

Voice for the Theatre

THEA 2336

Spring 2022

Class Meeting time: Tues/Thurs 9:30 am-10:45 am

Location: when online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89008628904>

Face to Face: Green Room (2nd Floor in FAB 204)

Instructor: Eva Gil (pronouns: she/her)

Office: Fine Arts Building, 203B

Email: eva.gil@sulross.edu

Cell: 917-331-9273 Office: 432-837-8372

Office Hours: Drop-in/zoom MWF 11am-12pm or by appointment (send an email to set up a time)

Catalog Course Description:

Vocal techniques, including diction for performing on the stage.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Student will be able to understand, explore, and grow their knowledge of healthy vocal production.
2. Student will learn and master a vocal warm-up for healthy voice production.
3. Student will learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) in order to master the standard sounds in American English and for future work in Dialects.
4. Student will be able to apply vocal tools to a Heightened Text Monologue.

Marketable Skills:

1. Strong oral and written communication skills.
2. Strong analytical skills.
3. Strong teamwork and collaboration skills

Through a combination of coursework and laboratory work, i.e., theatrical productions, our students will gain the opportunity to explore and develop all three program marketable skills. Specifically, students will learn how to analyze scripts, and communicate their findings via written assignments. They will also be encouraged to support their analysis orally through classroom discussion and their Comprehensive Oral Exam at the end of the senior year. Theatrical productions will provide the opportunity for actors and technicians to problem solve and work collaboratively developing strong teamwork skills.

Required Texts/Materials:

1. Students will need a notebook for IPA work and movement clothes for vocal production work.
2. When we start the Vocal Production section, clothes must be breathable/expandable (think: gym clothes).
3. There will be readings posted on Blackboard, you are welcome to buy the books for your home library, though that is not required. We will primarily be using *Freeing the Natural Voice* by Kristin Linklater and *The Actor Speaks* by Patsy Rodenburg and *Speak with Distinction: The Classic Skinner Method to Speech on Stage* (1990 Edition) by Edith Skinner
4. Daily access to Sul Ross email, Blackboard, Zoom.

Course Assignments:

All written assignments must be uploaded to Blackboard by the start of class on the date due. Unless otherwise noted. Late assignments from the first half of semester are accepted up until mid-terms. For the second half of semester late work is due by last class day. 10 pts a week will be deducted for lateness after the due date. Presentations are due on date listed, unless there's been an illness/emergency and you have contacted me ahead of time.

Class Discussions/Participation/Attendance

There will be discussions of the readings. Come prepared with notes, questions, etc. To get full credit for this portion of the course you must be participating in each discussion. Attendance is key in this class as it will be very difficult to make-up the work explored in class.

Lead Vocal Warm-up

You will be taught a complete vocal warm-up over the course of the semester. Towards the end of the semester you will each lead your classmates through the warm-up.

Self-Assessments

You will answer questions about your voice and vocal process. You need to be able to articulate your successes, challenges, and growth as this skill is an important part of your work as an artist. Due dates and further info will be on Blackboard.

IPA Quizzes

You will be assessed on your knowledge of the IPA symbols, sounds, and via transcription.

Dialect Project

You will select a second monologue which would require a dialect and present it and turn in the IPA transcription.

Heightened Text Monologue Sharing

We will use a heightened text monologue for the final IPA sharing and also again at the end of the semester, it should be memorized and fully explored vocally. You will be given options or you can find your own option (You must email me your option for approval by date on syllabus). If you are absent on the day we have the sharing you will get a zero. *If you have an emergency and have contacted me prior to the class, you might be able to make up that sharing.

Final Exam Day (Monday 5/2 8am-10am)

You'll present your monologue for a final time for graded assessment.

Course Grading:

Discussions/Participation: 75 pts
 Self-Assessments 2 @ 50 pts: 100 pts
 IPA Quizzes 5 @ 25 pts: 125 pts
 IPA Monologue Transcription: 25 pts
 Monologue Sharing: 50 pts
 Dialect Project: 50 pts

Lead warm-up: 25 pts
 Final Monologue Sharing= 50 pts
 =500 pts

A= 450-500 pts B= 400-449 pts C= 350-399 pts *D= 300-349 pts *F= 0-299 pts

*If you earn a D or lower in a Majors Requirement Course (per SRSU policy) you must take that class over.

Course Policies:

1. Phones are put away and ringers off for the duration of class. (If there's a reason you need to be contacted in class, please let me know)
2. No gum, no food or beverages (water ok and encouraged).
3. Please let me know if you have physical limitations (injuries, limitations, etc) or if any arise, this class can be physical and you have to know your own body and adjust accordingly.
4. Please be respectful of each other in regard to constructive criticism; receive and give feedback in a professional, courteous manner.
5. There should be no aggression, micro, or macro toward each other. We cannot be vulnerable in this art form or in a learning space if we are working in a negative environment. Please bring me any issues.
6. Leave your day at the door, come into class with "clean feet." Be ready to work with joy, curiosity, and discipline.
7. Be prepared with your work, have pen/pencil and notebook ready to take notes, have scenes printed out (not on phones).
8. Written work must be proofed/spell checked. Points will be taken off for errors.
9. If you are absent on the day of a sharing you will receive a zero unless there is an emergency and a plan has been established and I have been contacted PRIOR to class as well as your scene partner.
10. Attendance: this class is participation-heavy. You cannot experience the work if you are absent. Most of the points are based on your being in class and participating! It will be very difficult to make up missed classes. I allow 2 absences per semester with no penalty on your Attendance grade. After that, it is 2 pts off per absence from Attendance point allotment. Per Sul Ross policy at: 9 absences for MWF or 6 for T/TH, a student may be dropped from the course. That being said if you are ill please do not come to class, notify me and we can make arrangements.
11. If on Zoom, have cameras on, working mic, good lighting, and a place where you can focus and not feel self-conscious. If there's a reason on particular day that you cannot have your camera on please let me know.
12. If you have questions about Covid protocols or need to Self-Report if you have a positive test, please go to this site: <https://srinfo.sulross.edu/covid-19/> Also, inform your professors so that accommodations can be established. You must self-report! Free testing is available weekly on campus.
13. Grades (with feedback on assignments) will be posted on Blackboard where you can also see your Cumulative grade. Attendance/Participation points will be assessed at Mid-term and at Finals.

