COM 151 01/ THE 151 01 *VOICE & DICTION*
Course Syllabus

Course: COM 151 01/THE 151 01 *Voice & Diction*
Instructor: Dr. Randy Richardson richarrr@westminster.edu
Office: Thompson Clark 307 Office phone: 724 946-7348
Office Hours: MWF 10:30-11:30 AM/ MW 1:30-3:00 PM/ TR 1:00-2:00 PM (and by appt.)
Class Hours: 9:20-10:20 AM MWF Room: PH 106
Text: Eisenson, Jon. *Voice and Diction: A Program for Improvement, 7th ed*

Catalog Description

Theory and practice in the basic techniques of developing a clear and expressive speaking voice. Breath control, proper phonation, full resonance and projection, and articulation will be covered as well as exercises for improving use of pitch, timbre, and vocal quality.

> *"The miracle of the voice is that it connects both inwardly and outwardly, and the depth of the art with which the voice is deployed by the actor depends on the depth to which it plunges internally in the creative process and the scope of its outward journey. Voice is air and vibration it is infinitely malleable, transformable and expressive. It can communicate more intimate nuance over a greater distance than the body can. It is the bridge between souls."* Kristin Linklater

Course Objectives

- The student will be able to diagram and explain the process of human vocal production.
- The student will be able to self-evaluate vocal performance targeting areas for personal vocal growth and improvement.
- The student will be able to identify and explain vocal inadequacies relating to breathing, articulation, resonance, volume, rate, intensity, pitch, and vocal variety.
- The student will be able to transcribe speech sounds into the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet.)
- The student will be able to deliver a presentation on a significant topic related to contemporary vocal studies.
- The student will be able to describe, analyze, and evaluate vocal performances.
- The student will demonstrate vocal improvement and acuity through readings, various speeches and a career-related presentation.

Class Rules

Class will be conducted in an environment of mutual respect. Do not enter the room while classmates are presenting. Attention should be given to student speakers at all times. Participation in this class is extremely important and discussion is expected. There will be moments, perhaps entire class periods where it will be beneficial to be connected to the worldwide web. At other times, this class will be a sacred space free from all outside influence and interference. Assume the latter. I'll announce the former.

Attendance

Be here on time. A three-absence rule will be enforced. Every absence beyond three will incur a 10% deduction from your final grade. If you are traveling with a team or representing the school in other official capacities, be sure to clear your absence with your professor ahead of time. Also, if you know you'll be missing class for these reasons, then make every effort not to have any unexcused absences. Work will not be accepted late. DO NOT MISS CLASS ON A DAY ON WHICH YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO SPEAK OR TAKE AN EXAM. Speeches cannot be made up. Likewise, in-class quizzes cannot be made up.

Evaluation

Final grades will be based on the following assignments:

Intro Speech	25 pts	_____
Personal Vocal Analysis	75	_____
Speech Assignment	100	_____
Reading Assignment	100	_____
Career Presentation	100	_____
Vocal Evaluation	100	_____
Midterm Exam	100	_____
Final Exam	100	_____
Vocal Epideictic Speech	100	_____
Final Group Presentation	100 (group)	_____
	100 (Individual)	_____
TOTAL		_____

Scale

900-1000 – A
800-899 – B
700-799 – C
600-699 – D
Below 600 – Have you considered a career in the circus?

ACCOMMODATION

Westminster College is committed to providing services and resources to remove unnecessary barriers for students with disabilities, as consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students with disabilities who are seeking options to address any potential physical and programmatic barriers, which includes academic accommodations, should contact the director of Disability Resources for further information. The director will meet with the student to discuss his or her demonstrated concerns, Westminster's related requirements, relevant resources, and potential options to appropriately address the issue(s). You can contact the Office of Disability Resources by calling 724 946-7192.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Central to the purpose and pursuit of any academic community is academic integrity. All members of the Westminster community, including students, faculty, staff, and administrators, are expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity, in keeping with the philosophy and mission of the College. The College's expectation for strong integrity applies to all academic work, including work on campus, online, and at other locations where Westminster courses are offered. Academic dishonesty is a profound violation of this code of behavior. Outlined below are examples of and specific consequences for academic dishonesty at Westminster. The list of examples is not meant to be exhaustive, but rather to provide an overview of the community's common concerns. Students who are unsure as to whether specific behavior not listed here will constitute academic dishonesty should consult with their individual course instructors.

Violations

Violations of the Westminster College Academic Integrity Policy (AIP) include, but are not limited to, the following:

Cheating

1. Copying answers from another student during a quiz, test, or examination.
2. Divulging answers or information to another student during a quiz, test, or examination, or accepting such aid.
3. Using unauthorized aids (e.g., notes, books, or electronic devices) during a quiz, test, or examination.
4. Collaborating improperly with another student on an open-book, take-home or online quiz, test, or examination.
5. Exceeding the time limit, when one exists, on an open-book, take-home or online quiz, test, or examination.
6. Aiding another student improperly on in- or out-of-class assignments.
7. Leaving a physical or digital testing area to obtain answers or aid.

