

## **THTR/CMNS 133**

### **Voice & Diction**

3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County  
Common Course Outline

#### **Description**

**THTR/CMNS 133 – Voice & Diction:** is a course in which students are introduced to the fundamentals of vocal anatomy and production, and to the concept of the voice as the outward expression of the intellectual and emotional landscape of the speaker. Students will observe and analyze their personal vocal habits and develop their voices through a progression of exercises designed to free and strengthen their voices in performance.

#### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. articulate how the voice is an instrument of intellectual and emotional expression;
2. identify the vocal anatomy and breathing musculature;
3. observe personal vocal and physical habits to make choices about them;
4. practice releasing unnecessary patterns of physical tension;
5. develop a personal warm-up that fosters a freer, stronger voice;
6. employ healthy, expressive, and appropriate vocal approaches to a range of styles and structures of texts;
7. practice dynamic listening with the body;
8. explain the psycho-physical connection and how the psyche and imagination can impact vocal performance;
9. describe the mechanisms of articulation;
10. analyze personal articulation habits and choices; and
11. perform text with an increased facility with articulation choices.

#### **Major Topics**

- I. Anatomy and physiology of voice production
- II. Alignment and physical awareness
- III. Breath and breathing musculature
- IV. Vibration and the vocal folds
- V. The channel
  - a. jaw
  - b. tongue
  - c. soft palate
- VI. Resonance
  - a. lower resonators
  - b. upper resonators
- VII. Breath capacity
  - a. rib awareness

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For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- b. longer thoughts and bigger impulses
- VIII. Range and articulation
  - a. connecting the parts of the voice
  - b. vocal agility
  - c. the articulators
  - d. specificity of thought
  - e. tongue twisters
  - f. text
- IX. Common vocal habits and qualities
  - a. breathiness
  - b. nasality
  - c. glottal attack
  - d. vocal fry
  - e. devoicing
- X. Vocal health in performance

### **Course Requirements**

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- one written test
- three vocal performances
- one written self-reflection

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

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