



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: THEA 1210 Voice and Physical Preparation

Section ID: 81373.202380

Semester and Year: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: August 21, 2023

End Date: December 08, 2023

Course Format: CON - Conventional Methodology

Catalog Course Description: The training of the voice for communication, interpersonal or public (performance) - incorporates physical and mental preparations. Students will explore techniques for voice production through vocal and physical exercises. **F**

Meeting Details: MW; 03:55PM - 05:20PM; HUM 147

Course Drop Deadline: October 27, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Jack Truman

Office Location: HUM 115

Office Hours: 9:00 - 11:00 M/W, 9:00 - 12:00 T/TH

Office Phone: 423-585-6958

Email: Jack.Truman@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Elissa Keck

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-6951

Required Textbook(s) and Materials

Freeing Shakespeare's Voice

Authors: Kristen Linklater

A Pronouncing Dictionary of American English

Authors: John S. Kenyon and Thomas A. Knott

Stage Dialects

Authors: Jerry Blunt

Supplemental or Optional Materials

- Handouts & additional play assignments as provided by instructor
- Monologues and scenes from scripts online or in library

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- - To identify different vocal techniques and physical techniques and movements.
- - To express yourself and your characters through the use of vocal and physical techniques
- -To demonstrate the knowledge you have acquired through vocal and physical scenes
- - To develop techniques that will help you prepare and use your physical and vocal instrument in the bigger context of a theatrical production, as well as everyday life, while examining different physical and vocal techniques to determine the elements that will help you in your careers and life
- - To appraise the development of your own physical and vocal instruments, as well as those of others
- - To understand the connection between theatre and film
- - To gain self-confidence in presenting yourself professionally and personally
- - To develop and sharpen concentration and focus, while using constructive criticism to further develop an acting role

Instructional Approach and Methods

THE RULES:

- Come to every class
- Do the work
- Respect each other
- **HAVE FUN!!!**

Covid Guidelines: Be respectful of the choices of others. Face masks are optional. Please maintain a 6 foot distance between yourself and others. ANTICIPATE CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS BASED ON THE EVOLVING COVID SITUATION.

ATTENDANCE:

This is a performance-based class. Attendance is mandatory. Theatre is a collaborative art, and to learn to perform you must be here and participate. Much of the process of learning about acting involves interacting with your peers in class. Show a positive attitude and take an active role in all activities.

If you are absent, the following penalties apply:

0 absences +20 points 3 absences -20 points 6 absences -160 points
1 absence 0 points 4 absences -40 points 7 absences -320 points
2 absences -10 points 5 absences -80 points 8 absences -640 points

LATENESS:

Habitual lateness will be treated like absenteeism – if you are late at least once a week I will ask you to drop the class.

5-10 minutes/-5 points 11-20 minutes/-10 points

INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH AND METHODS

- Exercises
- Videos
- Discussions

The focus of this course is an exploration of the voice through physical and mental preparation. Therefore, the student will perform the techniques and exercises to the best of

their ability as part of the requirements for this course.

Much class time will be devoted to preparation and evaluative activities. Other activities will include observation, research and exercises which will support the goals of the class objectives. Class discussion based upon the classroom exercises and well as assignments outside of class and student participation will be expected because the course is a performance based subject.

Students will be evaluated upon their degree of participation and attendance.

Students will also be graded on several performance scenes. Students will not be graded on whether their performance is good or bad, but upon the degree of preparedness and the final evaluation of the instructor.

You will also be expected to keep a journal of reflections on each class meeting. These will be turned in periodically, so they should be brought to every class meeting.

Also included is education of acting techniques of 5 legendary acting coaches.

In this class, it is also important to understand the connection that theatre has with film. Over the course of the semester, 6 films will be watched and discussed to help understand this connection.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

Class Participation/Daily Assignments/Exercises.....	250 points
Monologue Papers.....	100 points
Monologues.....	200 points
Written work for final.....	50 points
Theatre with Film paper.....	50 points
Improv Style Paper.....	50 points
Final / Final Scene.....	100 points
<u>OF MICE AND MEN</u> view and critique paper.....	50 points

OF MICE AND MEN discussion.....50 points
Journal.....100 points

TOTAL.....1000 points

GRADING SCALE:

A = 1000 – 934 B- = 833 – 800 D+ = 699-667
A- = 933 – 900 C+ = 799 – 767 D = 666 – 634
B+ = 899 – 867 C = 766 – 734 D- = 633 – 600
B = 866 – 834 C- = 733 – 700 F = below 600

EXTRA CREDIT:

- You have 4 extra credit opportunities for a maximum total of 175 points.
- You may attend other local productions and receive extra credit by attending up to 3 of the other productions available in Morristown during the semester and write a short production critique (2 pages). **These papers are due the week after the show closes. No late papers will be accepted.** Each of these is worth 25 points.

