ORAL INTERPRETATION OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
SUMMER I 2016
COMM4323.001/THEA4323.001/ENGL4370.001
Dates: MTWR 12 - 1:55 M - TH
Location: TBA
Instructor: Phil Johnson
Phone: 825-2361
Email: Philip.Johnson@tamucc.edu
Office Hrs 11- 11:50 M-Th and by appointment Bay Hall 321

Oral Interpretation of Children's Literature
The purpose of this course is primarily to investigate children's literature from the
performance perspective and to identify and practice effective performance techniques. Students will also learn about the history of children's literature, and characteristics of contemporary children's literature in the United States. Students will learn about certain genres in children's literature. Students will learn and perform non-dramatic literature in the style of reader’s theatre for a group performance.

This course will focus on the following areas
1. Understanding children’s literature and the importance it plays in the development
of children, and how it complements learning and cognitive abilities in early
childhood
2. Understanding the various types of literature including: poetry, folk tales, myths
and legends, and, literature including traditional and modern stories geared
towards children
3. The techniques for creating an oral interpretation performance of literature for
children, to be performed in the home, school or other location
4. The practice of performance of the various types and the discovery and deeper
understanding of literature for children

Student Learning Outcomes
1. The Student will demonstrate knowledge about the different types of literature written
specifically for children including; Poetry, Traditional and Folk Literature, and
Modern Fantasy.
2. Students will demonstrate proper procedures of Oral Interpretation and its
characteristics.
3. Students will perform the works of children's literature in the modes of poetry, short
stories, novels and books written for children.
4. Students will be graded on their performances in the various types of children's
literature.
5. Students will be graded on their knowledge of the theories and practices of oral
interpretation of Children's literature in the form of 2 tests.

Texts
Required
For the Love of Literature, Children & Books in the Elementary Years. By John K.
Savage, ISBN 0-07-290534-4
Suggested
The Scott, Foresman Anthology of Children's Literature, by Zena Sutherland & Myra Cohn Livingson- 2 copies
The Arbuthnot Anthology of Children's Literature, revised by Zena Sutherland. There are limited copies available in the Bookstore, text can be purchased online for a fraction of what they would cost in the bookstore http://www.amazon.com/For-Love-Literature-Children-Elementary/dp/0072905344

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism*

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in ( ).

Dropping a Class*

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, YOU must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. June 20, 2014 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Classroom/professional behavior**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Statement of Civility (can be in place of classroom/professional behavior)**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality
educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

**Grade Appeals***
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, [http://cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

**Disabilities Accommodations***

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Statement of Academic Continuity***

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

*Recommended by university, language provided that mirrors language used in other publications such as the student handbook or rules/procedures.

**Recommended by university, select one from the two items regarding behavior/civility or insert a similar statement based on your class needs.

**Required by SACS or HB2504—language must be included.
Academic Advising
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

Students with disabilities and special needs
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816 or visit the office in CCH 116. All students are reminded of the University Counseling Service on Campus and the services it offers. Students can use the center and its services for free. If you are experiencing changes in your life due to added stress, personal or academic status or any other issue, which you feel overwhelmed by, please contact the center at (361) 825 - 2703 or walk in at CCH 116. Faculty members at this university will help you to contact the center if you need assistance.

GRADING.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT 1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>A = 940 - 1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROJECT 2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>B = 880 - 939</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROJECT 3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>C = 820 - 879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT 4</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>D = 760 - 819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAM 1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>F = 759 and below</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXAM 2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ATTENDANCE</td>
<td>400</td>
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(Each absence counts as -100 points)

TOTAL 1000 pts

Schedule for the course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity/Assignment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-May</td>
<td>Memorial Day, No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>31-May</td>
<td>Orientation / Demonstration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-Jun</td>
<td>Discussion of Chapters 1,2,11</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2-Jun</td>
<td>Poetry Demo work on selections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Week 2
4 6-Jun Poetry Presentations
5 7-Jun Poetry Presentations
6 8-Jun Intro to Traditional Literature Chapters 4 - 6 read
7 9-Jun Traditional Literature work Finish chapters and demo

