

Prepared by the Department of Arts and Communication  
Date of Departmental Approval: February 4, 2013  
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Effective: Fall 2013

1. **Course Number:** COM205  
**Course Title:** Oral Interpretation / Readers Theater
2. **Description:** A performance course involving the analysis and aesthetic appreciation of literature (lyric, narrative, and drama) through the medium of oral interpretation. This course incorporates techniques for control of self (body and voice), control of the literary object, control of the audience, and critique of solo and group performances. Rehearsals outside of class time may be required; please see instructor.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes (instructional objectives: intellectual skills):** The goal of Oral Interpretation/Readers Theater is to involve the student in the study and aesthetic appreciation of literature through the medium of oral reading performance. The student discovers the intellectual and emotional parts of the literary object by means of effective, reading, writing, and listening, leading to articulation of the works. The overall objective of the course is to experience literature as it comes alive through performance reading. In doing so, students will have opportunities to develop self-confidence and poise. Concentrations include:
  - A. Control of self (attainment of bodily and vocal skills in order to communicate meanings of literature).
  - B. Control of the literary object (techniques for analyzing narrative, drama, and lyric).
  - C. Control/analysis of the audience.
  - D. Critiquing (effective methods are discussed and practices in class).

Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following:

  - Recognize and explain the cognitive and affective elements of literary selections (lyric, narrative, drama).
  - Identify and describe a variety of narrative methods.
  - Explain the writer's use of language and figurative language.
  - Analyze characters and their motivations.
  - Develop writing skills through character and literary analyses.
  - In performance readings, demonstrate control of self (the attainment of effective gesture and vocal skills in order to communicate meaning in literature).
  - Effectively critique performance readings.
  - Explain and, in performance readings, demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the writer, reader, and audience.
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** No
6. **Prerequisite:** COM103 or ENL101 or THR103
7. **Semester Offered:** Varies
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** COM205 is a lecture/performance course. Students are evaluated on participation, rehearsals, reading performances, and papers of analysis.
9. **General Topical Outline:** Discussion and papers of analysis (cognitive and affective elements of selections); narrative methods; performance of prose and poetry; dramatic solo and duo readings; the use of the body and voice in performance; and audience analysis.