

# USC School of Dramatic Arts

*Dialects 408a*

*63014 9:00-10:20*

*63013R 10:30 -11:50*

*M/W: MCC 106*

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kathleen Dunn-Muzingo

**OFFICE HOURS (or by appt.):** M/W 12:00 to 2:00 p.m, also available via zoom.

**OFFICE:** Jeff 200A Please confirm your appointment via email.

**CONTACT INFO:** [kdunn@usc.edu](mailto:kdunn@usc.edu). Allow 24 Hours

**MEDIA SUPPORT:** All Content (Audio, Visual, Tutorial) will be on Blackboard. Please familiarize yourself in downloading and uploading via this platform. Assignments will be uploaded and graded via Blackboard.

**ZOOM:** No longer an option for classroom teaching unless advised and re-instated by the University. If the Instructor's health is compromised, this option would need to be arranged via the Dramatic Arts Department.

**Course Description** This course is designed for both the actor, non-actor, and for those who have curiosity and passion for dialects and accents of English. Before dialect acquisition can take place, you will complete phonetics into speech training which provides a working knowledge of the International Phonetic Alphabet. This will give you tools of listening, transcription, and self-analysis of your own voice. The purpose of the phonetics into speech introduction is to provide you experience and practice with the primary vocal and auditory sensations of acquiring any dialect. This foundational process will take six to seven weeks.

After completion of the International Phonetic Unit, you will have experience and practice in the basic dialects of British English, Voices of the South, and a brief introduction to NYC accents. Research is another important part of the process for professional actors, therefore we will allow time to understand the history behind these voices, to avoid 'generalizing' or stereotypes. Each unit will include sound lab, research of the character, practice of the accent, and its application in a performance of a scene or monologue. These skills are required and expected of professional actors. The purpose is to develop your understanding of the dialect process so you can acquire other dialects of interest on your own.

This training process will include a vocal warm up which serves as a review of all the vocal sensations you are learning. Therefore, it is imperative that you come on time to review, listen to your body, and grow your vocal skills. I am very excited to be with you on this journey of joyful sound and movement. Please reach out to me at any time if you have any questions or concerns.

Finally, the training schedule will fluctuate and adapt to the unique needs of this class. Do not compare your progress or this class's process to other voice/dialects classes. It is not a competition as we will address everything, but at the instructor's discretion and the progress of the student. The more you come prepared, the more we can stay on task. Please refrain from conversations about this class or the personalities of this class, and this includes posts in other social media platforms. Group Chats are helpful for assignments, but it is best to reach out to me with any questions. As it has been my experience, assignment requirements get diluted with other's perceptions if you don't ask for clarification. Due dates can be found in your syllabus, and I will update *(on a weekly basis)* on the Announcements page in Blackboard.

Any questions or concerns regarding please reach out to me. I look forward to working with you!

**Learning Objectives:** Learning Objectives: Upon completion of Voice/Dialects 340a, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and apply the innate body energies that enhance physical awareness and their relation to voice and body transformation.
2. Identify and vocally reproduce the consonant, vowel, and linguistic sensations of the International Phonetic Alphabet
3. Differentiate and vocalize the accent groups of British English (London and surrounding areas) and the various voices of the Southern United States.
4. Utilize simple socio-linguistic research to arrive at a deeper understanding of the diverse and complex history of the human voice.
5. Apply the knowledge of dialects in performance
6. Compile a repertoire of region-specific writers, plays, and scenes for stage, film, and new media

**Learning Aspirations:**

7. Utilize self-assessment to identify vocal uniqueness and desired areas of improvement and growth.
8. Practice professional behavior: being on time, with the appropriate materials, engaged in the class session, supportive of one another's learning process.
9. Being Curious rather than critical, both in self learning as well as working with others.
10. Experience Self-reliance as a teaching tool in learning new modes of speaking and voicing
11. Challenge oneself beyond personal vocal habits and patterns

**Prerequisite** (s N/A

**Concurrent Enrollment:** N//A

**Recommended Preparation:** Performance experience not necessary but helpful

**Required Readings and Supplementary Materials:** Please purchase the Dialect Handbook Course reader via the bookstore. Hard copy is preferred. It will be needed in class as you will need the ability to write in the course reader. Digital Copies are also available. Make sure you have the technology to write in the Course Reader.

