



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – DR2320 FALL 2014

TOPICS IN ACTING - VOICE – W, F, 2:30 – 3:50 PM

INSTRUCTOR: Annie Smith, PhD

PHONE: 780-539-2882

OFFICE: L222

E-MAIL: asmith@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: T, R, 1:00 – 2:00 PM

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: DR1490

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: AA Milne: selections from *The World of Christopher Robin* (provided by instructor). Dr. Seuss: *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Shakespeare: *Shakespeare's Sonnets*. *Acting is Believing*, Tenth Edition.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: The practical application of theory and technique to the practice of voice production and oral communication, building on breath and impulse. Students must wear suitable clothing for physical warm-ups.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3(0-0-3) 45 hours/term.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Laboratory

OBJECTIVES (OPTIONAL):

Students upon completion of this course will:

1. have gained confidence in using their voice
2. have extended the range and versatility of their voice
2. have learned to apply voice techniques in creating character
4. have developed confidence and competence in vocal performance
5. have explored the relationship between written and oral texts
6. have explored script analysis through vocal theory and technique

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, Athabasca, Augustana

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.**

Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Individual Development: 20% (Includes warm up, and vocal exercises and explorations)
Assigned Projects (4): 60% (includes individual preparation – text analysis and notes - and performance in class)
Actor's Reflections: 20%
Overdue assignments will be penalized 5% for each day late.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

More than 10% absenteeism (1 class) will jeopardize students' completion of the course. Medical or extenuating circumstances must be supported by documentation such as a doctor's letter. This is a laboratory course and attendance is mandatory. The final project will include public performance outside of class time.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at
https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at
<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Wk	Month	Dates	Reading	Assignment Due	Focus
1	Sept	5			Intro Class: vocal warm up, discussion of course concepts. Playing with rhythm and sound. <i>World of Christopher Robin ...</i>
2		10 12	<i>World of Christopher Robin</i>		Playing with rhythm and sound - improv with partners/whole group. <i>Last Chance LeDuc</i> project. choose partners for project 1, Reflective Writing 1 Assignment
3		17	<i>World of Christopher</i>	Reflective Writing 1	Working with AA Milne's poems – rhythm, quality words and meaning.

		19	<i>Robin</i>		
4		24		<u>Project 1</u> <i>World of Christopher Robin</i>	Present project with partners – peer feedback.
		26			Hand in written assignment for Project 1, <i>Last Chance LeDuc</i> rehearsal with playwright, Reflective Writing 2
Attend: <i>Last Chance LeDuc</i> reading at GP Library, 7 PM, Sept 28.					
5	Oct	1	<i>Acting is Believing</i> Chapter 9 Shakespeare's <i>Sonnets</i>	Reflective Writing 2	Working from <i>Acting Is Believing</i> , Chapter 9 – Interpreting Text. Choose Sonnet. Sonnet analysis.
		3			
6		8	<i>Acting is Believing</i> Chapter 9/10		Language Structures in Shakespeare's Sonnets – interpreting language. Making meaning – paraphrasing Shakespeare's sonnets
		10			
7		15		<u>Project 2</u> Shakespeare Sonnet	Present Shakespeare Sonnets - peer evaluation.
		17			Hand in written assignment for Project 2, Playing with Project 2, Reflective Writing 3
8		22	<i>Acting is Believing</i> Chapter 9/10	Reflective Writing 3	Working from <i>Acting Is Believing</i> , Chapter 10 – Communicating Subtext Choosing and Working with monologues
		24			
9		29	<i>Acting is Believing</i> Chapter 9/10 Monologue Plays		Working with monologues – getting the flow, getting the meaning – subtext and objectives.
		31			
10	Nov	5		<u>Project 3</u> Monologues	Present Monologues – peer evaluation.
		7			Hand in written assignment for Project

					3, Drama Field Trip to Edmonton.
Attend: Drama Field Trip to Edmonton Nov 6/7/(8)					
11		12	<i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i>		Reflective Writing 4. Begin <i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i> . Assign roles.
		14		Reflective Writing 4	Exploring <i>How the Grinch Stole Christmas</i> .
12		19	<i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i>		Rehearsing <i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i>
		21			
13		26	<i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i>		Rehearsing <i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i>
		28		<u>Project 4</u> <i>How the Grinch...</i>	Presenting <i>How the Grinch Stole Christmas</i> – peer evaluation.
14	Dec	3	<i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i>		Hand in write assignment for <i>How the Grinch Stole Christmas</i> – rehearsing for Drama Scenes
		5			Last Class!!!
		Perform <i>The Grinch</i> at the Fall Semester Drama Scenes, Dec. 4, 6:30 PM Other performances of <i>The Grinch</i> tba.			

Class Routine

Each class will follow the same format. We will begin with a "check-in" and then do a physical and vocal warm-up. Then we will follow with vocal explorations and project and text work. There will be ongoing explorations with sound/voice throughout the course. The class will end with a "check-out". Wear flexible clothing and bring water.

Assignments

Assigned Projects (4): 60%. Coaching is available for all projects and should be utilized.

Project 1 – with a partner(s), devise, rehearse and present a poem by AA Milne. Work to be handed in is your text analysis – how is language used (repetition, rhythm, vocabulary, punctuation...), how is dramatic tension created?, how is character created? List your quality words. Do the illustrations hinder or help? In what ways?

Project 2 – choose one of Shakespeare's sonnets. Do the research into vocabulary and meaning and context of the sonnet – use the notes in the text and The Oxford English Dictionary. Pay attention to punctuation. Write a paraphrase of the sonnet in your own words. Memorize, practice and present in class. Hand in written work including structure work, punctuation chart, paraphrase, text analysis (including vocabulary), character objectives and super objective, subtext, operative words.

Project 3 – choose a monologue from either Chapter 9 or Chapter 10 from *Acting is Believing*, or from instructor's handout. Do text analysis as per Chapter 9 and 10, memorize, practice, and present to the class, explaining your interpretation afterwards. Hand in written work which will include text analysis, character development, objectives, super objective, subtext, physical score, operative words.

Project 4 – choral presentation of *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* to be performed publicly. There will be both in class and extra rehearsal.

Analyse the text and how your part contributes to the choral telling. How does the story telling work? What spoken word forms and rituals does it tap into? How are you able to use what you have learned in the class to shape your performance? Hand in written work – full text analysis, including punctuation chart, character work.

Individual Development: 20% (includes warm up, vocal exercises and explorations, feedback given to peers, and utilization of feedback given to them by peers and the instructor)

Actor's Reflections: 20%. Reflection questions will be assigned. Your reflection is also a class by class record of what is done in class and some analysis of your responses, your questions, your difficulties.

There is no midterm exam or final exam in this course.