# Division Course Syllabus

**Division:** Humanities  
**Course Prefix and Number:** TH 1533  
**Course Title:** Voice and Diction  
**Semester and Year Submitted:** Spring 2014  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prepared by:** Rick Nelson  
**Hours Per Week:**  
- **Class:** 3  
- **Lab:** 0

**Course Description (as it appears in Catalog):**

Study of vocal mechanism, phonetics, International Phonetic Alphabet, and related exercises to improve student’s voice, articulation, pronunciation and expressive intonation for effective oral communication.

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**Prerequisites:** None  
**Text(s):**  
- **Title:** Fundamentals of Voice and Articulation 15th Ed.  
- **Author:** Lyle Mayer  
- **Publisher:** McGraw-Hill  
- **Copyright Date:** 2012  
- **ISBN #:** 9780078036798  
**Reading Level:** 11  
**Supplemental Materials:** (Other books, audio visual aids, etc.)
Outline for Remainder of Syllabus:

Rationale:
The student will be able to improve the strength and resonance of the vocal mechanism, and produce the sounds and stress patterns of American English. Particular stress will be placed on reading from the printed page for the logical as well as the emotional content. This course is not designed for speech correction or foreign accent elimination.

Expected Outcomes:

1. Speak clearly and intelligently.
2. Develop a pleasant vocal quality.
3. Build adequate and varied volume.
4. Achieve vivid vocal variations.
5. Experiment with different vocal techniques.

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lecture and demonstration of basic materials and concepts.
2. Discussion of text readings.
3. Video, film, and slide presentations.
4. Attendance at area theatres.
5. Script readings and discussions.

Assessment (Including Critical Thinking measurements):

1. Grading of individual essays on productions which student has viewed at Rose State College theatre.
2. Evaluation of individual contribution of the student to class reading, discussion, and participation in theatre projects.
3. Objective grading of unit tests, midterm, and of final examination.
4. Class participation and discussion.
5. Journal entries.
Learning Goals:

Unit I. SPEAK CLEARLY AND INTELLIGENTLY (Outcome 1)
Through unit exam and oral presentation the students will demonstrate that they can do the following:
1. Employ correct breathing and volume control during speaking.
2. Practice various at-home exercises to improve articulation.

Unit II. DEVELOP A PLEASANT VOCAL QUALITY (Outcome 2)
Through unit exam and oral presentation the students will demonstrate that they can do the following:
1. Identify various vocal problems in self.
2. Practice various speeches/monologues to gain better vocal control.
3. Identify the types of vocal problems that arise.

Unit III. BUILD ADEQUATE AND VARIED VOLUME (Outcome 3)
Through unit exam and oral presentation the students will demonstrate that they can do the following:
1. Practice techniques to improve volume control.
2. Critique the volume of others and offer feedback.
3. Illustrate correct volume in various settings.

Unit IV. ACHIEVE VIVID VOCAL VARIATIONS (Outcome 4)
Through unit exam and oral presentation the students will demonstrate that they can do the following:
1. Practice techniques to improve overall vocal control.
2. Apply the International Phonetic Alphabet correctly to a speech/monologue.
3. Critique the variation of fellow classmates.
4. Distinguish various vocal flaws in others and self.
5. Demonstrate correct vocal variation in a speech/monologue.

Unit V. EXPERIMENT WITH DIFFERENT VOCAL TECHNIQUES (Outcome 5)
Through unit exam and oral presentation the students will demonstrate that they can do the following:
1. Distinguish between Linkletter and Berry.
2. Apply Linkletter and Berry techniques.
3. Select other popular techniques to use in a speech/monologue.