Your British, Southern and NY scenes are your choices. Your NYC final are monologues, so I encourage you to work scenes, as that provides you with a partner who can help with dialect work.

I will upload scenes for each unit in case you want to use those. You are invited to make creative choices in roles, gender, and identity. After having chosen a partner and scene, **please read the entire play; this will help prepare your research paper and make informed acting choices.** Plays can be found via the library or the following internet sites. Be pro-active in acquiring your play.

1. Check with USC/local libraries as they may have online plays for free
2. [www.doolee.com](http://www.doolee.com) which is a play website. You will have to purchase the plays. The cost will be from 6 to 10.00 dollars. British Scene: Glycerin is the only scene where the play is in its entirety as is from an anthology.
3. [www. https://www.scribd.com/](https://www.scribd.com/). A public publishing platform with over a million books, plays, magazines and audio books. It is a subscription website (10.00 per month), so make sure your plays are there before subscribing.
4. Amazon.com may have discounted copies.

**Description and Assessment of Assignments** There will be four units: International Phonetic Alphabet Unit, British Unit, American South Unit, and a Final Project involving New York City Accents.

<b>Unit One: Int'l Phonetic Alphabet</b>	<b>50 pts or 25% of Final Grade</b>
<b>Unit Two: British</b>	<b>50 pts. or 25% of Final Grade</b>
<b>Unit Three: Voices of the South</b>	<b>50 pts or 25% of Final Grade</b>
<b>Unit Four: Voices of NYC (FINAL)</b>	<b>50 pts. or 25% of Final Grade</b>

### UNIT ONE: International Phonetic Alphabet Unit

#### GRADING BREAKDOWN OF SKILL BUILDING

<b>Journals (Body, Consonant and Vowel Explorations)</b>	<b>15pts. (5 pts each)</b>
<b>Transcription of Text into IPA and Kit List Assessment</b>	<b>15 pts</b>
<b>In class participation in the explorations-see below description</b>	<b>Based on core professional principles</b>

#### GRADING BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATION PROCESS

<b>Consonant Version of your Text</b>	<b>10pts</b>
<b>Vowel Version of your Text</b>	<b>10pts</b>
<b><i>Totaling 50 pts.</i></b>	

#### DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS FOR IPA UNIT:

**Journals: (5 points each, totaling 15 pts)** Three journal entries on the following: explorations on the use of the Body Energies, Consonants, and Vowels This is foundational awareness training and aids in defining your vocal and physical sensations of dialect acquisition. The journals will be assigned the first three to four weeks of the semester. Please upload the submissions to blackboard on the due date, double spaced word document, or handwritten. You are welcome to include drawing and artwork of how these inner sensations change you physically or behaviorally; please include a description. (Learning objective 1,2)

**KIT LIST Assessment (5 pts)** This assignment helps in identifying and reproducing the sounds of the Phonetic Alphabet. (Learning Objective 2) During the first week of class, please record yourself saying the word list and Accent Chart. After the IPA Unit, you will record the list again; this becomes your audio library of you voicing the Phonetic Alphabet. Conclude with an overall assessment of your voicing. Upload the Kit List Document in Blackboard.

**Transcription of your Text in International Phonetic Alphabet (10 pts)** Upon completion of the IPA unit, you will transcribe the first 75 words of their performance text. This assignment builds your identification skills for the Phonetic Alphabet. (Learning Objective 2).

