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
jfcox@iastate.edu

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

OBJECTIVES: To expand your knowledge of good literature through appreciation and analysis
To improve your performance skills through the art of interpretation
To sharpen your critical skills in the evaluation of the performances of yourself and others

ASSIGNMENTS:

Aug  27  T  We begin
Aug  29  R  We hear from you

Sept.  3  T  Chapter 1--Intro
Sept  5  R  Chapter 2—Analyzing the Section

Sept  10  T  Chapter 3 and 4—Voice and Body
Sept.  12  R  Chapter 5 and 6—Styles/Narration

Sept  17  T  Reading one  Prose Narration
Sept  19  R  Reading one  Prose Narration

Sept  24  T  Reading one  Prose Narration
Sept  26  R  Reading one  Prose Narration

Oct.  1  T  Chapter 7--Drama
Oct  3  R  Chapter 8—Technique in Drama

Oct  8  T  Reading two  Drama
Oct  10  R  Reading two  Drama

Oct  15  T  Reading two  Drama
Oct  17  R  Reading two  Drama
Oct 22  T  Midterm
Oct 24  R  Chapter 9—Language of Poetry
Oct 29  T  Chapter 10—Structure of Poetry
Oct 31  R  Reading three Poetry
Nov  5  T  Reading three Poetry
Nov  7  R  Reading three Poetry
Nov 12  T  Reading three Poetry
Nov 14  R  Chapter 11 Group Performance
Nov 19  T  Exercises in Group Performance
Nov 21  R  Exercises in Group Performance

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Dec  3  T  Recital
Dec  5  R  Recital
Dec 10  T  Recital
Dec 12  R  Recital

FINAL EXAM  (Tentatively scheduled for Thursday December 19 at noon)

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

GRADING FOR COURSE:  Interpretations 1-3  1/8 each
                        Exams 1/8 each
                        Recital 2/8
                        Participation 1/8
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.

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?