

Bergen Community College
Division of Business, Arts & Social Sciences
Department of Visual & Performing Arts

Course Syllabus

Voice and Movement: THR 113

Basic Course Information

Semester and Year:

Course and Section Number:

Meeting Times and Locations:

Instructor:

Office Location:

Phone:

Departmental Secretary:

Office Hours:

Email Address:

Course Description:

Voice and Movement is a fundamental and experiential course designed for students wishing to enhance their abilities as performing artists, speakers, presenters, teachers, and more. Emphasis is placed on developing within the student an understanding of their body and voice as instruments of expression and communication. Students explore embodied techniques as they engage with a variety of poetic and dramatic texts, bringing them to life in performance.

Prerequisite: None

Credits: 2 (1 lecture, 2 lab)

Student Learning Objectives:

The overall goal of this course is to give the student total immersion in all types of stage movement and the accompanying vocal aspects of performance. The course introduces and utilizes a wide range of physical, vocal, and speech exercises, theater games, and textual analysis techniques, all aimed at improving skills and increasing vocal and physical expressivity and range, imagination and creativity. Students will be expected to present to the class a final performance piece as an actor, dancer, or both. Students will also:

1. Implement daily body and vocal warm-ups to develop as a performing artist.
2. Distinguish between a variety of movement disciplines and the sounds that convey a character's objectives.
3. Apply the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) to better understand intonation, dialects, and accents.
4. Examine a variety of texts in order to strengthen vocal performance.
5. Identify and analyze different forms of movements and sounds found within the activities of human beings of all ages in various situations and record these in a Kinetic Journal.
6. Analyze and discuss the challenges of creating a performance piece from major periods of theatre history.

Learning Assessments:

In support of the above-mentioned goals, the course will include daily performance assignments, both

prepared and improvised. Students will take an active part in all class activities.

Objectives will be assessed as follows:

1. Successful completion of individual and group performances.
2. Quality and completeness of performances and Kinetic Journal.
3. Demonstrated insight, effort, and completeness of observational readings/writings.
4. Active supportive participation in class discussions, presentations, projects.
5. Quality and effort demonstrated for performance and written projects (group and individual).

Technological Literacy

Technological literacy and information literacy is one expectation of this course. Students will be encouraged to explore, both on-line and in the library, further elements of physical theatre and dance.

Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials

Snow, Jackie. *Movement Training for Actors*. Bloomsbury Publishing. ISBN: 1408157136.

Loui, Annie. *The Physical Actor: Exercises for Action and Awareness*. Routledge. ISBN: 9781134035878.

In addition, multiple handouts and video links will be provided. Be sure to check our Moodle site regularly, where all materials will be located.

Grading Policy

The final grade in this course will be determined by a student's overall mastery of the subject matter as evidenced by participation, the Kinetic Journal, quizzes/exams, and final paper.

Participation	40% (attendance, punctuality, communication, attitude)
Quizzes and exams	20%
Kinetic Journal	20%
Midterm	10% (level of progress in voice skills, application of acting skills, and text skills)
Final Performance	10% (level of progress in voice skills, application of acting skills, and text skills)

Criteria for Evaluation:

Participation:

Students will be assigned projects to present in each class. The student will need to be 100% committed to that position and attend all classes.

Kinetic Journal:

The student will write and maintain a daily journal describing, in detail, their perceptions of the movements and sounds of human, non-human, and inanimate objects that they have viewed throughout the semester.

Grading Scale:

90-100	=	A
86-89	=	B+
80-85	=	B
76-79	=	C+
70 - 75	=	C
65-69	=	D
0-64	=	F
Unofficial Withdrawal	=	E
Official Withdrawal	=	W
Incomplete	=	INC

Skills that define a professional attitude are:

1. Empathy, integrity, honesty, good interpersonal skills, curiosity, courage, and desire for change.
2. Ability to adapt to a working environment that is both rigorous and demanding.
3. Ability to show flexibility to changes.
4. Ability to function in the face of uncertainties, questions and stresses, which are inherent in the training and artistic process, as well as the profession.
5. Ability and willingness to respond physically to appropriate verbal and tactile cues given by their teachers.
6. Acknowledgment that the work is the discipline and self-discipline will lead to the attainment of one's goals.

BCC Attendance Policy

All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

Students will be evaluated on attendance and participation in class using the following criteria: consistent attendance; evidence of studying text and assignments; completed daily assignments; quality classroom responses.

Bergen Community College Academic Policies:

Bergen Community College is committed to academic integrity – the honest, fair and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception. Please review the college catalog or student handbook for further information on this topic.

