Dialects
THR 424-001 / 23334
Spring 2019

Professor: Rosie Brownlow-Calkin / brownlowr@sfasu.edu
Class Time: MW 2-2:50
Room: 302
Office Hours: MWF 8:30-10:30 AM or by appointment

It’s all there in the title - this is a course about dialects (the term we’ll use is accents). Guided by Knight-Thompson Speechwork, we will learn IPA, explore oral posture, and learn both how to approach accent work in general and become proficient in several specific accents.

The first part of the class will be devoted to learning IPA. Students who have achieved proficiency in understanding the alphabet will spend this time in directed independent study of more advanced IPA concepts including transcription and diacritics. Once the class as a whole has achieved IPA proficiency, we will move onto acquiring specific accents. We’ll begin with accents of London including RP, Cockney and Estuary, move to General American, and venture into French if time allows. Our semester will conclude with the presentation of individualized accent projects, which will function as a synthesis for everything the course has covered.

Grading Policy
Participation / Effort 40%
Preparation of Assignments 20%
Quiz(zes) / Advanced IPA work 20%
Accent Project 20%

Recommended Reading
• Speaking With Skill by Dudley Knight

Classroom Policies
• NO CELL PHONES for any reason. Any instance of cell phone use during class counts as a tardy.
• Please call me by my first name (Rosie) in person and via e-mail.
• Submit all typed work via email as a Word or PDF attachment. If an assignment involves IPA or otherwise requires handwriting, submit work to me in class.
• Any drinks must be in a non spill container.
• Always come to class with writing utensil and paper.

Quizzes
There will be 1-3 IPA quizzes over the course of the first few weeks of the semester. These are optional or may be taken as practice for those who have already achieved IPA proficiency.

Attendance/Tardiness
My attendance and tardiness policy is as follows:
• You may miss two classes without penalty. If you can, e-mail me in advance so I can make a plan.
• Each absence beyond two lowers your semester grade by 5%.
   Exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis in case of serious emergency or illness and will require documentation. Please let me know if you would like me to consider an exception.
• Three instances of tardiness, cell phone use or leaving class early counts as one absence.
• It is school-wide policy that seven or more absences will result in an automatic semester grade of F.

If you are sick or are contagious, I prefer that you come to class, sit in the back, and take it easy participation-wise if necessary. You will get full participation points for the day. Obviously not all illnesses allow for this. Your call.

Late Work
All assignments should be handed in in class or e-mailed to me by the beginning of class.
Any assignment will be marked off 10% for each day it is late.

Diversity and Inclusion
This class may engage in material covering a diverse range of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, and disability. While I encourage you to formulate and express your thoughts and opinions throughout the semester, discriminatory remarks will not be tolerated and may constitute disruptive behavior under the student code of conduct.

Students with Disabilities
Throughout this class you will be asked to share your thoughts in class and in writing. If English is not your first language or if you experience a speech, vision, hearing, or other learning difficulty, please bring this to my attention.

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

Academic Honesty
Whenever you are writing something for this class, make sure you are using your own words and your own thoughts. Any instance of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in a 0 grade on the assignment. There will probably be other very unpleasant consequences. It’s not worth it.

Program Learning Outcomes Supported in this Course
3) The student will demonstrate collaborative and/or leadership competencies appropriate to participate or take a leadership role in a theatrical production. (All degree plans)
4) The student will demonstrate an understanding of the component areas of theatrical creation, process, production, performance, and study, and their interrelationships. (All degree plans)
6) The student will demonstrate intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatre specializations. (BA)
8) The student will be able to complete and document a major project as a stage manager, as a designer or technician, or as an actor or director, demonstrating advanced competence in the student’s specialty. (BFA)
9) The student will be able to present an effective presentation appropriate to the student’s specialization. (BFA)

Student Learning Outcomes Supported in this Course (and supported PLOs)
• Proficiency in IPA (PLO 6)
• An understanding of the the political and theoretical underpinnings of speechwork (PLOs 3, 4, 9)
• Proficiency in RP, Cockney, Estuary, and GenAm (PLOs 3, 6, 8, 9)
• The ability to approach, learn, and any accent (PLOs 3, 4, 6, 8, 9)
**Catalog Description:** Study and use of dialects for the stage.

**Course Schedule (subject to change):**

**January and February**
- Wed 1/23  Syllabus and oral posture
- Mon 1/28  IPA
- Wed 1/30  IPA
- Mon 2/4   IPA
- Wed 2/6   IPA
- Mon 2/11  IPA
- Wed 2/13  IPA
- Mon 2/18  IPA
- Wed 2/20  IPA
- Mon 2/25  RP
- Wed 2/27  RP

**March**
- Mon 3/4   RP
- Wed 3/6   RP
- Mon 3/11  Cockney
- Wed 3/13  Cockney

**SPRING BREAK**
- Mon 3/25  Cockney
- Wed 3/27  Cockney

**April and May**
- Mon 4/1   Estuary
- Don’t you *dare* April Fools me!
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