services: <http://www.uaf.edu/disability/>
 - I will work with the Office of Disability Services to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.
- Student Support Services <https://uaf.edu/sss/>
- Rural Student Services <https://uaf.edu/ruralss/>
- Military and Veteran Services: <https://uaf.edu/veterans/>
- UAF Writing Center <http://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/>

XIV. Student Protections Statement

UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: <https://alaska.edu/nondiscrimination>. UAF embraces and grows a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion, and caring. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX). Faculty members are designated as responsible employees which means they are required to report sexual misconduct. Graduate teaching assistants do not share the same reporting obligations. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go to the following site: <https://catalog.uaf.edu/academics-regulations/students-rights-responsibilities/>

XV. Tentative Semester Overview (always subject to change):

NOTE: For the most part, this class will be split into two parts each day: 60 minutes of voice work and 30 minutes of speech work. “Weekly Reading” should be done by the *Tuesday class* each week.

Week 1

8/25 Enrollment, Syllabus, Course Objectives, Grading Policy, Handouts

8/27 Anatomy: Spine, Sternum, Rib/ Skull, Jaw, Sinuses

Relaxation & Stretching techniques

Destructuring: Child's Pose, Leg Tremor & Half Plow

Week 2

Weekly Assignments:

- Article: *Breathing is Meaning* by Catherine Fitzmaurice
- Article: *In the Cause of Freer Speech* by Dudley Knight
- Article: *Speaking With Skill Introduction* by Dudley Knight

9/1 Anatomy: Lungs & Breathing Muscles

Destructuring: Bow & Camel

9/3 Anatomy: Larynx

Destructuring: Cobra & Pelvic Lift

Week 3

Weekly Assignments:

- Article: *Silence* by Dudley Knight
- Handout: *Care of Performer's Voice*
- Anatomy Hand Out: Terms to Know
- Memorize Anatomy

9/8 Anatomy: Articulators & Points of Articulation

Destructuring: Side-Reach Leg Tremor, Arm Tremor, Dying Roach

9/10 Anatomy Review

Week 4

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Introduction* p.7-27
- Anatomy Exam 9/15

9/15 ANATOMY EXAM

9/17 Destructuring/ Articulator Isolations, Resonance, Tongue Twisters

Week 5

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Part One: The Touch of Sound* p.29-86
- IPA: Practice Sheet, Memorize symbols
- Choose Monologue

9/22 Destructuring/ Articulator Isolations, Resonance, Tongue Twisters

9/24 IPA Consonants: stop-plosives, nasals, fricatives, affricatives, approximants, aspirant/ Destructuring

Week 6

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Part One: The Touch of Sound* p.87-137
- IPA: Practice Sheets, Memorize symbols
- Monologue Selections due to Carrie 9/29

9/29 IPA Vowels: front, back, mid/ Deconstructing

10/1 IPA Diphthongs/ Deconstructing

Week 7

Weekly Assignments:

- IPA: Practice Sheets, Review symbols
- IPA: Review for Exam: 10/8

10/6 IPA Practice & Review

10/8 IPA EXAM

Week 8

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Part One: The Touch of Sound* p.137-184
- Monologue: first showings

10/13 Scansion/ Acting Shakespeare Handout/ Monologue Rehearsals

10/15 Monologues (2)

Week 9

Weekly Assignments:

- READ PLAY: *Three Sisters*
- Chekhov: *Three Sisters* scene work & partners assigned 10/20
- Monologue: first showings

10/20 Monologues (2)

10/22 Monologues (2)

Week 10

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Part Two: The Resonating Ladder* p. 185-245
- Monologue: first showings
- Rehearse scene

10/27 Monologues (2)

10/29 Monologues (2)

Week 11

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Part Two: The Resonating Ladder* p. 245-295
- Monologue: first showings
- Rehearse scene

11/3 Monologues (2)

11/5 Monologues (2)

Week 12

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Part Three: The Link to Text and Acting* p. 295-325
- Chekhov Scenes: first showings

11/10 Chekhov Scene Work (2)

11/12 Chekhov Scene Work (1)

Week 13

Weekly Assignments:

- Linklater: *Part Three: The Link to Text and Acting* p. 325-374
- Chekhov Scenes: first showings

11/17 Chekhov Scene Work (2)

11/19 Chekhov Scene Work (1)

Week 14

Weekly Assignments:

- Chekhov Scenes: first showings
- Rehearse scenes and monologues for second showings

11/24 Chekhov Scene Work (1)

11/26 NO CLASS: Thanksgiving

Week 15

Weekly Assignments:

- Monologues: Second Showings
- Chekhov Scenes: Second Showings

12/1 Second Showing Shakespeare Monologues (14)

12/3 Second Showing Chekhov Scenes (7)

Sunday 12/6: FINAL PERFORMANCE

FINAL EXAM: Sunday December 6th Public Performance in the Salisbury Theatre

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call is at 3PM in the Salisbury Theatre• Performance is at 4PM in the Salisbury Theatre• Final monologue & scene performances• Final self-assessment paper due |
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