COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES
THEA 114A is designed to familiarize the student seeking a professional performing career with his/her vocal instrument in order to improve breath management, articulation, projection, and inflection; as well as develop a greater ability to reflect on his/her physicality in terms of flexibility, spatial awareness, and alignment. By developing the skills and stamina necessary for effective communication through the use of yoga-based disciplines, partnering work, group cooperation exercises, trust games, diction/articulation work, cold readings and solo performance, students should leave this course with a greater sense of confidence, freedom, and flexibility in their work. This course is designed for students contemplating a career in performance and therefore commitment, preparation, and participation is required at all times, regardless of major.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS
* To attend class regularly.

* To treat the instructor, yourself, and your fellow classmates with respect at all times in order to maintain a positive and productive environment. Disrespectful Behavior includes: cell phones left on or brought into the work space; texting; talking while an individual is speaking or performing; sleeping; laying down; wearing revealing clothing not suitable for class work; drinking (except water); eating; arriving late; leaving early; and excessive chattiness. Any of these may be cause for early dismissal from class at the discretion of the professor. Upon repetition, you may be dropped.

* To be prepared for course work on due dates, and to participate in all class discussions, activities and exercises.

* To dress appropriately and be ready to commit both physically and vocally at all class meetings. Clothing should be easy to move in and non-revealing (front or back). Tights must be covered with shorts. Footwear: Bare feet or socks. No jeans.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
*Attendance: Because the basis of this class requires participation and most assignments take place during class time, you are expected to attend every class meeting and arrive on time. Guidelines for maintaining this requirement, should you need them, are as follows:

1. During the course of the semester you are allowed two absences for any reason and your grade will not be negatively affected. Each additional absence will lower your grade by 50 pts.

2. 2 tardies = 1 Absence/Any tardy greater than 10 minutes = 1 Absence.

3. Excused absences are only granted with official written documentation (w/in 1 week) and in the event of illness, family emergency, or a University or Departmental
sponsored event. E-mails or text messages are not considered official.

*Participation and Progress: (200 points) All students will be expected to come to class with a readiness to participate, a willingness to be a team player in group or partnering exercises, and an inclination to assimilate notes and apply suggestions towards your personal improvement in the areas of voice and movement. With that in mind, some of the in-class exercises will be extremely challenging and at times may separate you from your comfort zone. Taking this into consideration, you will be graded as individuals with individual goals. If at any time you feel the exercise is too challenging, speak to me immediately and modifications will be made.

*Special Assignments/In-class work: (300 points) Great Kung Fu Warm-up, Tableau Fairy Tales, Tell Me About the Time You..., “Hey” Breath Exercise, Paul Revere Storytelling, One Person Poe, and/or Cold Readings will be graded accordingly at approximately 50 points each. These assignments may be replaced/modified at the instructor's discretion.

*Performance Paper: (100 points) Students are required to attend, or participate in the departmental productions of Women of Juarez and Cabaret being presented during the spring semester. For either Women of Juarez OR Cabaret students are required to write a 3-page paper focusing on one actor's performance in the areas of voice and movement, as it applies to what you are learning in this course. This is not to be a “book report” or synopsis summary, but rather an in-depth account of your observations. Guidelines for this assignment are as follows: 3 full pages; typed, double-spaced using 12point font and one-inch margins. Papers will only be accepted DURING CLASS on due date (05/08/2013). No Exceptions. Period.

*Collage Proposal: (100 points) Students are required to write a 1-2 page, single spaced proposal describing their intended final project. This proposal should include a brief description of the project, the source materials you will be using, and a statement as to how this project provides a challenge for you in the areas of voice and movement. This is a mandatory part of the final project, due 04/17/2013.

*Final Project: Voice & Movement Collage: (300 points) As a final project in this class students are required to create, rehearse, and perform a 8-10 minute Voice and Movement Collage of their creative desire. The collage may contain material from several sources or from only one source. It may be theme based, have a known story-line-such as Snow White, and/or be esoteric in nature and presented as performance art. The sky is the limit, but it must be equally balanced between the use of voice and body; must challenge the student in an obvious way; must be 8-10 minutes in length (it will be timed); and must be approved by the instructor through the Collage Proposal. It should have a beginning, middle, and end and not appear random in execution. It should be extremely challenging and ultimately, extremely rewarding, but it is up to you to take those risks. Overt sexual content is not appropriate. There will be class discussions to clarify this assignment; as well as one-on-one coaching to help you define it's shape. Missing your collage coaching will lower your project grade by 100 points.

Students with Disabilities
If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours within the first two weeks of the semester.

Text: No text is required for this course but students may be asked to bring in material on occasion; handouts will also be provided. Students will be responsible for all materials used in their Final Project Collage.
Grading: Grading in this class is based on commitment to class work and activities and improvement, rather than perceived “talent”.

Student’s course grade will be determined as follows:
Class Participation and Progress 200 900-1000 A
Special Assignments/In Class Work 300 800-899 B
Performance Paper 100 700-799 C
Collage Proposal 100 600-699 D
Final: Voice and Movement Collage 300 Below 600 F
Total 1000 **Extra Credit = 20 pts.

This syllabus is subject to change depending on class size and progress.

VOICE & MOVEMENT I Schedule, Spring 2013

January/February
M 28 Introductions/Expectations- “The Great Kung-fu Warm-up” Handout
W 30 Vocal/Physical Warm-up; ...and more “Kung-fu”

M 4 Group Rhythms; Expand, Push, Pull, etc.; Close Walks
W 6 Tableau Fairy Tales; Light/Heavy; Quick/Slow; Constant/Erratic

Cabaret Auditions 02/4-6 University Theatre

M 11 Group Cooperation: Trust Exercises
W 13 “Kung-fu” Quiz; Trust Exercises: Marionettes

**One Time Extra Credit: Mon. 11th & Thurs. 14th - KCACTF Showcase 5pm, Playwright’s $5

M 18 KCACTF-Class TBA
W 20 KCACTF-Class TBA

M 25 Articulation
W 27 Articulation Work, Cold Readings (?)

March
M  4 Voice Work: “Hey” Exercise; Upward Inflection
W  6 Complete “Hey” Exercise

M 11 Cold Readings
W 13 Cold Readings

Women of Juarez Opens March 14th @ 8pm! Playwright’s Theatre

M 18 Collage Discussion; “Tell Me About the Time You... ”
W 20 “Tell Me About the Time You...”

Spring Break, March 25- April 1, 2013-Catch up!

April
M  1 Holiday, No Class!
W  3 Paul Revere Group Storytelling
April
M 8 Catch-up as Needed; Collage Proposal Reminder
W 10 One Person Poe; Collage Proposal Reminder

*Cabaret* Opens Friday April 10th @ 8pm! University Theatre

M 15 One Person Poe
W 17 Catch-up as Needed; Collage Proposal Due; Collage Coaching Dates Posted

M 22 Final Collage Discussion; Collage Assigned Performance Dates Posted
W 24 Vocal/Physical Work TBA; *Zoot Suit* Paper Due Date Reminder

April/May
M 29 Collage Coaching
W 1 "

*Student Directed One Acts* Perform April 30-May 11, 2013

M 6 Collage Coaching
W 8 Collage Performances/Notes (Performance Paper Due in Class-No Exceptions)

M 13 Collage Performances/Notes
W 15 Collage Performances/Notes

*Final: Mon., May 20, 2013* 10:15-12:15
*Collage Performance Discussion*

Missing the final will result in course failure.