College Drama 110 & Drama 232

UC/CSU transferable/Not NCAA approved
Grade Level: 11-12
Estimated Work Outside of Class: 3-4 hrs per week

Course Description:
This is a MiraCosta College class.

This course introduces students to techniques for improving the quality, flexibility, and effectiveness of the speaking voice. Students examine and practice clear articulation of American English sounds. Topics include vocal expressiveness and variety, physical relaxation, posture, breath control techniques, and the International Phonetic Alphabet. Attendance at local theatrical productions is required.

*Maximum of 2 MiraCosta college courses per semester

Prerequisite:
Completion of Honors Musical Theater, Honors Advanced Acting, OR Honors Playwriting and Directing.
No pre-requisite for a rising 12th grader

Recommended Prerequisite Skills:
Knowledge of advanced acting techniques, scene study skills, and production overview

Course Grade Categories:

- Independent Practice: 10%
- Scene Study/Participation: 40%
- Projects and Assessments: 50%

Major Assessments/Units/Topics:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:
1). Demonstrate principles of physical control, such as proper posture and controlled breathing. 2). Analyze and demonstrate methods of reducing vocal and physical tension.
3). Produce consonants and vowels as used in Standard American English.
4). Speak with vocal expressiveness, including projection, vocal power, upper and lower register, and rate of speech.
5). Recognize, read, and write in the American English symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet.
6). Create a performance-ready document that includes all technical vocal markings.
7). Evaluate live performances using standard voice and diction vocabulary and concepts.

VOICE AND DICTION

The course lecture will address the following topics:
I. Physical control
    A. Posture
    B. Breathing

II. Releasing tension
    A. Physical
    B. Vocal
III. Standard American English
    A. Consonants
    B. Vowels
IV. Vocal expressiveness
    A. Projection
    B. Vocal power
    C. Upper and lower vocal register
    D. Rate of speech
V. American English/International Phonetic Alphabet
    A. Consonants
    B. Vowels
    C. Diphthongs
    D. Transcriptions

MOVEMENT

I. Physical control

A. Laban effort/shape

B. Body centers

C. Box configuration

D. Mime techniques

E. Other movement techniques (Alexander, Suzuki, Viewpoints)

II. Strength and flexibility

A. Strength training

B. Exercise program

III. Creative imagination: integration of mind, body, and emotion

A. Neutral mask

B. Character mask

C. Improvisation.