Bergen Community College has adopted an internal grievance procedure to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by federal regulation implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. (ADA). Please review the college catalog for further information on this topic.

Bergen Community College is committed to providing its students and employees with an academic and work environment free from sexual harassment or discrimination. Please review the policy prohibiting sexual harassment in the college catalog.

SUPPORT SERVICES		
Students are encouraged to use the student support services of the college. Some of these are listed below.		
Center for Student Success (Academic Counseling, Academic Advising, Transfer Services, Career Counseling)	A-118	https://bergen.edu/center-for-student-success
Portal Help (for Moodle, BCC email, registration)	Portal is located at my.bergen.edu	https://bergen.edu/portalthelp
Tutoring Center	L-125	https://bergen.edu/tutoring
English Language Resource Center (for students whose first language is not English)	Room C-212 201-879-5292	https://bergen.edu/tutoring/english-language-resource-center
Writing Center (for all students)	Room L-125 201-447-7489	https://bergen.edu/tutoring/writing-center/
Office of Specialized Services (Disability Services)	Room L-116 201-612-5270	www.bergen.edu/oss
Sidney Silverman Library	Room L-226 201-447-7970	www.bergen.edu/library

Statement on Accommodations for Disabilities

The Office of Specialized Services (Pitkin Education Center: L-115, 201-612-5269, <http://www.bergen.edu/oss>) promotes an inclusive environment for students with disabilities through the provision of accommodations and auxiliary support services. Students are strongly encouraged to contact OSS before the semester begins or during the first week of class to request accommodations. Faculty and staff are available to meet with students via phone, in-person, and WebEx (online meeting app). You can also connect by phone: 201-612-5269 and email: ossinfo@bergen.edu. For more information regarding the above, see the section entitled: Office of Specialized Services or Services for Students with Disabilities in the current Bergen Community catalog.

The Bergen Cares Center Pantry

Any student who has difficulty accessing sufficient food to eat, stable housing, or meeting other basic needs, and believes this may affect performance in this course, is urged to contact me (your professor) or the Bergen Cares Center for support. The Bergen Cares Center Pantry is located in room C-111A on the Paramus Campus at Bergen Community College. For more information contact the BCC Coordinator at rsloma@bergen.edu or call 201-447-7191.

Library Resources

All students are encouraged to visit and use the BCC Library. There are particularly excellent resources available to students studying the performing arts.

Databases

- [Digital Theatre+](#)
Theatre, opera, music, and dance from internationally renowned productions.
- [Films on Demand - Music and Dance](#)
With equal emphasis on recordings of live performances and documentaries, this collection spans both time and space to cover a wide variety of music and dance from around the world and throughout history. Opera, jazz, and classical. Ballet, modern, and step dancing.

LibGuides

- [Theatre and Dance LibGuide](#) (BCC Library)
- [Performing Arts LibGuide](#) (BCC Library)

Course Outline

This course outline is tentative and subject to change depending upon the progress of the class.

Week	Dates	Topic/Activity	Assignments/Events
1		Introductions Understanding the fundamentals of the course Discuss the Kinetic Journal	Begin the Kinetic Journal Week #1 Reflection Due
2		Laban Movement Developing kinesthetic sense and movement Vocal vocabulary Rudolf Laban and the Eight Efforts	Week #2 Reflection Due
3		Laban Movement Analysis Chart Animal Characterization	Week #3 Reflection Due
4		Animal Characterization 4-Minute Warm-up	Week #4 Reflection Due
5		Vocal Characterization Characterizations using dialects and voice problems (IPA) "The Word" by Pablo Neruda	Week #5 Reflection Due Memorization and Vocal Development: "The Word"
6		The Classical Greek Chorus Classical Greek/Choral work Ensemble Playing, Modern dance warm-up	Week #6 Reflection Due
7		Masks and Commedia dell'Arte Mime and Tarantella/ Moliere	Week #7 Reflection Due
8		Elizabethan/Renaissance Dance (Morris Dance and Pavane)	Week #8 Reflection Due Memorization and Vocal Development: Shakespearean Sonnet
9		Written Midterm exam/ Kinetic Journals due	Week #9 Reflection Due
10		Late 19 th Century Realism/Principles of Physics	Week #10 Reflection Due

11		Dances used in Musical Theatre	Week #11 Reflection Due
12		Children's Theatre/Tap Dancing	Week #12 Reflection Due
13		English Restoration/Ballet Warm-up	Week #13 Reflection Due
14		Modern Drama/Dance using costumes, set, props	Week #14 Reflection Due
15		James-Lange Theory for Creating a Role/ Final Projects	
16		Final written exam	Final Course Reflection due