**Class participation and explorations (Mandatory to keep points)** For class explorations, please participate to the best of your ability. It is imperative you show up on time to the training process—meaning BEFORE CLASS begins. This is equal to showing up for your craft, to the film set, or rehearsal and ready to work before the start of rehearsal/filming. It is practicing being the best version of yourself as you navigate life events. Professionalism is on time, with the appropriate materials, engaged in the explorations, asking questions pertaining to the topic explored, being supportive and respectful of others without the intent to harm or disrupt. Absences will result in a .5 reduction. Unless excused due to illness or medical emergency (learning objective 7)

**Performances of your Selection (10 pts each; totaling 20pts)** You will have the opportunity to apply your understanding of the phonetic alphabet in **Two** Shared versions. Think of the 'shares' as a study in how the vowels versus consonants can affect meaning and change behavior. The shared versions will be graded on the following: Commitment to the leading vocal energy, making new discoveries in meaning via the vocal energy, allowing for subtle shifts in body and thought, communicating self to other, and breathing according to the set of circumstances. (Learning Objective 5, 6,7)

## UNITS TWO AND THREE: British English and Voices of the Southern United States

### GRADING BREAKDOWN OF SKILLS ACQUISITION AND PRACTICE

You will be using the same tools for both units. Preparation is as important as performance.

#### Preparation (preparation plus interference=performance)

Sound Lab Document & Transcription of 100 words of Source	15pts
Sound Lab Share of your source	5pts
Written Research	10pts
In-class table reads and participation	See description

#### FIRST REHEARSALS AND FINAL PASS OF SCENES IN DIALECT

First Rehearsal of Scene	10pts
Second Rehearsal (FINAL PASS) of Scene	10pts

#### DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS FOR BRITISH AND SOUTHERN UNITS:

**Sound Lab Document and Source Transcription: (15 pts).**

The Sound Lab Document helps you identify and explore the areas of the dialect to create authenticity and specificity. Please follow the Sound lab Guidelines in the Course Reader in composing your paper. This paperwork (Sound Lab and Source Transcription) will be submitted for each dialect unit. (Learning Objective 5,6)

\*source= is the person or interview you are practicing with, to pick up the accent.

**Sound Lab Share: (5 pts).** On the day that the written sound lab is due, and as part of the warmup, you will be given the opportunity to share your practice. The areas of focus for this exercise are: 1. Commitment to specific vowel features, 2. Consonant features of the speaker, 3. intonation and phrasing of the speaker, 4. Subtle shifts in physical behavior, and 5. Communication. A brief discussion and assessment of the work will follow the exercise. (Learning Objectives: 5, 6, 7)

**Research Paper: (10 points)** This paper provides you an experience in understanding how sociolinguistics affects body, voice, and behavior. You will learn to make acting choices based on status, era, economics as well as other social constructs. Refer to the Course Reader's Written Requirements for a detailed explanation on how to create your research paper. (Learning Objective 4))

**In Class Table Read, and Class Participation in Explorations: Mandatory**

The student is required to complete a table reading of their text/scene. These tasks help the student refine their skills with an accent and provide students class time to ask questions. Hard copies of the text are mandatory for the table read and a copy sent to the instructor \*protocol in the professional arena. The requirements of the table read include the following: carrying over the accent into a first rehearsal to the best of your ability: new vowels and consonant features of the dialect, intonation connected to meaning, self-to-other communication and the openness for notes. A loss of 2 pts off the final unit grade for an incomplete.

**Class Participation: Not optional (Mandatory to maintain points)**

For class participation, you are required to participate to the best of your ability. It is imperative you attend class, as this behavior is equal to showing up for a professional stage or film production. Professionalism is on time with the appropriate materials, engaged in the explorations, asking questions pertaining to the topic explored, supportive and respectful of others, and being prepared. Absences will result in a .5 reduction to this unit. ***Unless excused due to illness or medical emergency. The student must communicate their situation directly to the instructor.***

## DESCRIPTION OF FIRST REHEARSAL AND FINAL REHEARSALS and PARTICIPATION:

### **First Rehearsal and Final Pass of Scenes: 10 pts.**

The rehearsal is memorized and blocked. This is what is expected on the day of filming and professional theatre. In first rehearsals, students are expected to be 1. Memorized with breath-body thought 2. Applying the vowel/consonant features. 3. Incorporating musicality and phrasing 4. Engaged in communication 5. Honoring feedback in a professional manner. (Learning Objective 5, 7) 3 pts off the unit score for an incomplete rehearsal.

