

AMERICAN ACCENT INTO PERFORMANCE 1: NORTH AMERICAN

The unique texture and sound of the Northern American accent speaks resonantly through some of the world's greatest dramatic literature in plays and in films. This course teaches you how to build an accurate, general American accent from scratch and then moves into acting the accent in a celebrated piece of American theatre or film text.



The course covers the technical study of key vowel and consonant positions, and intonation patterns of the Northern American accent. There will be plenty of opportunities for group and individual practice, with tutor feedback to help you hone your skills. You will also undertake audio-visual learning to enable you to further heighten and develop all-important listening and observational skills.

As your skills and confidence progress during the week, we will work on various texts and scripts in couples and small group formats, with a view to choosing a monologue or duologue. This will then be practiced and perfected for performance on the final day of the course.

Learning objectives:

- general American: key vowel shifts
- general American: key consonant shifts
- general American: what is different from neutral English
- key areas of practice: what do I need to work on most
- key areas of practice: what to leave in and what to leave out
- intonation patterns: how to connect the words together
- further aspects of intonation: drive, energy, pitch, speed
- general American: crucial differences in word pronunciation
- how to put it all together: putting the accent into text - best approaches
- audio-visual aids: what is best - DVDs, tapes/CDs/the internet
- developing and maintaining skill in the accent: post-workshop
- working solo: what is best
- working in pairs: what is best
- professional standard general American: crucial differences between stage and screen in accent work.

Dates: Monday 1 August - Friday 5 August 2011, 10.00am - 4.30pm

Fee: £515 (£448 concessions)

Minimum age: 17 years