VOICE AND DICTION

This course is designed to help you improve your voice and diction in order to develop a more effective speaking style. Exercises, which should be practiced extensively outside of class, will be performed and evaluated daily. Although these exercises will cover a wide range of speech characteristics, students wishing to improve specific aspects of their speech should work individually with me in order to concentrate on these aspects.

Required Text: Lyle V. Mayer, Fundamentals of Voice and Diction

Course Requirements:
1. Attendance. Each absence in excess of one (1) will result in the loss of one letter grade.
2. Three recorded tests (20% each).
3. General class participation (40%).

Date | Topics | Assignments
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Listening | First Recordings
Breathiness and Glottal Shock | 2 + 3
Stridency, Harshness, and Vocal Fry | 4
Nasality and Denasality | 5
Throatiness and Thinness | 6
**Test:** General Quality | 7
Plosives, Fricatives and Affricatives | 8 + 9
Glides and Nasals | 10 + 11
Front and Back Vowels | 12 + 13
Middle Vowels and Diphthongs | 14 + 15
**Test:** Projection and Loudness | 16 + 17
Pitch level and Patterns | 18 + 19
Rate, Duration, Phrasing, and Pauses | 20 + 21
**Test:** Spontaneity | 23
Course Outcomes:

1. To understand the anatomical and physiological aspects of speech.
2. To become aware of voice and sound.
3. To recognize vocal expressiveness through rate, pitch, force, rhythm, and melody.
4. To learn how speech sounds are produced.
5. To realize the role that voice plays.
6. To study pathological aspects of voice production.

Departmental Outcomes:

At the end of taking courses in the Communication Studies program, students should be able to (1) demonstrate above average oral, visual, relational, and presentational communications; (2) demonstrate above average critical thinking skills; (3) demonstrate above average research literacy skills; (4) demonstrate above average ability to participate as an active citizen in his/her local, state, national and global communities, and (5) demonstrate above average ability to interpret visual communication.