DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 02/2013
CIP CODE: 24.0101
SEMESTER: DEPARTMENTAL SYLLABUS
COURSE TITLE: Voice and Diction
COURSE NUMBER: THTR222
CREDIT HOURS: 03
INSTRUCTOR: DEPARTMENTAL SYLLABUS
OFFICE LOCATION: DEPARTMENTAL SYLLABUS
OFFICE HOURS: DEPARTMENTAL SYLLABUS
TELEPHONE: DEPARTMENTAL SYLLABUS
EMAIL: KCKCC issued email accounts are the official means for electronically communicating with our students.

PREREQUISITES: None

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: Please check with the KCKCC bookstore, http://www.kckccbookstore.com/, for the required texts for your particular class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This is a course in which students explore, expand, and refine the properties of the human speaking voice, with the assumption that the student is a prospective professional in a field in which control, flexibility, and understanding of the voice are essential skills. Students are instructed in a series of voice and diction exercises and techniques to free the voice and improve projection, resonance, and articulation. The course additionally covers the sounds of the International Phonetic Alphabet employed in American English and standard stage speech.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, and panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

COURSE OUTLINE:
I. Physiological Basis of Voice Production
   A. Speech mechanisms and their biological functions
   B. Breath control
      1. Tone production
      2. Vocal projection
      3. Exercises for improvement
   C. Sound production
      1. Resonance
      2. Pitch
      3. Exercises for improvement
II. Physiological Basis for Articulation and Diction
   A. Articulated sounds
      1. Vowels
      2. Diphthongs
      3. Consonants
   B. American English
      1. Development of speech patterns
      2. International Phonetic Alphabet and its uses
III. Application of Techniques
   A. Vocal variety
   B. Individual specialization
      1. Broadcast, public speaking, and daily usage
      2. Theatre and dialect applications
      3. Individual improvement

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course, the student should be able to:
A. Describe the physiological basis of voice production
B. Describe the physiological basis for articulation and diction.
C. Demonstrate the application of proper vocal techniques as they apply to the speech process.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:
A. Describe the physiological basis of voice production
   1. The learner will describe the physiological factors that govern breath control and sound production.
   2. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving breath control and sound production.
   3. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving vocal quality and developing vocal resonance.
   4. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving vocal projection.
   5. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving tempo/rhythm within speech.
   6. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving vocal variety (pitch).
   7. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving vocal range.
B. Describe the physiological basis for articulation and diction.
8. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving phrasing within text.
9. The learner will identify the purposes and applications of the International Phonetic Alphabet, and explain its relevance to American English.
10. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving the production of articulated sounds through the use of vowels.
11. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving the production of articulated sounds through diphthongs.
12. The learner will demonstrate exercises for improving the production or articulated sounds through the use of consonants.
13. The learner will identify key word sounds used in American English.
14. The learner will identify the development of speech patterns

C. Demonstrate the application of proper vocal techniques as they apply to the speech process.
15. The learner will establish a personal physiological vocal profile for maintaining and improving vocal production through defined exercises.
16. The learner will establish a personal physiological vocal profile for improving articulation and diction through defined exercises.
17. The learner will apply techniques for vocal and speech improvement, based on individual need.
18. The learner will apply vocal techniques for theatrical usage dependant upon space and character needs.
19. The learner will apply vocal techniques developed for broadcast situations.
20. The learner will apply vocal techniques for public speaking.
21. The learner will apply vocal techniques for daily usage.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNER OUTCOMES:
Assessment methods may include, but are not limited to, the following: Homework, Quizzes, Class Participation, Journals, Chapter Tests, Essay Papers, Monologue and Scene Work, Improvisations, and a Final Vocal and/or Written Examination. The grading scale and the process for calculating the course grades are to be determined by the individual instructors. This information will be included in each instructor's syllabus.

SPECIAL NOTES:
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Material included is intended to provide an outline of the course and rules that the instructor will adhere to in evaluating the student’s progress. However, this syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. Questions regarding the syllabus are welcome any time.

Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to an appreciation of diversity with respect for the differences among the diverse groups comprising our students, faculty, and staff that is free of bigotry and discrimination. Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to providing a multicultural education and environment that reflects and respects diversity and that seeks to increase understanding.

Kansas City Kansas Community College offers equal educational opportunity to all students as well as serving as an equal opportunity employer for all personnel. Various laws, including Title
IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, require the college’s policy on non-discrimination be administered without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, physical handicap, or veteran status and that such policy be made known.

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