**THTR 240b VOICE II**

**Spring 2022—Tu/Th—10 - 11:50pm**

**Location:**

**Instructor: Laura Flanagan**

**Office:** also zoom.

**Office Hours:** by appointment

**Contact Info:** lgoldsch@usc.edu

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**Course Description and Overview**

Development of the voice using material which explores the techniques of Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

*Prerequisite:* [THTR 140b](https://catalogue.usc.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=4023%23tt6677);

*Corequisite:* [THTR 215b](https://catalogue.usc.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=4023%23tt9094), [THTR 220b](https://catalogue.usc.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=4023%23tt8336).(from the course catalogue)

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Release the muscles that grip your breathing apparatus
2. Support your voice using rib swing and transverses
3. Credibly perform complicated heightened text from scripted material.
4. Refine your warm-up
5. Familiarize yourself with speech actions in the mouth
6. Identify how you learn text for performance
7. Cultivate generosity, resiliency and courage in your pursuit of the art.

**Course Notes**

All classes will be available on zoom. All assignments will be posted via Blackboard. However, missing class will require proof of illness - i.e. if you cannot pass trojan check you will have to send me that verification the morning BEFORE class begins.

**USC**School of Dramatic Arts

**USC technology rental program**  
We realize that attending classes online and completing coursework remotely requires access to technology that not all students possess. If you need resources to successfully participate in your classes, such as a laptop or internet hotspot, you may be eligible for the university’s equipment rental program. To apply, please [submit an application.](https://studentbasicneeds.usc.edu/resources/technology-assistance/) The Student Basic Needs team will contact all applicants in early August and distribute equipment to eligible applicants prior to the start of the fall semester.

**USC Technology Support Links**

[Zoom information for students](https://keepteaching.usc.edu/start-learning/)

[Blackboard help for students](https://studentblackboardhelp.usc.edu/)

[Software available to USC Campus](https://software.usc.edu/)

**Required Materials**

**All texts and assigned readings will be required. I will try to make as many of them available for you online as I can.**

**Description and Assessment of Assignments**

**1. Journal: I will set up an online journal and you will log in after each class to record your experience of class. You will talk about lessons learned, observations you had, thoughts, impressions, hopes and dreams. You can feel free to write about something that came up in class that you felt wasn’t handled well or that you would like to know more about. You will write your impressions and reflections, not simply notes on what we did. You can type this journal or write by hand and upload photos of your handwritten journal. I will read them each week - so do keep up. There is no designated length of a journal entry. You will know if you have written something that feels enough or if you are skimming the surface of the material. Do not skim. Dive deep. This is your training - showing up fully is the whole point.**

**2. Daily Text: you will show up on time and prepared knowing the text as well as you can. That said, we are not in pursuit of perfection but of connection. Get connected to the text. Make it your mission to get obsessed with it. It’s not an assignment, it’s the language of your soul. You must learn it as such.**

**3. Daily Warm-up: commit to the warm-up and to showing up with whatever you have going on. Know that this IS the work. Again, not showing up to do well in class but showing up because you have chosen this difficult calling and you must honor that choice with your full presence. Remember showing up can be messy and it can be surprising. Open your heart and your mind and let whatever flows through come out through the breath. You need access to your full self if you are to think and feel and pursue what great writers set out for you.**

**Grading Breakdown**

Journal 25%

Midterm. 25%

Final 25%

Daily Text. 25%

**G****r****a****ding Scale**

Course final grades will be determined using the following scale

A 95-100

A- 90-94

B+ 87-89

B 83-86

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D 63-66

D- 60-62

F 59 and below

**Assignment Submission: Please turn all assignments in on blackboard or by email.**

**Late work: will be assessed on an as needed basis.**

**Technology in the classroom: Stay present. Fight the urge to text or watch other things online during class time. Realize that this impulse is just another distraction from you facing yourself, a tactic of avoidance. Learning acting is learning how to focus deeply on an object, a story, and another person. Practice that focusing while you are not performing by really paying attention. Especially when it’s hard to do.**

**Academic integrity**

**Academic integrity** is already included in the required Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems at the end of the syllabus.

