ORAL INTERPRETATION
Theatre 358, Section A  MWF 1:10-2:00

INSTRUCTOR: Jane Cox
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Office Hours: MWF: 10:00-11:30 and TR 9:30-11:00

TEXT: Oral Interpretation by Timothy Gura and Charlotte Lee
(12th edition)

Learning Outcomes for Oral Interpretation

Identify specific qualities in literature and analyze the pieces selected in terms of intellectual and emotional content.

Identify the vocal and physical qualities needed to best communicate these pieces of literature to an audience.

Improve performance skills through the practice of interpreting literature before an audience.

Sharpen critical facilities through listening to the performances of others.

ASSIGNMENTS: Aug 24 M We begin
                      Aug 26 W We hear from you
                      Aug 28 F Chapter 1--Intro.
                      Aug 31 M Chapter 2/Analyzing the selection
                      Sept. 2 W Chapter 3/Voice and Body
                      Sept. 4 F Chapter 4
                      Sept 7 M No class
                      Sept 9 W Chapter 5 (Styles of Fiction
                      Sept 11 F Chapter 6 (Narration)pass
                      Sept 14 M Interpretation one: Prose Narration
Sept 16  W  Interpretation one: Prose Narration
Sept 18  F  Interpretation one: Prose Narration
Sept 21  M  Interpretation one: Prose Narration
Sept 23  W  Interpretation one: Prose Narration
Sept 25  F  Interpretation one: Prose Narration
Sept 28  M  Chapter 7 Drama
Sept 30  W  Chapter 8 (Technique in Drama)
Oct. 2  F  Exercises in Drama
Oct  5  M  Interpretation two: Drama
Oct  7  W  Interpretation two: Drama
Oct  9  F  Interpretation two: Drama
Oct 12  M  Interpretation two: Drama
Oct 14  W  Interpretation two: Drama
Oct 16  F  Interpretation two: Drama
Oct 19  M  Midterm
Oct 21  W  Chapter 9 (Language of Poetry)
Oct 23  F  Chapter 10 (Structure of Poetry)
Oct 26  M  Interpretation three: Poetry
Oct 28  W  Interpretation three: Poetry
Oct. 30  F  Interpretation three: Poetry
Nov. 2  M  Interpretation three: Poetry
Nov. 4  W  Interpretation three: Poetry
Nov  6  F  Interpretation three: Poetry
Nov  9  M  Chapter 11 (Group Performance)
Nov 11  W  Appendix A (Building a Program)
Nov 13  F  Assignments of Groups
Nov 16  M  Exercises in Group Performance
Nov 18  W  Exercises in Group Performance
Nov 20  F  Exercises in Group Performance

Thanksgiving Break
Oct. 30 M Recital
Dec 2 W Recital
Dec 4 F Recital
Dec 7 M Recital
Dec 9 W Recital
Dec 11 F Recital

FINAL EXAM Currently scheduled for Friday, December 18 at 9:45

TIME LIMITS: Readings 1-3 should be 4-6 minutes in length.
Group Performance and Recital should be 10-12 minutes in length.

GRADING: Readings 1-3 300 points (100 points each)
Exams (2) 200 points (100 points each)
Recital 200 points
Participation 100 points

Grades will be calculated according to the number of points you have earned. The perfect score will be 800 points. By dividing the total number of points you have earned by 800, you can at any time find the percentage of points you have earned.

At the end of the semester, course letter grades will be determined using this scale:

100%-94% = A  82%-80% = B-  69%-66% = D+
93%-90% = A-  79%-76% = C+  65%-63% = D
89%-86% = B+  75%-73% = C  62%-60% = D-
85%-83% = B  72%-70% = C-  59%- 0% = F
DEFINITIONS:

NARRATION is the telling by a narrator of something that has happened or something that might happen.

SOLO PERFORMANCE OF DRAMA involves selecting a scene from a theatre script involving two characters and then reading that scene portraying each character.

POETRY is material where the sound pattern is very important. The poet tests words for sounds as well as meaning.

THE RECITAL is a combination of at least three pieces of material that have a common theme (author, idea, mood, thought, etc.) These pieces can be selected from any of the types above.

FOR EACH ASSIGNMENT YOU SHOULD BRING TO CLASS TWO COPIES OF YOUR READING. ONE FOR YOU AND ONE FOR ME.

GRADING BASED ON:

INTRODUCTION
Did it offer enough or too much information?
Did it set an appropriate mood?
Did it make the audience want to listen (Did it get audience attention)?

ANALYSIS OF PIECE
Was the attitude of the narrator clear?
Did the narrator’s attitude change and was that understood in the piece?
Were the characters clear in their attitudes and thoughts?
Did the piece catch our attention?
Were the words pronounced correctly?

VOCAL CHARACTERISTICS
Did the interpreter speak clearly?
Was the volume appropriate?
Were appropriate words colored with meaning?
Was there variety in rate, pitch, volume?
PHYSICALITY
Were the emotions and ideas of the piece reflected in the face of the interpreter?
Were the emotions and ideas of the piece enhanced by gestures and posture?