ORAL INTERPRETATION
Theatre 358, Section B  TR 12:40-2:00

INSTRUCTOR: Jane Cox
2226 Pearson Hall  294-9766
Office Hours: MWF : 10:00-11:30  TR  9:30-11:00
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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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 25</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>We begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 27</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>We hear from you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept  1</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Chapter 1--Intro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept  3</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Chapter 2—Analyzing the Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept  8</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Chapter 3 and 4—Voice and Body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 10</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Chapter 5 and 6—Styles/Narration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 15</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Reading one Prose Narration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 17</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Reading one Prose Narration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 22</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Reading one Prose Narration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Reading one Prose Narration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sept. 29 T  Chapter 7--Drama
Oct 1  R  Chapter 8—Technique in Drama

Oct  6  T  Reading two   Drama
Oct  8  R  Reading two   Drama

Oct 13  T  Reading two   Drama
Oct 15  R  Reading two   Drama

Oct 20  T  Midterm
Oct 22  R  Chapter 9—Language of Poetry

Oct 27  T  Chapter 10—Structure of Poetry
Oct 29  R  Reading three Poetry

Nov 3  T  Reading three Poetry
Nov 5  R  Reading three Poetry

Nov 10  T  Reading three Poetry
Nov 12  R  Chapter 11 Group Performance

Nov 17  T  Exercises in Group Performance
Nov 19  R  Exercises in Group Performance

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Dec 1  T  Recital
Dec 3  R  Recital

Dec 8  T  Recital
Dec 10  R  Recital

FINAL EXAM  (Tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 15 at noon)

TIME LIMITS: Interpretive Readings 1-3 should be 4-6 minutes in length
The Recital should be 10-12 minutes in length.

DEFINITIONS:

PROSE 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.

THE DAY YOU PERFORM YOU SHOULD BRING TWO COPIES OF YOUR SCRIPT—ONE FOR YOU AND ONE FOR ME.

GRADING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interpretations 1-3</td>
<td>300 points (100 points each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>200 points (100 points each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recital</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
- 93%-90% = A-
- 92%-89% = B+
- 89%-86% = B
- 85%-83% = B
- 82%-80% = B-
- 79%-76% = C+
- 75%-73% = C
- 72%-70% = C-
- 69%-66% = D+
- 65%-63% = D
- 62%-60% = D-
- 59%- 0% = F
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, and 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?

YOU WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO MAKE A WRITTEN EVALUATION ON THE PERFORMANCES OF OTHERS IN THE CLASS. THAT WAY THERE WILL BE SEVERAL EVALUATIONS FOR EACH PERFORMER TO READ IN ADDITION TO THE INSTRUCTOR’S.