Student Resources:

Office Hours

Office hours are when a student may drop in and ask their professor questions about their Coursework, etc. The hours and location are listed at the top of the syllabus. If you are not free at that time you may request an appointment for another time.

Tutoring/Writing Center

Students who would like assistance with classwork and writing skills: Phone: 432-837-8865. Email: tutoring@sulross.edu. More info: <https://www.sulross.edu/TLC>

*I highly recommend getting the free Grammarly Ap and using it before you turn in your written work to catch errors if you do not have spellcheck on your device. You should proof all your written work before submitting.

Kognito Training

Kognito At-Risk for Students is an online, 45-minute training program designed to help you recognize signs of emotional distress, effectively discuss your concerns, and refer students to mental health counseling. If you complete this training program, take a screenshot of the certification screen and email it to me and I'll give you 10 pts of extra credit:

<https://blogs.sulross.edu/counseling/kognito-training-mobile-friendly/>

Libraries

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine, offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123). The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries at Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass offer additional access to library spaces and resources. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may also use online resources available through SWTJC website, library.swtjc.edu. The SWTJC Libraries serve as pick-up locations for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery from the Alpine campus.

Office of Information Tech Help Desk:

Phone: 432-837-8888 Email: techassist@sulross.edu

Blackboard Help Desk 24/7:

Phone: 888-837-6055. Email: blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

Student Mental Health Services

To get Mental Health Counseling, call 432-837-8203 or stop by the Counseling Center, Ferguson Hall, Room 112

<https://www.sulross.edu/counseling-and-accessibility-services/mental-health-counseling-services/>

Sexual Misconduct Resources

Student Counseling Services: Phone: 432-837-8203. Ferguson Hall Room 112

<https://www.sulross.edu/title-ix/sexual-misconduct-resources/>

SRSU Disability Services

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. If an accommodation is needed, students must present their accommodation letter, obtained from Accessibility Services, as soon as possible. Please note that instructors are not permitted to provide classroom accommodations to a student until the appropriate verification has been received.

Accessibility Services is in Ferguson Hall, Room 112. You can make an appointment by calling Mary Schwartze Grisham at 432 837-8203.

SRSU Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

Academic Integrity

Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

Classroom Climate of Respect

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Diversity Statement

"I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of COVID, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning

objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.”

*Please see Student Academic Regulations for additional SRSU policies:

<https://www.sulross.edu/catalog/undergraduate-academic-regulations-2/>

Tentative Course Schedule (subject to change):

Readings, discussion questions, and assignment details posted on Blackboard.

Written assignments are to be uploaded on Blackboard by start of class the day due. Sharings are in-class assignments.

Week	Activity:	Due in class:	Due on Blackboard:
Week 1			
Tues 1/11	Syllabus, Intro		
Thurs 1/13	Voice/IPA/Draw the Voice		
Week 2			
Tues 1/18	IPA vowels		
Thurs 1/20			Self-Assessment #1
Week 3			
Tues 1/25	IPA vowels/diphthongs/triphthongs		
Thurs 1/27	IPA diphthongs/triphthongs		Vowel Quiz
Week 4			
Tues 2/1	IPA Consonants		
Thurs 2/3	IPA Consonants		Diphthongs/Triphthongs Quiz and terminology
Week 5			
Tues 2/8	IPA Transcriptions		Consonants Quiz
Thurs 2/10	IPA Transcriptions	*If picking your own monologue email it to me	Transcription Quiz
Week 6			
Tues 2/15	IPA Transcriptions		Transcription Quiz
Thurs 2/17	IPA Transcriptions		Transcription Quiz
Week 7			
Tues 2/22	IPA rehearse text	Monologue should be printed out. Transcription due	
Thurs 2/24	IPA text	Monologue Sharing	
Week 8			
Tues 3/1	IPA for Dialect		
Thurs 3/3	Dialect Project		
Week 9			
	Spring Break 3/7-3/11		

	Activity:	Due in class:	Due on Blackboard:
Week 10	(Mid-term week)		
Tues 3/15	Dialect Project		
Thurs 3/17	Present Dialect Monologue	Transcription Dialect Monologue	
Week 11			
Tues 3/22	Start teaching warm-up	*gym clothes	
Thurs 3/24	Vocal Habits/Tension Release		
	Stretches/Floor Work		
Week 12			
Tues 3/29	Denial/Bluff		
Thurs 3/31	Breath and Support		
Week 13			
Tues 4/5	Breath and Support	Student Lead warm-ups begin	
Thurs 4/7	Breath and Support		
Week 14			
Tues 4/12	Resonance		
Thurs 4/14	Resonance		
Week 15			
Tues 4/19	Resonance		
Thurs 4/21	Resonance		
Week 16			
Tues 4/26	Monologue Work-Last class		Self-Assessment #2
Week 17			
Final Exam Day Mon. 5/2 8am-10am	Monologue Sharing		