

# COMM-2050: ORAL INTERPRETATION

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## Cuyahoga Community College

### Viewing: COMM-2050 : Oral Interpretation

#### Board of Trustees:

2018-01-25

#### Academic Term:

2018-08-27

#### Subject Code

COMM - Communication Studies

#### Course Number:

2050

#### Title:

Oral Interpretation

#### Catalog Description:

Introduction to the oral communication of various forms of fiction and non fiction for live performance. Involves the analysis of literary works in preparation for performance with an emphasis on the development of delivery skills for interpretive reading.

#### Credit Hour(s):

3

#### Lecture Hour(s):

3

## Requisites

#### Prerequisite and Corequisite

COMM-1010 Fundamentals of Speech Communication, or COMM-101H Honors Fundamentals of Speech Communication and ENG-1010 College Composition I, or ENG-101H Honors College Composition I.

## Outcomes

#### Course Outcome(s):

Analyze the application of oral interpretation in literature as well as in life.

#### Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Information Literacy: Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

#### Objective(s):

1. Analyze diverse topics in literature: including race, sexuality, gender, religion, class, nationality, or other aspects of identity.
2. Explain diverse literary forms and styles.
3. Develop critical listening and writing skills.
4. Examine and describe literature of shared human experiences.

#### Course Outcome(s):

Analyze literary selections for the purpose of oral interpretive performance.

#### Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

#### Objective(s):

1. List and discuss elements of good literature.
2. Explain basic elements of literature analysis and techniques for selecting, analyzing, and interpreting prose, drama, and poetry.
3. Analyze literature for effective oral communication: meaning, theme, style, mood, point of view, tonality.

4. Evaluate performances by students and other performers via oral and written feedback.
5. Analyze in oral and written formats the merits and values of different literary genres.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Perform a variety of oral performance pieces.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

**Objective(s):**

1. Describe and practice physical techniques of interpretation: posture, eye contact, movement, gesture, body and facial expression.
2. Identify and practice vocal techniques of interpretation: projection, articulation, vocal variety, emphasis, pacing.
3. Identify and discuss the relationship between the audience and literature.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Examinations
2. Presentations
3. Class participation in readings
4. Papers

**Course Content Outline:**

1. Interpretation
  1. Basic Principles
    - a. Definition
    - b. Audience Engagement
      1. Ethical Responsibility
      2. Technical Responsibility
    - c. Literary Work
      1. Analysis
        - a. Content
        - b. Structure
      2. Aesthetics
        - a. Parts
        - b. Response
        - c. Interpretor
    - d. Purpose
      1. Polish presentation skills
      2. Share experiences with others
      3. Self understanding
      4. Learn about literature
    - e. Sources of material
      1. Traditional
        - a. Prose
        - b. Poetry
        - c. Drama
      2. Non Traditional
        - a. Autobiography
        - b. Letters
        - c. Oral History
        - d. Narrative
        - e. Interviews
        - f. Blogs
        - g. Conversations
      3. Anthologies
  2. Choosing Selections
    - a. Universality
    - b. Individuality
    - c. Suggestions
  3. Rehearsal and Performance
    - a. Styles of Delivery
      1. Memorization
      2. Manuscript

- 3. Extemporaneous
- 4. Impromptu
- b. Content
- c. Audience
- 2. Performance Preparation
  - 1. Structural Components
    - a. Denotative Meaning
      - 1. Primary
      - 2. Dictionary
    - b. Connotative Meaning
      - 1. Associations
      - 2. Undertone
    - c. Organization of ideas
    - d. Persona
      - 1. Author
      - 2. Speaker
    - e. Locus
      - 1. Physical position
      - 2. Psychological position
      - 3. Attitude
      - 4. Relationship to:
        - a. World
        - b. Audience
    - f. Climax
      - 1. Logical
      - 2. Emotional
  - 2. Aesthetic Components
    - a. Unity
      - 1. Content
      - 2. Form
    - b. Harmony
      - 1. Choice of words
      - 2. Sentence structure
      - 3. Relationship of phrases and clauses
      - 4. Selection of details
    - c. Variety
    - d. Character Contrast
      - 1. Age
      - 2. Wisdom
      - 3. Emotions
      - 4. Other attributes
    - e. Balance
    - f. Proportion
    - g. Rhythm
    - h. Selections for Analysis
  - 3. Technical Challenges of Performing
    - a. Prepare the script
    - b. Using excerpts
    - c. Placing action out front
    - d. Introductions
    - e. Selections for analysis
  - 4. Vocal Development
    - a. Relaxation Techniques
    - b. Breath Control
      - 1. Physiology
      - 2. Exercises
    - c. Volume and Projection
      - 1. Control
      - 2. Focus
    - d. Pitch and Quality
      - 1. Rate
      - 2. Pause
    - e. Speech Intelligibility
      - 1. Pronunciation
      - 2. Articulation
    - f. Dialect
    - g. Selections for Analysis and Oral Interpretation
  - 5. Use of Body



## Resources

Fugler, J.P. *Prose: Performance Text for Oral Interpretation*. 1st. Publish America, 2010.

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Gamble, Terri Kwai. *Literature Alive: An Introduction to Oral Interpretation*. 4th. NTC Contemporary Publishing, 2010.

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Gura, Timothy; Lee, Charlotte. *Oral Interpretation*. 12th. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2009.

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Lewis, Todd. *Communicating Literature: An Introduction to Oral Interpretation*. 4th. Kendall Hunt, 2010.

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Miller II, Robert. *Oral Tradition in Ancient Israel*. 1st. Wipf and Stock Publishing, 2011.

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Lewis, Todd V. *Communication Literature: An Introduction to Oral Interpretation*. 6th. Kent Hunt Publishing, 2016.

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## Resources Other

1. Because of the nature of this course, a textbook is not required. However, there are anthologies available as well as resources derived from popular library sources that include poems, monologues, speeches, and short stories.

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