### Course Number / Title
- **THRT 3513**
  - Voice, Speech, and Dialect

### CRN
- 11903

### Term / Year
- Fall 2013

### Time / Location
- 11:00 – 11:50am
- M/W/F
- CTL 120

### Instructor
- Name: Kato Buss, Ph.D.
- Office: COMM 105A
- Phone: 405-974-5512
- Email: Kbuss2@uco.edu
- Office Hours: T 11-1pm, W 2-5pm, or by Appt.

### Catalog Description
Voice/Speech/Dialect is a studio course designed to explore a wide range of vocal techniques for the purpose of performance, including the fundamentals of developing a stage dialect. The course is focused on improving vocal clarity, expressiveness, and projection, as well as building vocal confidence on/off stage.

### Prerequisites
- Theatre Arts major: Sophomore or above with THRT 1523 and THRT 1553.

### Course Objectives
- **Number(s) next to objectives represent the “Central Six” tenets of Transformative Learning:**
  1. Discipline Knowledge
  2. Leadership
  3. Problem Solving (Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities)
  4. Service Learning and Civic Engagement Activities
  5. Global and Cultural Competencies
  6. Health and Wellness

- The University of Central Oklahoma is guided by a mission to help students learn by providing transformative experiences so each student may become a creative, engaged, ethical, and productive citizen / leader who contributes to the cultural, economic, intellectual, and social advancement of the community they serve.

- **Transformative Learning** is a holistic process that places each student at the center of an active, reflective learning experience. A student's academic major is essential to transformative learning and the "Central Six:" Discipline Knowledge; Leadership; Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities; Service Learning and Civic Engagement; Global and Cultural Competencies; Health and Wellness.

- In fulfillment of the “Central Six,” our objective in this course is to:
  - Practice breathing, speaking, and vocal projection. (1)
  - Experiment with stage dialects for the purpose of performances. (3)
  - Apply vocal work and stage dialects in performance scenarios. (3)
  - Cultivate a collaborative and creative learning environment. (2, 4)
  - Examine the creative process and other artistic perspectives. (5)
**Course Description and Objectives**

Voice, Speech, and Dialect is designed to help students learn how to develop and employ a stage dialect for the purpose of performance. In order to effectively use a stage dialect in performance, an actor must have a fundamental understanding of their own voice and vocal instrument. Thus, the approach taken in this course is to explore a wide vocal landscape beginning with the individual voice, moving into Standard English, and then onto a number of regional and/or cultural settings.

Considering the objective a stage dialect is performance, students will apply their work in several performance scenarios, including monologues and scenework. Additionally, students will create a course project centered on a specific dialect.

**Required Text(s) and Materials**

No required text. Students can expect to be assigned reading material from outside sources, as determined and distributed by the instructor. In addition to reading, students will be required to complete a written assignment.

**Technology Statement**

A range of technology and media will be employed throughout the course, including but not limited to: D2L, PowerPoint, film, video, audio, social media, and other internet source material. Calling and texting during class is prohibited.

**Grading Policy**

The primary assignment in this course is to **develop and perform a stage dialect**. As a performance course, the ability to work as a collaborative artist is essential. Collaboration is required; positive participation is paramount for success.

To track student progress, there will be a sequence of performances, including monologues and scenework. All vocal work will be assessed and graded.

Additionally, students will create a course project centered on a specific stage dialect and present their work in class. The course project will include written and vocal components, including but not limited to a statement of purpose, an outline, a lecture, lecture notes, vocal demonstration, and technology, such as PowerPoint, film, video, audio, and internet sources. Details will be discussed in class.

To assess the final grade, students will be evaluated on their work in-process, as well as in-performance. Grading criteria will include not only the artistry and skill of a student’s vocal work, but also (and more importantly) the effort and attitude of the student as an artist, collaborator, and scholar throughout the entire process.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercises</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Readings</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monologue</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Scene</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Final Scene</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Grading Policy (cont’d)</td>
<td>Assessment, evaluation, and grading are at the sole discretion of the instructor. The fundamental rubric for this course is centered on these three factors: PARTICIPATION – COMMITMENT – GROWTH.</td>
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| Attendance Policy       | UCO Department of Theatre Arts Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. Students who accumulate unexcused absences that equal two weeks of class time (i.e. six absences for M/W/F courses) will have their final grade lowered one full letter grade. Three weeks of unexcused absence will result in failure of the course. Additionally, three late arrivals will result in one unexcused absence.  
Note: Each unexcused absence and/or late arrival will lower participation points.  
According to the policy, students are permitted three excused absences. Excused absences include illness, injury, jury duty, University sanctioned activities, and religious obligations. Policy requires students to provide written documentation as proof of an excused absence. Failure to provide documentation will result in an unexcused absence. Extenuating circumstances will receive consideration, but the policy may not be changed without permission of the Department Chair. |
| Professionalism         | At the sole discretion of the instructor, any disrespectful or disruptive behavior will result in a loss of participation points. Moreover, any behavior deemed detrimental to the course or its participants will constitute grounds for immediate dismissal from the class, as well as an unexcused absence. If you have questions/concerns, please consult the instructor during office hours. |
| University Policies     | [http://broncho2.uco.edu/academicaffairs/StudentInfoSheet.pdf](http://broncho2.uco.edu/academicaffairs/StudentInfoSheet.pdf) |
| Additional Information  | AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT: The University of Central Oklahoma complies with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need accommodations must make their requests to the Disability Support Services at 974-2549. The office is located in the Nigh University Center, Room 309. Students should also notify the instructor of any necessary accommodations. |
Course Calendar – Dialects – Fall 2012:

Week 1: Syllabus, Assignments, Expectations.
Week 2: Exercises. **Course Project: Selection Due**
Week 3: Reading #1
Week 4: Reading #2

Week 5: Monologue #1
Week 6: Monologue #1
Week 7: Course Project
Week 8: Course Project

Week 9: Course Project
Week 10: Course Project
Week 11: Scene #1:
Week 12: Scene #1

Week 13: Scene #1
Week 14: Scene #2
Week 15: Scene #2
Week 16: Scene #2

Week 17: **Final Performance: Monday 12/09/2013, 11:00am – 12:50pm**