Oral Interpretation of Literature
Speech 125
Tuesday / Thursday 9:30-10:50 am

Instructor: Dewi Hokett
Phone: 760-744-1150 x2794
Office: H 201 P Office Hours: Tues / Thurs 11-4 pm by appointment only
Text: Communicating Literature: An Introduction to Oral Interpretation. 5th ed. Todd Lewis
Materials: One black 5 x 7 3 ring binder, 5 x 7 non-glare page holders.

Course Description: Oral Interpretation is based on the conviction that the close study of literature for performative reasons is in itself a rewarding experience. Sharing the results of such analysis with an audience gives motivation and focus to understanding literature and satisfaction of performance. The skills that are acquired through performance allow students to provide a stronger foundation for critical argument of literature as well as enhancement of presentation.

Through study, practice, coaching, presentation, peer feedback, and increased confidence the student should develop: 1) the ability to communicate the meanings of literature to others by achieving a fusion of literature, reader and listener; 2) an understanding and explanation of the theoretical considerations of oral interpretation; 3) increased responsive critical listening skills; 4) a heightened understanding of all genres of literature; 5) acceptance of constructive criticism.

Course Requirements:
Exams: Two examinations; a midterm and a final worth 100 points each will be given. The exams may consist of essay, short answer and multiple choice questions.

Readings
Ungraded: Children’s Literature: The student will prepare a short (3-5 minutes maximum reading of a children’s story. Must be presented as if you were reading to a group of children---but it must be a performance piece, no showing of pictures.

Prose Interpretation: The student will present a 6-8 minute interp from one source centered around a unifying theme. This may include novels, short stories, essays, etc. 200 points

Dramatic Monologue: The student will present a 6-8 minute one character monologue from a play, screen play, radio or television drama. 200 points

Programmed Interpretation: The student will present an 8-10 minute interp utilizing a combination to two or more genres centered around a unifying theme. 200 points

Duo Interpretation: Two students will present an 8-10 minute performance from a play, screen play, or television drama. 200 points
NOTE: Sign-up sheets for each presentation will be distributed in advance of each class performance. One class PRIOR to the oral performance a copy (Xeroxed, or typed) of the program must be turned in the instructor. Failure to turn in the manuscript copy on time will preclude the student from performing. All presentations must the time limit restrictions. Presentations may be videotaped. The use of a notebook will be required to hold manuscripts for presentations. If a student fails to perform on the designated day, the grade will be lowered ten percent for each class day late.

PARTICIPATION: Attendance and meaningful participation are prerequisite to a performance class as an effective learning experience. Effective participation includes assigned critiques of fellow students, the sharing of relevant opinions, ideas and feelings as well as regular and timely attendance. Two free absences are allowed, ten points off the overall grade for any to follow. Attendance on performance days is especially important to provide audience and feedback for fellow students. In addition, throughout the course students will be placed into smaller groups to discuss literature, performances and course material.

READINGS: The student is expected to remain current and ready to discuss all text and other assigned readings. Each chapter assignment must be completed before each class session. Dr. Lewis has seasoned his book with a variety of literature. Students may be called upon for an extemporaneous reading. In addition, students are expected to do extensive reading to find their interpretation pieces.

EXTRA CREDIT: Many opportunities will be provided for extra credit. Students may opt to visit a speech tournament for a total of 50 points (10 points per round), and attend the Evening of Reading by the Speech and Debate Team (30 points). Other extra credit opportunities may arise as the semester progresses.

APPROPRIATE ATTIRE: On performance days, the student is required to dress appropriately in order to enhance credibility. Please do not perform in shorts, sandals, or T-Shirts, as it becomes difficult to take the speaker seriously. No hats or sunglasses allowed. Costumes for performance are prohibited as well. Simple, solid colors for performance enhance credibility.
GRADING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prose Interpretation</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programmed Oral Interp</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dramatic Monologue</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUO Interpretation</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 Points</strong></td>
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**Note:** Attendance and Participation grades are considered A grades unless 3 absences occur or behavior and contribution to the class hinders performances, whereupon the points will be deducted from the overall scale at the end of the semester.

Tentative Schedule for Spring 2015

**Week One**
- January 13 / 15
  - Introduction to the Course / Syllabus Discussion
  - Chapter 1 Lecture

**Week Two**
- January 20
  - Chapter 2 Lecture
  - Ungraded interp assigned
- January 22
  - Chapter 3 Lecture

**Week Three**
- January 27
  - Chapter 4, 5 Lecture
- January 29
  - Chapter 6 Lecture

**Week Four**
- February 3
  - Chapter 7, 12 Lecture
- February 5
  - Chapter 8: Introduction to Prose

**Week Five**
- February 10
  - Prose Exhibition Performances for Evaluation
- February 12
  - Chapter 9: Introduction to Drama
Week Six
February 17
Ungraded Assignments Due: 5 min max
February 19
Ungraded Assignments Due: 5 min max

Week Seven
February 24
Chapter 13: Introduction to POI
Drama Choices due for Discussion
February 26
Prose Interpretation Performances: 6-8 minutes

Week Eight
March 3 and 5
Prose Interpretation Performances: 6-8 minutes

Week Nine
March 10
Prose Interpretation Performances: 6-8 minutes
March 12
NO CLASS

Week Ten
March 17 and 19
NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK

Week Eleven
March 24 and 26
Dramatic Monologue Performances: 6-8 minutes
POI Choices Due

Week Twelve
March 31 and April 2
Dramatic Monologue Performances: 6-8 minutes
Intro to DUO Interp: DUO’s Assigned / Pairings Announced

Week Thirteen
April 7 and 9
TBA: MIDTERM GIVEN ON TUESDAY / NO CLASS THURS

Week Fourteen
April 14 and 16
Programmed Oral Interpretation Performances: 8-10 minutes max
Week Fifteen
April 21 and 23
Programmed Oral Interpretation Performances: 8-10 max
Begin DUO Workshops (teams work together during class time)

Week Sixteen
April 28 and 30
DUO Workshops (teams work together during class time)

Week Seventeen
May 5 and 7
DUO Performances: 8-10 minutes max

Week Eighteen: FINAL EXAM WEEK
Final Exam: Tuesday, May 12 from 8-9:50 am

Extra Credit Tournament Observation

SDSU Invitational San Diego State University Feb. 6 (Fri)
Sunset Cliffs Classic Point Loma Nazarene University Feb. 7-8 (Sat, Sun)
Tabor-Venitsky Invite Cerritos College Feb. 14 (Sat)

Other
Evening of Forensics Palomar College (P 32: 6 pm) TBA

**It is important to note that if the student possesses the point equaling an A score (900-1000) before the date of the Final Exam, they will be exempt from the Final. The student will be contacted if they have reached this goal.