



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CONTINUING EDUCATION

COURSE SYLLABUS/OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT FORM

1. **Name of Course:** Speaking Voice 101 with Radio Theatre *(as led by Mj Vandivier)*

2. **Number of Clock Hours:** 24

3. **Course Description:**

The voice is the most important tool for effective communication. Discover how you can make a great first impression with your voice or talk for hours without losing steam. Mj Vandivier, a Certified Lessac Voice & Body Trainer, leads and grounds students in the process of voice dynamics. From body and voice warm-ups to the most effective ways to master your “instrument,” Mj will guide you to a greater awareness and use of the power of your own natural voice. The last 3 classes of the session will focus on Radio Theater. Students will rehearse and record a performance in a drama or comedy radio show from the archives of Classic Radio Theater. This class provides useful training prior to taking our Dialects class.

4. **Course Objectives:**

- Voice awareness
- Understanding the power and uniqueness of the speaking voice as a musical instrument
- Exploration to discover the full range and capabilities of the voice
- In the final two weeks, the use of Radio Theater scripts creates a theatrical opportunity to discover more specific vocal variety

5. **Rationale: State the reason for offering the course:**

This work incorporates how to use your voice and body to communicate more effectively both professionally and personally. As actors, business people, parents, everyone benefits when we are purposeful in our speech and interesting or pleasant to be listened to. The Radio Theatre aspect allows students a unique way to explore and use their voice in a more expressive environment.

6. **Required Materials:**

Course book (provided by ACC)

7. **Course Outline: What topics and sub-topics will be covered in this course?**

- 1) Foundations of Voice Production/Breath/Relaxation/ and Voice Placement
- 2) The Lessac Approach to Vowels, Tone, Consonants
- 3) Beginning acting skills
- 4) Radio acting: Auditions, casting scripts, rehearsing, recording, playbacks