**Final Pass (Second) Rehearsal (10 pts)—the student will not receive credit for missed Final Passes:** Here is the second chance to incorporate notes with the accent. The second showings are graded on the following criteria: Accurate vowel/consonant features, 2. Authentic musicality and phrasing of the Dialect 3. Specificity in embodiment (breath, body energy and spine of the person), 4. Connected to meaning 5. Engaged in communicating with the other (with intention). 5. Incorporation of notes from your first rehearsal. Reflection and discussion will follow the performances. It is important to be present and provide the gift of support. (Learning object 5, 7) 3 pts off the unit for an incomplete performance

**Absence Policy: The student will not receive credit for missed First Rehearsals and Final Passes: *Unless it is illness or medical emergency. The student must communicate their situation directly to the instructor 24 hours in advance. Do not rely on your classmates to be the messenger but let this be the opportunity to practice the vocal art of communication.***

## **UNIT FOUR: NYC (FINAL) 50 pts.**

Think of it as an audition where you need the accent in a short amount of time. This exercise allows you to utilize and apply all the skills you have learned: 1. Accuracy in vowel and consonant features 2. Accuracy in Musicality and Overall Resonance 3. Accurate phrasing and tempo 4. Subtle shifts in thought and movement 5. Communicating truthfully, self to other. (Learning Objective 7)

**Grading Scale** Course final grades will be determined by averaging the total of the four units.

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 Rubrics: Please see attached Rubrics for each assignment.**

**Assignment Submission Policy** All written assignments are to be emailed on the due date. There is a two-point deduction each day past the due date. Paperwork will not be accepted after the third day past the due date. Journals may be hand-written as long they are clear. Transcriptions are to be done by hand. Send all work via blackboard. Research papers are to be typed. All submissions are to be uploaded in Assignments in Blackboard.

**Grading Timeline** Grading of papers will be within the same week of submission. Notes on performance and rehearsal will be added to your blackboard grade. So, make sure you check blackboard for your notes.

Rubrics for 408a

*IPA Unit Rubrics Totaling 50 pts.*

*THREE JOURNAL ENTRIES: (BODY ENERGIES, CONSONANTS AND VOWELS) 5 PTS. Each*

Detailed descriptions of the specific energy, either written or artwork (1pt)	Notes
Use of the energy in daily life to reduce stress or improve communication (1 pt.)	
Use of the energy in text exploration (1 pts)	
Observing the specific energy in others (1 pt.)	
Self-reflection on the subtle changes or shifts in voicing or physical awareness (1pts)	

*KIT LIST ASSESSEMNT: 5 PTS: Building personal awareness of your voice*

Accurate IPA transcription of words (1 pt.)	Notes
For each vowel sound, identify the change- or assign “no change”) (1pt)	
Final Self-Reflection of your voice and address any changes in pronunciation or clarity (1pt)	
Work is Legible and On Time (2pt)	

*IPA TRANSCRIPTION OF TEXT (75 words) 10 points (Each Category 5 points)*

Identification of IPA symbols and their respective vowel phonemes. Noting any differences in your personal voicing and the IPA equivalent within a word.	Notes
Identification of IPA symbols and their respective consonant obstruent. Noting any differences in your personal voicing and the IPA equivalent within a world	

*VOWEL AND CONSONANT EXPLORATIONS: (Each Exploration is 10 points each, totaling 20 pts)*

<i>Components</i>	2 pts Each	Notes
Committing to the leading vocal energy (consonant or vowel)		
Making discoveries in new meaning though the leading vocal energy		
Allowing for subtle shifts in body and blocking		
Communicating Self to Other (seeing and affecting the other)		
Impulse-Breath/ breathing and responding according to the set of circumstances		