**Attendance**

**If you cannot pass Trojan Check you must message me BEFORE class starts.**

**If you have more than two unexplained absences your grade will go down a FULL POINT.**

**If you have more than two TARDIS your grade will go down a full point. You must learn to show up on time. This is one of the most important things for an actor. Showing up on time. If this is hard for you, all the more reason to work on it now!**

**Sharing of course materials outside of the learning environment**

YOU MAY NOT POST ABOUT THIS CLASS OR SHARE ANYTHING FROM THIS CLASS OUTSIDE OF THE BOUNDARIES OF CLASS MEMBERS!!! No social media. No sharing of your taped performances. None of that is allowed - see below.

*SCampus Section 11.12(B)*

*Distribution or use of notes or recordings based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study is a violation of the USC Student Conduct Code. This includes, but is not limited to, providing materials for distribution by services publishing class notes. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the Internet or via any other media. (SeeSection C.1 Class Notes Policy).*

**Residential and Hybrid Streaming Model Courses**

You can use the [USC COVID-19 resource center website](https://coronavirus.usc.edu/students/). However, this class will remain online regardless of what happens in Los Angeles this spring.

**Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown \***

|  | **Topics/Daily Activities** | **Readings and Homework** | **Assignment Dates** |
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| **Week 1** | Long Form Narrative; using Operative Words, sentence structure, and verse to communicate the story on breath. | HENRY V Chorus | <https://www.bardweb.net/content/grammar/02rhetoric.html>: introduction to rhetorical structures… |
| **Week 2** | “ |  |  |
| **Week 3** | Using the Breath to communicate ideas with a given circumstance | Hamlet - Speak the Speech |  |
| **Week 4** |  | The Captain - “Macbeth” |  |
| **Week 5** | Using the verse to make a passionate argument: the personal | Claudio: “Measure for Measure” |  |
| **Week 6** | Making an Argument: about a principle, or a moral conundrum | Rosalind: “As You Like It” |  |
| **Week 7** | Argument; irony and rhetoric | Cassius: “Julius Cesar” |  |
| **Week 8** | Using Operatives in the scene | Bushy, Baggot and Green: “Richard II” |  |
| **Week 9** | Midterm |  |  |
| **Week 10** | Metaphysics and encountering the self | "LIFE IS A DREAM” - by Pedro Calderon de la Barca |  |
| **Week 11** | Long sentences beyond Shakespeare | Aphra Behn |  |
| **Week 12** | heightened text beyond Shakespeare | Wole Soyinka; |  |
| **Week 13** | Back to the sonnet | Romeo & Juliet |  |
| **FINAL** | Tuesday May 10th  11am - 1pm. |  |  |

\*all schedules subject to change by discretion of instructor.

**SDA PRODUCTIONS, ISPS, AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

SDA productions, ISPs and Extracurricular Activities\* will not excuse you from any class work. There will be no exceptions made for absences in class, missed or delayed assignments, homework or lack of class participation resulting from your involvement in any of the above. Your grade will reflect your work in this class, independent from work in any other class or activity.

\*Activities that have been officially sanctioned by the larger university (such as marching band, song girls, or varsity sports) are exempt. You must submit official documentation to your professor regarding your participation in an event prior to your absence.

**Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems**

*The current* ***Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems*** *is a required component of all USC syllabi and is updated yearly.  Faculty should use the latest version of the Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems found in the* [Curriculum Coordination Office’s Syllabus Template](http://arr.usc.edu/services/curriculum/resources.html)*.  The Statement below is current as of August 2018*

**Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems**

**Academic Conduct:**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” [policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b](https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, [policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct](http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct).

**Support Systems:**

*Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call*

[studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling](https://studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/)

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

*National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call*

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/)

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

*Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press* “*0” after hours – 24/7 on call*

[studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault](https://studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault/)

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

*Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) - (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298*

[equity.usc.edu](https://equity.usc.edu/), [titleix.usc.edu](http://titleix.usc.edu)

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

*Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298*

[usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care\_report](https://usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report/)

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776*

[dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu/)

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

*USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 821-4710*

[campussupport.usc.edu](https://campussupport.usc.edu/)

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

*Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101*

[diversity.usc.edu](https://diversity.usc.edu/)

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost’s Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

*USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call*

[dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu/), [emergency.usc.edu](http://emergency.usc.edu/)

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

*USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call*

[dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu/)

Non-emergency assistance or information.