Local Community Theaters to see shows:

Morristown Theatre Guild: <https://theatreguildinc.org>

Encore Theatrical Company: <https://www.encoretheatricalcompany.com>

AUDITION REQUIREMENT

All students will be required to audition for the fall production of *Of Mice and Men*, regardless of whether you intend to take part in the production. Audition experience is invaluable to your actor training. Auditions will consist of a 1-2 minute prepared dramatic monologue and cold readings from the script.

CLOTHING

Movement or gym clothes are required. You should wear comfortable clothing that you will be able to move freely in; nothing too tight, and shoes good for movement (no slides, flip-flops or sandals; tennis shoes recommended). Not wearing the proper clothing will not excuse you from the exercises, but the inability to do the exercises will lower your grade.

Grading Scale

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	59 or Below

Assignments

- Assigned readings from text, plays, and *Of Mice and Men*
- Class discussions, exercises, improvisation, theatre games and activities; which will help you build self-confidence as you find new ways to express yourself. In-class participation is **mandatory** to pass this course!
- Papers:

Monologue Papers (4): You will write 2 page papers based on the 4 monologue performances, analyzing voice and movement.

Of Mice and Men Paper: You will write a 2 page analysis/criticism paper of this play.

Improv Paper: You will select an element of the improv technique and write a short paper analyzing that form.

Film with Theatre Paper: You will write a short paper connecting theatre with film, with a focus on voice and movement.

-Performance Projects:

Monologues: You will select, memorize and prepare 1-2 minute monologues from plays of your choice. You will perform in front of the class, receive direction/critique, revise and return for a final graded performance to the class, while experimenting with different vocal and physical techniques.

Final Scene: After being assigned partners, you will select, memorize, block & rehearse a 4-6 minute scene from a play of your choice. You will perform in front of the class, receive direction/critique, revise and return for a final graded performance to the class, while experimenting with different vocal and physical techniques.

- Read the play *Of Mice and Men* and demonstrate analytical skills with reading, writing and discussion
- View Fall Walters State Production, *Of Mice and Men* and write a short critique of the shows (Guidelines provided) – PLEASE NOTE: Failure to see this **required production** will result in a penalty of 100 points!

****Late assignments are not likely to be accepted. If exception is made, it will be by prior consent and at the instructor's discretion.**

Class Participation

This is a participation-based and individualized growth-oriented class. While learning about theatre and film, you will also learn basic information about performing, which is a form of everyday communication. A class in vocal and physical preparation can benefit other aspects of your life, both personally and professionally. You will be evaluated on the process and effort as well as the final product. This class is a supportive, cooperative environment where we learn by doing and learn from each other. Don't compare yourself with others.

Just do your personal best! Have fun!

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

*****No food or drinks allowed in class except bottled water.**

*****ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES or TEXTING. Not even on silent.** Disruption of class by either will result in a penalty of -25 points. Turn your cell phone off!

If you bring a laptop to class, you are solely responsible for preventing its damage. Pack it safely to protect it during movement exercises, games and performances. If during class time you use the laptop for activities other than class work and notes, you will be required to shut it down and will not be permitted to bring the laptop to class again for the remainder of the semester.

Wear comfortable clothing suitable for movement and floor work. If you are dressed inappropriately, you will not be able to take part in class and it will affect your participation grade.

*****All written assignments must be typed and formatted with the following guidelines or they will not be accepted:**

Plain white paper, 8.5"x11"

1 inch margins on all 4 sides.

Double spaced

Legible font such as Times New Roman, 12 point

Pages numbered at top right corner (Do not show number on page 1)

Pages stapled at top left corner

All papers at least 1 full page. Papers less than one full page will lose points.

Plays written for theater often contain strong language: profanities, violence, sexual terms or religious references. However, this class forbids work that promotes hate. Choose your scenes carefully.

The nature of acting and any acting course or performance includes physical contact from time to time with fellow students/actors. On occasion I may also have to adjust parts of your body for proper alignment and to release tension. However, you will never be touched if you don't want to be. Please see me privately if you are uncomfortable and need to discuss these issues.

When attending theatre performances and class arrive on time, be attentive, quiet and respectful; especially during performances!

Additional Course Requirements/Details/Information

*****ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES or TEXTING. Not even on silent.** Disruption of class by either will result in a penalty of -25 points. Turn your cell phone off!

If you wish to discuss the grade you receive for **any** particular assignment, please feel free to send me an eLearn email or make an appointment to meet in person or virtually. Likely, I won't be able to recall your grade on a specific assignment just before or after class, so I will need a little time to look into it before giving you a response.

Please check your eLearn email often. I will communicate important class updates through eLearn and being aware of these updates will be crucial to your success in the class. **If a student wishes to email the instructor, you can expect a reply within 48 hours *except on weekends and holidays*.**

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions). Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
 - b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
 - c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
 - d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.
2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
 - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
 - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.

3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](https://helpdesk.waltersstate.edu)
[helpdesk.ws.edu](https://helpdesk.waltersstate.edu)

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)
[ws.edu/student-services/disability/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/catalog/)
[catalog.ws.edu/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/catalog/)

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/admissions/registration/)
[ws.edu/admissions/registration/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/admissions/registration/)

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to

change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.
- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/home/

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/set/

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)