8. Handing in another's work or ideas as one's own.
9. Acting as or using a substitute online to submit work that is not your own.
10. Taking a quiz, test, or examination with prior knowledge of its contents, when that knowledge has not been authorized or consented to by the instructor.
11. Engaging in any activity which may give an unfair advantage to oneself or another.

Misconduct
1. Engaging, during a class or testing session, in conduct that is so disruptive as to infringe upon the rights of the instructor or fellow students.
2. Submitting the same work, including oral presentations, for different courses without the explicit consent of the instructors.
3. Stealing or intentionally damaging or destroying notes, research data, laboratory projects, library materials, computer software (including the intentional passing of a computer virus), or any other work of another member of the Westminster community.
4. Acting as or using a substitute in any academic evaluation procedures.
5. Depriving others of necessary academic resources.
6. Sabotaging the work of another member of the Westminster community.
7. Unethically obtaining answers or other information about a quiz, test, or examination before it is administered, even if not a member of the class in which the quiz, test, or examination is given.
8. Violating copyright restrictions, i.e., stealing the intellectual property of another.

Plagiarism "Derived from the Latin word for kidnapping, plagiarism is the theft of someone else's 'brainchild' —that person's language, ideas, or research—and the origin of the word conveys the seriousness of such offenses in the view of college teachers and administrators. The reason is that words, ideas, and research are the main forms of currency in academic life."— Keith Hjortshoj, The Transition to College Writing (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2001), 172.
1. Quoting or paraphrasing, without proper citation and acknowledgment, the published words, ideas, or work of another (including anonymous publications and online publications).
2. Submitting, as one's own work, a paper, an oral presentation, or a visual presentation authored wholly or partially by someone else (including commercial services).
3.Borrowing and appropriating, without proper citation and acknowledgement, facts that are not matters of general knowledge, including all statistics and translations, and/or the general idea or logic of another's argument.

Providing False Information

1. Furnishing false information to the College for the purpose of obtaining special consideration or privilege (e.g., postponement of an examination or a deadline).

2. Misrepresenting source material or information or participating in the falsification or misrepresentation of citations.
3. Falsifying laboratory data, notes, or results, or research data of any type, and presenting it as one's work.
4.Providing false identification in an online course or using someone else's account and password to access course or College materials.

Process and Consequences

If a course instructor suspects that a student has violated this policy, the instructor will speak with the student, review appropriate materials, and reach a conclusion. If the instructor determines that a violation has occurred, the following process will apply:

1. The instructor will inform the student that he or she has violated the AIP and that the vice president for academic affairs (VPAA) will be notified. In the event that a violation occurs in graduate courses, the director of the graduate program (DGP) will be notified.
2. The instructor will impose an academic penalty at his or her discretion (e.g., 0 for the assignment without possibility of revisions, failing grade for the course, or other appropriate academic sanctions).

In this class, the minimum penalty will be a "0" given on the assignment, with a maximum of an "F" for the course. Please see the College Catalog for further details on Academic Integrity and a student's process for petition.

Course Schedule
(Subject to change by Dr. Richardson)

8/28 M Intro to *Voice & Diction*
8/30 W **Intro Speeches delivered**
9/1 F **Intro Speeches delivered**

9/4 M Wonders and Characteristics of the Human Voice
9/6 W Vocal Analysis/Self-listening CH 1
9/8 F Personal Voice Analysis **PVA Due**

9/11 M Our Changing Speech Patterns CH 3
9/13 W American-English Pronunciation CH 4
9/15 F Vocal Production Process (pt 1) CH 2

9/18 M Vocal Production Process (pt 2)
9/20 W **Speech Presentation A/B**
9/22 F **Speech Presentation C/D**

9/25 M Breathing for Vocal Production CHs 5/6
9/27 W Pitch and Vocalization CH 7
9/29 F Vocal Improvement Exercises

10/2 M Vocal Resonance and Volume CHs 8/9
10/4 W Timing and Vocal Variety CHs 10/11
10/6 F Vocal Improvement Exercises

10/9 M **Reading Presentation C/D**
10/11 W **Reading Presentation A/B**
10/13 F Individual Voice Sessions C/D

10/16 M Individual Voice Sessions A/B
10/18 W Midterm Review
10/20 F **Midterm Exam**

10/25 W American-English Phonemes CH 12
10/27 F Vowels and Diphthongs CHs 13/14

10/30 M Consonant Sounds CHs 15-22
11/1 W IPA Exercises
11/3 F IPA Exercises

11/6 M **Career Voice Presentation B/A**
11/8 W **Career Voice Presentation D/C**
11/10 F Group Project Assignment/Discussion

11/13 M Group Project Work **Vocal Evaluation Due**
11/15 W IPA Exercises
11/17 F IPA Exercises

11/20 M IPA Review

11/27 M **Vocal Epideictic Speech C**
11/29 W **Vocal Epideictic Speech D**
12/1 F Final Project Group Work

12/4 M **Vocal Epideictic Speech A**
12/6 W **Vocal Epideictic Speech B**
12/8 F **Final IPA Exam**

Final Exam: Thursday, Dec. 14, 8:00-10:30 AM,
FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS A,B,C,D