Course Syllabus- THEA 203a: Introduction to Voice and Movement-Spring 2016

Credit hours: 3

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: David Dudley, Graduate Assistant, MFA Playwright.
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Office Hours: Wednesday 2pm-3pm / Friday 9:50 am-10:50 am

Suggested Text: Freeing The Natural Voice, Kristin Linklater

Required Dress: Loose fitting clothing, Sweats or dance wear. NO JEANS OR SKIRTS. Jazz shoes, sneakers, bare feet or stocking feet. ABSOLUTELY NO HEELS, SANDALS OR FLIP FLOPS.

Course Objective: An increased awareness of individual physical and vocal strengths, weaknesses, controls and potential.

Course Content: Course will consist of lecture demonstrations, vocal and physical warm-ups, explorations and exercises, written assignments, and performances.

Course Outcomes: .

Students successfully completing Introduction to Voice and Movement must be able to:

• Demonstrate, through written and performed warm-ups, the ability to create and perform an effective physical and vocal warm-up for actors.

• Demonstrate, through application in performance and written work, basic principles of Laban Movement Analysis (body, space, and effort).

• Demonstrate, through performances, critiques and oral analytical defenses of prepared texts, a basic understanding of vocal production, voice placement and articulation.

• Demonstrate, through performance and an oral analytical defense of choices made, the ability to create a detailed final performance incorporating and integrating the concepts of voice and movement presented in the course.

Class Requirements: Attend all class meetings. This is a participatory class. Your presence at each class meeting is required. Excused or unexcused, an absence counts as an absence. Three late arrivals to class result in an absence. Three absences lower you one letter grade. **Six absences result in an automatic failure.**

Each student must actively participate in all class discussions, exercises and projects.
Write 1 critique addressing specific vocal and physical elements of actors, applying the terminology and principals learned in this course. The critiques should be three pages in length. Students are urged to make plans and ticket arrangements as soon as possible for attending these performances. You are required to see a minimum of 2 departmental productions.

Final Grade Breakdown:

- Class participation and Attendance/homework: 50%
- Written critique: 25%
- Prepared final performance and score: 25%

**Final Exam will be May 13th from 8 am to 10 am.**

All assignments must be prepared and presented on scheduled dates. Written assignments will be lowered one letter grade for every calendar day late. Make up dates for performances will only be permitted for documented excused absences.

Final Grades: Will be based on total points earned. For more information on grading see the Theater Undergraduate Handbook on line.

Physical Contact in Performance Classes.

In all performance classes it is sometimes necessary for the instructor or students to interact physically with one another. This is part of the learning process. Any required contact is to be considered professional and clinical in nature. If a student is at any time uncomfortable with the ideas or practices of physical contact, he/she should voice the concern(s) to the instructor or head of performance studies. All needs for privacy will be respected.