***BRITISH AND SOUTHERN UNIT RUBRICS: EACH UNIT TOTALING 50 POINTS***

*SOUND LAB AND TRANSCRIPTION DOCUMENT: 15 points. (Process for dialect acquisition)*

<i>Components</i>	Points Each	Notes
IPA Transcription of 100 words of your source	(7pts.)	
Primary Resonance and Pitch Range	(2 pts)	
Tempo and Melody	(2 pts)	
Noted Vowel and Consonant Features	(2 pts)	
Observations in physicality and Self-Assessment of recorded practice	(2pts)	

*SOUND LAB IN-CLASS SHARE: 5 points. (Practice and assessment of dialect features).*

<i>Components</i>	1 Point Each	Notes
Accurate features		
Accurate musicality and phrasing		
Connected breath thought		
Allow slight physical adjustments		
Communicating		

*RESEARCH PAPER: 10 points (Investigating History Behind the Voice)*

<i>Components</i>	2 points Each	Notes
Chooses Five questions to research (2pts)		
Research makes a connection to world of the play and the actor's vocal choices (2 pts)		
Research makes a connection to world of the play and the actor's physical choices. (2 pts)		
Research makes a connection to the world of the play (Era, social economics of the character) and character point of view (2pts)		
On time and provides the information in MLA format (2 pts)		

*FIRST REHEARSAL: 10 points (Applying your skills)*

Components	2 Points Each	Notes
Memorized		
Accurate/Consistent vowel and consonant features		
Accurate musicality and phrasing		
Connected to body Impulse/Breath		
Communicating		

*FINAL PASS REHEARSAL: 10 points (Refining your skills)*

Components	2 points Each	Notes
Refining notes given in previous rehearsal		
Accurate/Consistent vowel and consonant features		
Accurate musicality and phrasing		
Connected body Impulse/Breath		
Deepening the role in voice, body, and circumstances		

*VOICES OF NYC FINAL: APPLYING WHAT YOU KNOW (50 PTS).*

Components	10 pts Each	Notes
Memorized		
Accurate Musicality and Phrasing		
Demonstrating accurate authentic dialect features		
Connected Body/Breath impulse		
Communicating		

**Professional Participation and Class Ethics. One point deduction from the overall grade for the following:**

1. Communicate! No credit for missed classes and no makeups for missed rehearsals or performances unless personal emergency of hospitalization or illness. Under these circumstances, please notify the instructor immediately and discuss how you are taking responsibility.
2. Respect the process: Quiet yourself upon entering the space (cell phone/electronic devices).
3. Respect each other: No eating during class as you will be very active in speaking and listening. Eating during someone's presentation or scene is distracting and shows lack of support. It can be distracting on set or during a rehearsal. Special energy needs, please alert me and we can accommodate.
4. Wear clothing for movement as we will be doing vocal and body explorations for the first five weeks. Please, no revealing clothing, flip flops and shorts should be at knee length. Yes, do bring in articles of clothing that are character appropriate on the day of rehearsals and performance. This is still an acting class and what you wear affects physical and vocal behavior.



5. We do make sounds during warm up that might trigger self-consciousness. Be gentle but encouraging of yourself as well as others. Remain focused on your inner environment unless it is a partner exercise.
6. Civility, conduct, and ethics are the microcosm of the world. You have already started changing the world, let us continue it in our discourse, in class discussions and giving supportive feedback of one another's creativity. This includes any misgivings you may have of the process or instructor.
7. Another important part of professionalism is refraining to talk negatively about the work and personalities in class with others and on social media platforms. This leads to negative energy and misinformation. It is my hope that we gain invaluable practice of being pro-active in things that matter: - health, wellbeing, and collaborating creatively. Communication is one of the virtues we can practice.

Regarding COVID: please do not come to class if you have tested positive.

