Description of Course

Voice, speech, and body language work together to convey and enhance your message. In this course, practicing voice and speech skills takes center stage. We will discuss the science behind effective speaking technique and students will learn to moderate their own pitch, loudness, voice quality, speech precision, rate, and rhythm to become more effective teachers, presenters, and inter-personal communicators. Alongside the voice and speech skills, students will practice paraverbal skills of facial expression, gesture, posture, and body movement.

Course Prerequisites or Co-requisites

None

Instructor and Contact Information

Robin Samlan, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
SLHS 509, office hours by appointment (email me some times that will work for you)
621-8618
rsamlan@email.arizona.edu

Course Format and Teaching Methods

You will need to participate in voice production exercises and activities in and out of class.

Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes

Participants will demonstrate the ability to moderate their own pitch, loudness, voice quality, speech precision, rate, and rhythm, facial expression, gesture, posture, and body movement during extemporaneous and planned professional speaking activities.

Absence and Class Participation Policy

The UA’s policy concerning Class Attendance, Participation, and Administrative Drops is available at: [http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/class-attendance-participation-and-administrative-drop](http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/class-attendance-participation-and-administrative-drop)

The UA policy regarding absences for any sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice will be accommodated where reasonable, [http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy](http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy). A pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean Designee) will be honored. See: [https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/absences](https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/absences)

Participating in the course and attending lectures and other course events are vital to the learning process. As such, attendance is required at all lectures and discussion section meetings. Students who miss class due to illness or emergency are required to bring documentation from
their health-care provider or other relevant, professional third parties. Failure to submit third-party documentation will result in unexcused absences.

**Makeup Policy for Students Who Register Late**

Students who register after the first class meeting may make up missed activity through an individual meeting with the instructor. This must be completed by the 2nd course session they attend.

**Course Communications**

Online communication will be conducted through the d2L course site.

**Required Texts or Readings**

There are no required texts or readings.

**Required or Special Materials**

None.

**Required Extracurricular Activities (if any)**

None.

**Assignments and Examinations: Schedule/Due Dates**

None.

**Final Examination or Project**

There is no final exam or project.

**Grading Scale and Policies**

Grading for this course is pass/fail. Passing the course will be based on attendance and participation. If you do not participate in each required activity, you will fail the course. You can miss 2 classes without penalty. A third session can be missed, with documentation of illness or emergency, but that class must be made up through an individual meeting with the instructor.

In addition to the participation requirements for the undergraduate students, graduate students must give a 3-minute talk which will be video recorded. The student will watch the talk with the instructor to discuss implementation of strategies learned in class.

**Requests for incomplete (I) or withdrawal (W)** must be made in accordance with University policies, which are available at [http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#incomplete](http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#incomplete) and [http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#Withdrawal](http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#Withdrawal) respectively.

**Scheduled Topics/Activities**

List topics in logical units in a weekly/daily schedule, including assignment due dates and exam dates.

**Classroom Behavior Policy**

To foster a positive learning environment, students and instructors have a shared responsibility. We want a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all of us feel comfortable with each other and where we can challenge ourselves to succeed. To that end, our focus is on the tasks at hand and not on extraneous activities (e.g., texting, chatting, reading a newspaper, making phone calls, web surfing, etc.). This class requires trying vocal activities that might be emotionally uncomfortable. Treat one another with respect and kindness.
Students are asked to refrain from disruptive conversations with people sitting around them during lecture. Students observed engaging in disruptive activity will be asked to cease this behavior. Those who continue to disrupt the class will be asked to leave lecture or discussion and may be reported to the Dean of Students.

**Threatening Behavior Policy**

The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to oneself. See [http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students](http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students).

**Accessibility and Accommodations**

Our goal in this classroom is that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. You are also welcome to contact the Disability Resource Center (520-621-3268) to establish reasonable accommodations. For additional information on the Disability Resource Center and reasonable accommodations, please visit [http://drc.arizona.edu](http://drc.arizona.edu).

If you have reasonable accommodations, please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Please be aware that the accessible table and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

**Code of Academic Integrity**

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: [http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity](http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity).

The University Libraries have some excellent tips for avoiding plagiarism, available at [http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html](http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html).

*Selling class notes and/or other course materials to other students or to a third party for resale is not permitted without the instructor’s express written consent.* Violations to this and other course rules are subject to the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course sanctions.

Additionally, students who use D2L or UA e-mail to sell or buy these copyrighted materials are subject to Code of Conduct Violations for misuse of student e-mail addresses. This conduct may also constitute copyright infringement.

**UA Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy**

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination; see [http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy](http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy).

Our classroom is a place where everyone is encouraged to express well-formed opinions and their reasons for those opinions. We also want to create a tolerant and open environment where such opinions can be expressed without resorting to bullying or discrimination of others.

**Additional Resources for Students**

UA Academic policies and procedures are available at [http://catalog.arizona.edu/policies](http://catalog.arizona.edu/policies).

Student Assistance and Advocacy information is available at [http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance](http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance).
Confidentiality of Student Records

Subject to Change Statement
Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Tentative Schedule
Week 1: Speech breathing
Week 2: Speech breathing
Week 3: Voice quality
Week 4: Voice quality
Week 5: Pitch and loudness
Week 6: Pitch and loudness
Week 7: Speech precision
Week 8: Speech precision
Week 9: Rate and rhythm
Week 10: Rate and rhythm
Week 11: Posture and anchoring
Week 12: Gesture and movement
Week 13: Putting it all together
Week 14: Putting it all together
Week 15: Putting it all together