

COURSE OUTLINE

Speech 106 (C-ID Number COMM 170)

Oral Interpretation of Literature (C-ID Title: Oral Interpretation of Literature)

I. Catalog Statement

Speech 106 teaches the skills, techniques and theories of oral interpretation of literary works. Students learn to use verbal and nonverbal elements to communicate subtextual choices related to structural analysis of a variety of literary genres including prose, poetry and drama. Class exercises and instructor feedback are used to teach these concepts and to focus on the student's individual strengths and weaknesses. Methods of literary selection and excerpting, along with analysis in relation to performance requirements are demonstrated. Specific skills needed to participate in collegiate forensics competitions are also taught.

Total Lecture Units: 3.0

Total Course Units: 3.0

Total Lecture Hours: 48.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 48.0

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 101. ESL students should complete ESL 155.

Note: An audition may be required.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Prior to enrolling in the course the student should be able to:

1. organize and write thesis based essays;
2. use detailed examples, facts, logical explanations, and other appropriate support for thesis statements;
3. summarize, analyze, and synthesize information, express and apply standards for judgment, compare and contrast, and evaluate evidence in order to form and state reasoned opinion;
4. gather and organize information through library research;
5. demonstrate a command of grammar, diction, syntax, and mechanics sufficient for college level work: control of standard English at the sentence level, with few major errors in grammar and punctuation.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. select, analyze and critique literature for oral interpretation;
2. distinguish between various genres of literature;
3. analyze and categorize literature based on time, place, character and thematic content;
4. write a clear and effective introduction to three pieces poetry, prose or drama which clearly identifies and amplifies the universal themes of each piece;
5. perform three pieces of poetry, prose, or drama that contain strong subtextual choices with appropriate vocal and physical behavior, without breaking concentration;
6. identify and utilize several specific techniques in oral interpretation of literature needed to participate in collegiate forensics competitions.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 48

A.	Voice Development for Oral Interpretation	11 hours
1.	Breath control and diaphragmatic breathing	
2.	Projection	
3.	Pitch and quality	
4.	Elements of variety and contrast	
a.	Pausing and phrasing	
b.	Intonation	
c.	Rate	
B.	Analysis of the Text	9 hours
1.	Beats (units of intention) and transitions	
2.	Style	
3.	Use of language	
C.	The Use of the Body in Oral Interpretation	6 hours
D.	Interpretation of Narration	3 hours
E.	Techniques of the Oral Interpretation of Drama	9 hours
1.	Channeling emotional energy through voice and body	
2.	Building bodies and voices of characters	
F.	Oral Interpretation of Poetry	6 hours
1.	Elements of language	

2. Elements of structure

G. Group Performance of Literature 4 hours

V. Methods of Instruction

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

1. class lecture and discussion;
2. group learning;
3. recording and playback of students performances;
4. critique of student performances.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:

1. practice and preparation of literary pieces to be performed in class.

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

1. instructor evaluation of 8-10 oral performances;
2. a midterm examination consisting of objective and essay questions;
3. a final examination consisting of objective and essay questions.

VIII. Textbook

Lee, *Oral Interpretation*. 12th ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co.,
2009. Print
12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN #97-802-05582-860

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. analyze a variety of selections of prose, poetry, and drama and present these pieces orally;
2. demonstrate through oral performance knowledge of the structural analysis of selected literary works;
3. evaluate individual areas of strength and weakness in oral performance of literature through self-analysis, peer evaluation, and instructor feedback.