NOTE FROM THE INSTRUCTOR: If something is unclear, or you feel uncomfortable, or your needs are not being met, please reach out to me as I would love the opportunity to resolve this issue. As we go forward in classroom experiences, be brave in reaching out to me with matters that pertain to this class. Please notify me ahead of time of an absence before it occurs. This will help in final grading as it could be weighed as a plus or minus at the end of the semester. Your presence and communication represent your professionalism.

The University and SDA have provided you with several options in self-care for your emotional and physical well-being. Here is the current list of services provided:

## **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](http://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 in GFS 120 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) 814-4618 (Video Phone), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) [ability@usc.edu](mailto: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.

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### **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion + Intimacy in Theater Consent Culture Statement:**

Through our pluralistic approach of diverse pedagogies, methodologies, ideologies, and modalities of artistic expression, we invite(engage) and challenge students to expand their breadth and depth of knowledge, complexity, and range of the human experience. Even though we nurture, guide, and challenge our students to embrace the unknown or unfamiliar and step outside of their comfort zones through storytelling/art, we aim to practice effective strategies and offer tools to students mindful of their physical, psychological, social, and emotional wellbeing. In alignment with professional and industry standards, we will integrate core principles and techniques of Intimacy in Theater and Building Cultures of Affirmative Consent. This will provide agency, offer resources and support to the teachers, students, directors, and staff to establish healthy boundaries of consent when working on material that is physically, intimately, or emotionally charged content in both the classroom and production.

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### **Support Systems:**

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

[studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling](http://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://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](http://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](http://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 Student Accessibility Services - (213) 740-0776*

<https://osas.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](https://dps.usc.edu), [emergency.usc.edu](https://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](https://dps.usc.edu)

Non-emergency assistance or information.

## **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 these groups prior to your absence.

## Important Dates and Proposed Schedule of Dialects Training

**Course Schedule: Tentative Dates. The due dates may shift to accommodate student need.**

For each unit of in-class contact time, the university expects two hours of homework outside of class. So, this translates to 4 hours of outside work and preparation per week.

<p>Week 1 8/22-24</p>	<p><b>Introduction to Relaxer Energizers and Body Energies</b></p> <p><b>Concepts:</b> <b>Sound Symbol Sensations</b></p> <p><b>Listening with our inner ear center</b></p> <p><b>Syllabus and Expectations</b></p>	<p><b>Homework:</b> acquire Dialect Handbook</p> <p><b>Gather materials:</b> Choose your text and bring to class and upload a copy to blackboard.</p> <p><b>Buy:</b> index cards and pencils to create IPA symbol cards</p> <p><b>Voice/Speech Work:</b> Record Kit List</p> <p><b>Journal:</b> Body Energy: write an entry on how the body energies transformed a particular event or activity during your day, or their applications to your text exploration.</p>	<p><b>DELIVERABLES/DUE:</b></p> <p>Record the Kit List (found in content) Keep the recording in your phone as the 'THE BEFORE'. You will re-record after the IPA Unit.</p> <p>8/31 Body Energy journal Due</p> <p>Bring Index Cards/Pencils to Class</p>
<p>Week 2 8/29-31</p>	<p><b>Experiencing Vowels</b></p> <p><b>Tonal vowels /i/ and /ei/</b></p> <p><b>Exercises in Sound and Movement, Sensation and Symbol Identification</b></p>	<p><b>Homework:</b></p> <p><b>Voice Practice:</b> Memorize the physical feel of the vowels and their symbols.</p> <p><b>Practice Intrinsic Pitch / Vowel Ladder</b></p> <p><b>Create and Practice:</b> Create you IPA vowel cards (On the index cards: draw, color, and sound the symbols—several times on the front. On the back, write words you say that contain these sound-symbols. Bring them to class</p> <p><b>View Tutorials</b></p> <p><b>Memorize:</b> 6 lines of your text</p>	<p>9/7: Bring Phonetics Cards you have created</p> <p>9/7 Six lines of your text memorized for class explorations</p>
<p>Week 3 9/5: Labor Day 9/7</p>	<p><b>M: Drills and Practice Partner work with index cards</b></p> <p><b>Introd: family of /r/, diphthongs, triphthongs, and Mouth Chart</b></p> <p><b>Class exploration with six lines of your text (memorized)</b></p>	<p><b>Homework: Finish IPA vowel cards</b></p> <p><b>Text Work:</b> Memorize your text Explore Vowels leading the meaning</p> <p><b>View</b> How to explore your text with Vowels Leading.</p> <p><b>Journal:</b> write about discoveries in meaning with vowels leading.</p>	<p>9/14 Be ready to share a version of your text with Vowels leading the communication</p> <p>9/14 Journal Entry Due: When Vowels lead the Communication</p>

