



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

Voice for the Actor

DRAM - 2336- 01

Kelly Parker

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

Course Description:

Application of the performer's use of the voice as a creative instrument of effective communication. Encourages an awareness of the need for vocal proficiency and employs techniques designed to improve the performer's speaking abilities. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

Prerequisites and/or Co-requisites: None

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Throughout history, the spoken voice defines our ability to communicate and engage as individuals and a society. Ancient, tribal storytellers, philosophers, Renaissance performer, and modern-day politicians have relied on the vibrant power of human speech to spread ideas and understanding. Speaking with a healthy, holistic, uninhibited vocal mechanism is a fundamental component of any reputable theatrical training regimen. This course strives to reveal the pliable, unique, and intuitive voice that is within us all. Discovering vocal freedom has the potential to increase your self-confidence, creativity, interpersonal skills while developing your ability to express yourself in any career or avenue of life.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Kelly Parker

MCC E-mail: kparker@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254.299.8177

Office Location: FA 105E

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: 11 AM - 2 PM, M-F, or by appointment

Required Text & Materials:

Resources posted on D2L/Brightspace and distributed in class.

MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Throughout this course, students will engage in class discussions, read provided literature, and participate in classroom exercises focused on developing an uninhibited breath and vocal freedom. The primary, international recognized vocal techniques employed is Fitzmaurice Voicework© and Knight-Thompson Speechwork©. Students are encouraged to participate in deconstructing and restructuring exercises and improvised activities to the best of their abilities. Active participation and attendance in a voice/speech course are paramount to developing a dynamic and uninhibited, communicative vocal instrument. Additional approaches to breath, voice, and speech, such as Linklater, Lessac, and Pranayama will be introduced throughout the course. Students may be required to write short essays and present brief projects as a part of their exploration of voice and speech.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

- 1) Cultivate a deep understanding of breathwork and vocal anatomy and physiology.
- 2) Knowledge of Fitzmaurice Voicework© principles, exercises, and applications.
- 3) A fundamental grasp of phonetics and the IPA chart.
- 4) Familiarity with the Knight-Thompson Speechwork© approach.
- 5) Awareness of alternative approaches to voice and speech.
- 6) Prepare a personal vocal warm-up routine.
- 7) Master Shakespearean scansion and textual analysis.
- 8) Perform memorized, Shakespearean monologues.
- 9) Explore dialect recreation and analysis.
- 10) Learn the techniques and trade of voiceover artistry.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Week 1	Introduction to Course and Body Awareness Practices
Week 2	Breath work; Anatomy and Physiology
Week 3	Deconstructing into Restructuring
Week 4	Restructuring and KTS Speechwork
Week 5	Restructuring and KTS Speechwork
Week 6	Alternative Breath, Voice and Speech Techniques
Week 7	Alternative Breath, Voice and Speech Techniques
Week 8	Shakespearean Verse and Text
Week 9	Shakespearean Scansion
Week 10	Shakespearean Text in Performance
Week 11	Shakespearean Monologues
Week 12	Dialects and Accents
Week 13	Dialects and Accents
Week 14	Introduction to Voiceover
Week 15	Audiobooks and Commercials
Week 16	Cartoons and Videogames
Week 17	Final Exam

Course Grading Information:

1. Attendance: Being present both physically and mentally is essential. **10% of total grade.**
2. Experiential Exercises: Students will perform various exercises that complement the specific techniques being taught in class. **20% of total grade.**
3. Class Assignments/Projects: Students will complete a variety of class projects and assignments that will be presented, during class, for a grade. **30 % of total grade.**
4. Monologues: Students will perform memorized Shakespearean monologues during the semester which will be critiqued by the instructor based on principles learned during the course. **20% of total grade.**
5. Shakespearean Scansion Exam: Students are required maintain a written journal covering topics addressed throughout the semester. **10% of total grade.**
6. Vocal Anatomy Quizzes: Short written exams over vocal production and anatomy. **10% of total grade.**
7. Voiceover research and performance projects: **10% of total grade**

Extra-credit opportunities will be available throughout the semester

All grades: 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 59 and below=F

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Students are expected to be in class every day and on time. Much of what will be discussed each week cannot be learned (or “made up”) by any other means except during each class. Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will have serious consequences and may result in a failing grade. Written assignments must be neatly typed, free of grammatical mistakes, spelling, etc. College-level writing is expected. Due dates will be announced at the beginning of the semester.

Course work will not be accepted past the due date. If you know you will have a conflict meeting a deadline, please discuss this with the instructor ahead of time.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

Students will approach the artistic nature of acting and the course with respect and maturity; immaturity and rudeness will not be tolerated.

The Center for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as “a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behavior that enable academic communities to translate ideals into action.” Individual faculty members determine their class policies and behavioral expectations for students. Students who commit violations of academic integrity should expect serious consequences. For further information about student responsibilities and rights, please consult the McLennan website and your Highlander Student Guide.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

COLLEGE

ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.