

SYLLABUS
1999-2000
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DRAMA

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Week 1
8/23

Orientation: The VO Boom

The ever widening market : Radio and TV Commercials, Web site Voices Narrations, Industrials, Cartoons, CD-Roms, Audio Books, Radio Dramas, Film Dubbing, Jingles, System Prompts New opportunities with new technological advances ISDN lines The Internet as a Marketing Tool and Auditioning Device

Assignment 1

Audio Books: the Personal Connection

An exploration of the technique

Tape 3 minute examples of classic novel, contemporary fiction, non-fiction due Friday 8/27

Week 2&3
8/30&9/6

Film Dubbing

RIS (Radio Information Service) Tour Mon. 10:30 (A) Tues. 1:00 (B)
At this time, sign up for individual 30 minute recording time. Bring Calendar.
prepare scene chosen by N. Baker Wed. 9/1(A) Thurs. 9/2 (B)
prepare two character scene -student choice Wed. 9/8 (A) Thurs. 9/9 (B)

Assignment 2
Assignment 3

Week 4

“Proficiency with the Ear” Looks good on the resume-but only if it is true 9/13

Assignment 4

Present one fairly complicated newspaper article (Do not memorize)

Week 5
9/20

Other Choices for Voices-Finding the Humanity

Creating your Vocal Cast of Characters
Warmup Exercises for Returning to Childhood Voices
Widening the Range - Developing your Process - Working some scripts
Present 3 voices based on exercises

Assignment 5

Week 6
9/27

A Character’s Worksheet

ELEMENTS PITCH, INTONATION, PATTERNS, TEMPO, RHYTHM,
SPEECH, PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS, DIALECT, VOWELS, CONSONANTS
Present 3 new voices based on additional exercises

Assignment 6

Week 7&8
10/4&11

Creating the Vehicle for your Character Voices Demo

Assignment 7
Assignment 8
Assignment 11

Rough draft of demo tape script due with analysis sheets completed
Rough tape of character voices due
Final Character tape due November 29th

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Week 9&10 Broadcast Commercials - expanding opportunities
10/18&10/25 Analysis of the Seven Categories of Commercials

The Professional Demo : Your Vocal Calling Card. CD vs. tape.
Demo tapes on the Net. Agency CDs
Review Professional Actors’ Demos New York, LA, Baltimore, Pittsburgh

Scripts for Practice

Investigation of scripts in each category: *VoiceOver Acting* (Baker and Lucas)
Making Acting Choices for each script Meeting Technical (Vocal) Challenges

Week 11 **Mark Wirik (AFTRA) Peter Notarangelo (Recorded Sound)**
11/1 Class meets Mon. or Tues. Class is cancelled Wed. and Thurs.

Assignment 9 Record scripts from *VOA* Research and collect your material for demo tape to be reviewed by N. Baker. Staple two examples of each type script to appropriate page in *VOA*. Hand in tape on Friday.

Three week Recording Period at RIS . Be sure to keep your appointment.

Week 12-16 Working Approved Scripts in Private Coaching Sessions

11/8-12/10 Each student has private session with N. Baker to plan the demo including special production values. **All private sessions completed by 12/10/99**

Assignment 11 **Finished script for demo Due December 6, 1999**

Assignment 12 **Recording Demo in Studio**

Individual sessions of 1/2 hour each at:
The Right Track Studio, 922 West North Ave., Northside, Pgh.
Sound Engineer: Pietro Notarangelo: (412) 322-3350
or

Recording Demo on your own
Final Commercials Demo Accepted until February 15

***** **HAPPY HOLIDAYS** *****

Week 17 **Listen to Finished Character and Commercial Tapes**

1/17 How to Market your Demo (Duping, Labeling, Packaging)
CMU Web Site: "CMU Voices of 2000" Contact Lists: NY & LA

Week 18 **Radio Drama the Actor's Medium**

1/24 World Wide Activity including CBC, BBC, ABC
Effect of the New Technology on Audio Drama Investigating the Playwrights
Working some scripts and Listening to recordings

Week 19-21 Class **Project Radio Drama for Radio Information Service**

1/31-2/14 Script and Schedule TBA

VOICEOVER ACTING ASSIGNMENTS 1999-2000

GROUP A(B)

This two-semester course ends the second week of February because of Senior involvement in Leagues Presentation. The workload is therefore, condensed. It requires a sense of personal responsibility and professionalism. Give the following assignments your utmost consideration. Your grade is based on their timeliness and excellence, the attendance policy and the RIS project.

#	DATE DUE	PARTICULARS
1.	August 27	Audio Books Samples Tape 3 three minute examples of classic, contemporary fiction and non-fiction
2.	September 1(2)	Dub Film Dialogue-Baker's Choice of Film- Present in Class
3.	September 8(9)	Dub Film Dialogue-Your Choice of Film- Present in Class

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| 4. | September 15(16) | Demonstrate "Proficiency with the Ear" 3 minutes in class |
| 5. | September 22(23) | Present Voices developed from exercises 1 and 2 in class |
| 6. | September 29(24) | Present Voices developed from exercises 3 and 4 in class |
| 7. | October 6(7) | Submit rough draft for two minute Character Demo Tape script
Include character voice analysis sheet for each voice |
| 8. | October 13(14) | Submit rough tape of script and voices |
| 9. | November 1-
November 22 | Individual recording date with RIS* |
| 10. | November 5 | Tape all seven categories of commercial scripts in VOA*
Submit 14 examples of copy stapled to corresponding pages in VOA* |
| 11. | November 29 | Submit finished Character Demo |
| 12. | December 6
February 15 | Submit finished script for Commercial Demo
Final date to have completed Commercial Demo |

Instructions to Students

1. More than two absences for any reason will lower your grade. Two lates=one absence.
2. Failure to keep individual appointment at RIS=failure for the course. No exceptions.
3. Completion dates for: **Character Demo (11/29)** and **Commercial Demo (2/15)** are firm, no exceptions. Failure to comply is failure for the course.
4. It is not required that the demo tapes are recorded in a professional studio.
5. Required text: *VoiceOver Acting* by Natalie M. Baker and Carole Reinert-Lucas