Week 4: 9/12-14	<p><b>Discussion: Check-in on vowels and your voicing</b></p> <p>9/14 Shared version of text with Vowels Leading</p> <p>9/14 Turn in your Vowel Journals.</p>	<p><b>Homework:</b></p> <p><b>Identification:</b> Create your consonant postcards and bring to class</p>	Bring consonant phonetic cards
Week 5 9/19-21	<p><b>Work with Consonants.</b></p> <p><b>Pulmonic/Non-Pulmonic Chart</b></p> <p><b>Exploring your text for Consonants Leading</b></p>	<p><b>Homework:</b></p> <p><b>Text/Voice:</b> Work up a version of your text with the Consonants communicating you</p> <p><b>Journal:</b> Write a reflection your text explorations with consonants leading.</p> <p><b>Wrap up of IPA UNIT:</b></p> <p>Re-record Kit List and complete Assessment</p> <p>Hand writes 100 words of your text in IPA</p>	<p>9/26 Consonant Version of your Text</p> <p>9/26 Consonant Journals Due</p> <p>9/28 Re-recording of Kit List and Assessment due</p> <p>9/28 IPA Transcription of Text Due</p>

Week 6 9/26-28	<p><b>M: In Class Shares of Your Text with Consonants Leading</b></p> <p><b>M: Consonant Journals DUE</b></p> <p><b>W: paperwork for IPA unit due</b></p>	<p><b>Homework:</b></p> <p><b>Practice:</b> Review tutorials and find a Source to Practice</p> <p><b>Text:</b> Choose a British Scene and Partner</p>	
Week 7 10/3-5	<p><b>W: British English</b></p> <p><b>Group Sound Lab and Practice</b></p> <p><b>—Improv and Conversations.</b></p>	<p><b>Practice:</b> Review Audio and Tutorials</p> <p><b>Practice:</b> Select a Source and complete a Sound Lab Document and Transcription</p> <p><b>Practice:</b> Begin to work with Partner on your British Scene</p>	<p>10/10 Sound Lab Shares due in Class</p> <p>10/10 Sound Lab Documents Due end of class</p> <p>10/10 Table Reads of Scenes</p>
Week 8 10/10-12	<p><b>British Drill &amp; Practice</b></p> <p><b>10/10 In Class Sound Lab Shares</b></p> <p><b>10/10 Upload your Sound Lab Document and Transcription</b></p> <p><b>10/10 British Table reads</b></p>	<p><b>Practice:</b> British Scenes Off Book; Work with partner</p> <p><b>Practice:</b> Continue British practice</p>	<p>10//19 British Research Papers Due (End of Day)</p> <p>10/17-19 Offbook rehearsals *costumes and props</p>
Week 9 10/17-19	<p><b>10/17 Upload your Research Paper</b></p> <p><b>10/10-17 First Pass Off Book Rehearsals with props and costumes.</b></p>	<p><b>Homework</b></p> <p><b>Practice:</b> Continue to Work with Partner on Final Pass</p>	10/ 24 Final Pass of British Scenes

