SPEECH FOR THE ACTOR
THTR 779

◆ **COURSE DESCRIPTION/LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Speech for the Stage is a study of speech for the actor in which students will, through extensive physical exploration of "speech actions", repetition of practice exercises, use of the International Phonetic Alphabet, and "prescriptive" work on specific individual speech issues, develop awareness of and achieve proficiency in the variety of speech needs and challenges relevant to the actor's process. The linguistic foundation of the sounds of English speech and other phonologies will be explored in detail.

◆ **TOPICS**
- Anatomy of the human vocal tract
- Physical exploration of all possible human "speech actions"
- Production and articulation of the vowels, consonants and diphthongs of spoken language
- The *International Phonetic Alphabet* and its application for speech for the stage
- Practice exercises for in-class drill and performance

◆ **REQUIRED TEXT**
- Speaking with Skill by Dudley Knight | Bloomsbury Publishing | 2012—*in the UNLV Bookstore*

◆ **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**
- A 3-ring binder, ***pencils***, notebook paper and a small mirror are ***required.***

◆ **COURSE POLICIES:**

● Because of the experiential nature of actor training, **attendance at all classes is mandatory**. Any absence represents a missed portion of the intended course of study; and consequently, will result in a reduction of the final grade. Any student encountering a special circumstance where a significant amount of class will be missed, should contact the instructor immediately. If such a special circumstance does arise, it may be necessary for the student to drop the course. **The instructor reserves the right to issue a grade of failure to any student who misses more than three class periods.**

● Class will start on time. Three tardies are considered the equivalent of one absence. (see above)

● No food or drink (other than water) will be permitted in the classroom. *Please keep the space clean*.

● The use of mobile phones, pagers, laptop computers, wearable technology, and any other electronic devices is not permitted in the classroom–please turn them off ***completely*** during class.

● On days when the class doesn't meet, it is expected that you will be working on the material explored in class both terms of completing homework assignments, and in NCT productions in which you are cast. The NCT is a lab for further study and exploration of our studio classwork. Student progress within speech projects and from project to project will be an important factor in determining the final grade. In short, you must practice the work between classes and arrive to class prepared to explore and review any work covered prior to the current day's session.

● As a member of the theatre faculty, I will have the opportunity to observe and evaluate your work in NCT productions. Consequently, this work is an extension of the classroom. Your performance work in department productions, as well as the professionalism of your demeanor and general attitude, are not outside the auspices of this course, and can have a role in determining your grade in the course and/or your status in the MFA Acting Program.

◆ GRADING POLICY:

Your grade will be based on the quality of your performance in the following areas:

●the quality of your participation;
●the level at which you master the material presented;
●the manner in which your attitude and commitment effect your ability to approach and participate in the intended course of study;
● the quality of your work in relation to your peers;
●the significance of your growth throughout the course of the semester;
●the quality with which you complete specific assignments both performance and written;
●the quality of your performance in any in-class performance project.

The letter grade of "A" will be issued to students whose performance in the above areas is deemed by the instructor to be excellent.

The letter grade of "B" will be issued to students whose performance in the above areas is deemed by the instructor to be very good.

The letter grade of "C" will be issued to students whose performance in the above areas is deemed by the instructor to be satisfactory.

The letter grade of "D" will be issued to students whose performance in the above areas is deemed by the instructor to be poor.

The letter grade of "F" will be issued to students whose performance in the above areas is deemed by the instructor to be unacceptable.

Plus and minus grades may be included in the assigning of student grades.

◆UNLV DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE PERFORMANCE COURSE POLICIES

● Performance Attendance Requirement:

Students are required to attend all productions sponsored by the NCT/Department of Theatre. Tickets are available at the Ham Fine Arts Box Office to all University students with a valid ID for the student rate of $10.00 per ticket. Cast members, crew, and staff are allotted 2 comp tickets during the run of a production in which they are participating.

● MFA Acting Program Requirement:

MFA Acting Candidates are required to audition for all Department productions. Failure to do so will result in an unsatisfactory grade in the course and possible probation or separation from the MFA Acting Program and/or the Department of Theatre.

● Non-Majors:
This course is a major's only course. Under special circumstances a non-major has been allowed to take performance courses designed for majors. Non-majors participating in this course agree to meet all the obligations and course requirements of the theatre major.

UNLV Policies

Academic Misconduct—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct

Copyright—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning

https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency

Incomplete Grades—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving "I" grades in 500, 600, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an

Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Library Resources

Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject. UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students' access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at https://www.library.unlv.edu/.

Tutoring and Coaching—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit http://www.unlv.edu/asc or call 702-895- 3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV Writing Center—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/.

Rebelmail—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students' Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV's official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students' e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.

Final Examinations—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars.