USC School of Dramatic Arts

203 SPEECH
63307
Units: 2 units
T/Th 3:30 - 5:20
Location: zoom (invitation will be sent via blackboard)

Instructor: Laura Flanagan

Office: lgoldsch@usc.edu/ 646-342-5314

Office Hours: by appointment

Contact Info: lgoldsch@usc.edu - see above

Course Description

This course is designed for the Musical Theatre BFA program to introduce students to the fundamentals of Fitzmaurice Voicework in order to continue their work freeing their voice, finding their articulation and deepening their meaning and connection to text in order to prepare for dialect work. We will focus on the actors Speech as a bridge between voice and acting, a way to deepen each actors connection to the action of the play.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course you will be able to incorporate the fundamentals of Fitzmaurice work into your warm-up. You will be able to identify supported voice in speech for themselves and their classmates. You will be able to perceive and identify common speech actions for both consonants and vowels. You will develop greater freedom and choice in articulation. You will perform a variety of texts written by a variety of writers and master the necessary mind/body connection to make the text your own. You will have a method and practice for approaching text in performance that will lend your performances a grounded, specific and spontaneous truthfulness.

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.

Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required

You need a computer and zoom.

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. 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
Blackboard help for students
Software available to USC Campus

Required Materials
You need a quiet space to move and work with loose fitting clothing to move around in.

Description and Assessment of Assignments
Journal - after each class you will write in your blackboard journal, reflecting on lessons, experiences, challenges and connections you made in that day's class. Each synchronous class time will be represented by a journal entry. Journals will be evaluated weekly so keep up!
TEXT - I will assign texts for you to learn to help illuminate various aspects of speech.   You must learn the texts on the day assigned.
READINGS - will be posted on blackboard as needed
MIDTERM - we will share a piece of text for midterm
FINAL - will be TBD

Grading Breakdown
a

Assignment	% of Grade
Journal	25%
Daily Text Work	25%
Midterm	25%
Final	25%
Total	100

Grading 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:
Everything written will be submitted online

Technology in the classroom:
Our classroom IS technology, therefore respect the zoom space - do not text or use other devices during class time. This is EXTREMELY disrespectful to your classmates but more importantly, it is disruptive to your training. Performance training is all about strengthening your muscles of focus and attention to the other. Practice that while your classmates are working. The quality of our speaking is directly related to the quality of our listening.

Academic integrity
Academic integrity is already included in the required Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems at the end of the syllabus. This section is only necessary to describe local (course, department, school) academic integrity policies.

Attendance
Come to class. The only possible reason you miss class is that you can't pass Trojan Check. You must contact me BEFORE class to let me know that this happening. You will be responsible for keeping up by watching the Zoom tape and responding to it in your journal.

Tardiness is no longer acceptable. You must learn to arrive on time. Please take bathroom breaks at the appointed time - unless you are having an emergency. You must work on using your attention and focus to generously give to your classmates throughout the duration of class time. This is good practice for maintaining the necessary focus for a two hour show. Your phone must be off and you must be engaged in the material. Again, this will help you build the necessary focus muscles you need for your chosen profession. Remember that our constant desire to distract ourselves, or our "boredom" with what's in front of us, is just another form of self protection and hiding. We must not hide from each other or ourselves. There is no wrong feeling or wrong sensation or wrong thought that can possible come up if you stay in the room. All thoughts, sensations, and feelings are welcomed and can be used and channelled for your work. All of them. But you must make the commitment to getting in touch with them, for yourself and your classmates. Your acting life depends on it.

Sharing of course materials outside of the learning environment
You are strictly prohibited from sharing materials in class outside of class. 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

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown*

	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings and Homework	Assignment Dates
Week 1	a. Breath text connection/ Introduction to Fitzmaurice Voicework: b. Learning your score. How to score your scenes and introduce language to your impulses	a. Article about Fitzmaurice, b. Mary Oliver poem: Wild Geese c. Watch asynchronous video about scoring your script.	Learn Wild Geese for Thursdays class Turn in scored script.
Week 2	Introduction to tremors	a. Fitzmaurice interview b. Soliloquies - re-read your play.	soliloquies. Begin with paraphrase.
Week 3	More tremors	a. Soliloquies	Learn your soliloquies - focus on operative words.
Week 4	Tremors	Soliloques	soliloquies- focus on sentence structure and breathing the sentence
Week 5	Tremors	Soliloquies	*Focus on Argument and Intention.*
Week 6	Final week of tremors	Finish Soliloquies	Midterm: warmup into performance of text.
Week 7	Introduction to consonants	New text assigned	Individual texts analyzed and plays read.
Week 8	Working with tongue/plosives : ltd kg ng	New text worked on	Focus on operative words, breathing the text, connecting to the given circumstances.

	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings and Homework	Assignment Dates
Week 9	Working with tongues: fricatives	New text worked on	Focus on continuing the thought through breath, and connecting to intention through consonants.
Week 10	introduction to vowels/tongue	Text 3 assigned	Read the play and begin to learn text.
Week 11	Vowels/ lips	Text 3: Read and Research	Learn Text for operative words, given circumstances, incorporating EVENT.
Week 12	More Vowels	Work on Text 3	Working on Text
Week 13	OMNISH INTRODUCED	Play with Omnish with Text	Omnish speeches performed
Week 14		Work on Text 3	Listen and play with a dialect…
Week 15		Work on Text 3	
FINAL	Your choice of text performance.	Tuesday May 10th 2-4pm	

*subject to change on discretion of teacher…

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

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. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Statement for Students with Disabilities
Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website for DSP and contact information: (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis
In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies. See the university's site on Campus Safety and Emergency Preparedness. (Ummm… well… this seems to be where we are at…)

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Support Systems:
Student Counseling Services (SCS) – (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1 (800) 273-8255
Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) – (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

Sexual Assault Resource Center
For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: sarc.usc.edu

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086
Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. equity.usc.edu

Bias Assessment Response and Support
Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

The Office of Disability Services and Programs
Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. dsp.usc.edu

Student Support and Advocacy – (213) 821-4710
Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa

Diversity at USC
Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. diversity.usc.edu

USC Emergency Information
Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible. emergency.usc.edu

USC Department of Public Safety – UPC: (213) 740-4321 – HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24-hour emergency or to report a crime.
Provides overall safety to USC community. dps.usc.edu