Week 10 10/24-26	<b>10/24-Final Pass of British Scenes</b>  <b>10/26 Introduction to Voices of the South</b>	<b>View Voices of the South Tutorials</b>  <b>Choose a source and create a Sound lab Share for Monday</b>  <b>Decide on Material for Table Reads on M/W</b>  <b>Write up Southern Sound Lab Document and Transcription for end of day 11/2</b>	10/ 31 Come as your sound lab source for Halloween  10/31-11/2 Table Reads, bring a hardcopy of your text  11/2 Sound Lab Document and Transcription due end of day
Week 11 10/31-11/2	<b>Southern Drill &amp; Practice</b>  <b>10/31 Southern Sound Lab Shares,</b>  <b>10/31-11/2; Southern Table Reads</b>  <b>11/2 Upload Southern Sound Lab Document and Transcription</b>	<b>Continue refining your Southern Accent on the various practices in Blackboard</b>  <b>Memorize your scene for First Off Book Rehearsals</b>  <b>Write up Research Paper</b>	11/7-9 First Off book Rehearsals, bring props and costumes  11/9 Upload Research paper to blackboard-End of Day
Week 12 11/7-9	<b>First off Book Rehearsals</b>  <b>11/9 Upload your research paper to blackboard (end of day)</b>	<b>Final Pass Southern Scenes: Refine and deepen your scene and dialect work.</b>  <b>Introduction to NYC</b>	11/14 Final Pass Southern Scenes with props and costumes  11/16 Introduction to NYC
Week 13 11/14-16	<b>Final Pass Southern Scenes</b>  <b>Introduction to NYC</b>	<b>Decide on NY final material: You can bring back your NYC Sound Lab Share as your final, OR scene, OR original.</b>	
Week 14 11/21	<b>Finish Introduction to NYC—Practice and Drill Work</b>		
Week 15 11/28-30	<b>M: NYC Sound Lab Share</b>  <b>Wrap up and Discussion</b>  <b>Student Evaluations</b>	<b>NYC Final: Monday December 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>See below for final times</b>	Office Hours are always available.

***FINAL: NYC Final 408a Section 63014 Monday December 12<sup>th</sup> 11 a.m.***

***Final 408a Section 63013 Monday December 12<sup>th</sup> 8 a.m.***

## Giving Supportive Feedback on rehearsal/performance work

The following is based on a popular method: <https://lizlerman.com/critical-response-process/>  
This is to help the classroom artist in giving supportive and creative feedback to fellow artists. This document was created by the Area Heads of SDA School of Acting, Kenneth Noel Mitchell, and Anita Dashiell-Sparks.

### Liz Lehrman's Critical Response Process

This widely recognized method nurtures the development of artistic works-in-progress through a four- step, facilitated dialogue between artists, peers, and audiences.

#### The Process engages participants in three roles:

1. **The artist** offers a work-in-progress for review and feels prepared to question that work in a dialogue with other people.
2. **Responders**, committed to the artist's intent to make excellent work, offer reactions to the work in a dialogue with the artist; and
3. **The facilitator** initiates each step, keeps the process on track, and works to help the artist and responders use the Process to frame useful questions and responses.

The Critical Response Process takes place after a presentation of artistic work in any discipline. Work can be short or long, large, or small, and at any stage in its development.

#### The facilitator then leads the artist and responders through four steps:

1. Statements of Meaning: **Responder's** state what was meaningful, evocative, interesting, exciting, striking in the work they have just witnessed.
2. Artist as Questioner: The **artist** asks questions about the work. After each question, the **responders** answer. **Responders** may express opinions if they are in direct response to the question asked and do not contain suggestions for changes.
3. Neutral Questions: **Responders** ask neutral questions about the work. The **artist** responds. Questions are neutral when they do not have an opinion couched in them. For example, if you are discussing the lighting of a scene, "Why was it so dark?" is not a neutral question. "What ideas guided your choices about lighting?" is.
4. Opinion Time: **Responders** state opinions, subject to permission from the **artist**. The usual form is "I have an opinion about \_\_\_\_\_; would you like to hear it?" The **artist** has the option to decline opinions for any reason.