Week 3
8 13-Jun Traditional Literature Performances
9 14-Jun Traditional Literature Performances
10 15-Jun Review for exam 1 and prep for Modern Fantasy
11 16-Jun Exam #1 Modern Fantasy

Week 4
12 20-Jun Modern Fantasy Chapters 7 - 10
13 21-Jun Modern Fantasy Chapters 7 - 10 Continued
14 22-Jun Modern Fantasy Performances
15 23-Jun Modern Fantasy Performances

Week 5
16 27-Jun Finish Modern Fantasy and work on Groups
17 28-Jun Review for exam 2 and work on Group Presentations
18 29-Jun Exam 2 and Work on final projects in class
19 30-Jun Rehearsals for final performances
20 1-Jul Final Performances

Check your grades via Blackboard  I will be posting your grades on blackboard. If you would like to discuss your progress in the course you may see me during office hours or call my extension 2361 and leave me a message for an appointment. I am available in the mornings before and after our class.

PERFORMANCES  You will be expected to schedule and follow the directions for each performance. Failure to follow the instructions will result in a failing grade for the presentation. You will not be allowed to make up a missed performance and will receive an F on the presentation. In cases of dire emergencies or special circumstances consideration may be given. The earlier I know about your situation the more likely I can make adjustments.

1. You will provide copies for the professor before you will be allowed to present.
2. Copies for your fellow students are a courtesy and are appreciated.
3. You will use approved sources for literature. Please do not use a Disney version.
4. You will select material from the specific genre for that performance.
5. If you have questions, please check with the instructor
6. Please be courteous to your fellow students and professor. Please do not enter the classroom during performance or presentation. Please wait for an appropriate interval to enter or exit.
ASSIGNMENTS  - 4 required performances

1. POETRY -(3 - 5 minutes including introductory comments) Poetry selections may come from Scott Foresman Anthology of Children's Literature (on reserve in library) or any poetry or poet mentioned in our text - chapter 11, or on pp 277 - 279

2. TRADITIONAL or FOLK LITERATURE (5 - 10 Minutes including introductions and a synopsis of the beginning or ending, if necessary) Selection may come for the Scott Foresman Anthology or List of Ten on pp. 148 or 150 in our text, or Her Stories by Virginia Hamilton or any other folk literature (folk tale, fairy tale, fable or legend) mentioned in our text chapter 6, EXCEPT for the literary folktales of Hans Christian Anderson which can be presented as modern fantasy

3. MODERN FANTASY (5 - 10 minutes including introduction) Selection may come from the Scott Foresman Anthology or from the List of 10 page 121, books mentioned in our TEXT Chapter 5 or listed on pp 131 - 133 or from class handout, _Additions to Modern Fantasy_

4. GROUP PERFORMANCE Time approximately 10 - 15 minutes. Selection will be from Poetry, Traditional or Folk Literature, or Modern Fantasy approved by the professor.

Critique sheet rubric
I will provide a guideline of grading criteria and specific outcomes for each project prior to each class presentation.

EXAMS There are 2 exams. The first is short answer, short essay and matching. The second exam is multiple choice. There will be a written and an oral review for each exam.

NOTES These documents are available on Blackboard and will be covered in class
Intro Notes What is Oral Interp
Chap 1 Notes Children's Literature in Children's Lives
Chap 2 Notes Children's Literature with Diverse Perspectives
Chap 11 Notes Poetry
Performance Techniques - A how to guide
Chapter 4 Notes Picture Books
Chapter 5 Modern Fantasy Notes
Chap 6 Notes Traditional Fantasy
Review for Test One
Chapter 7 Notes Contemporary Realistic Fiction
Chapter 8 Notes Historical Fiction
Chapter 9 Notes Informational Books
Chapter 10 Notes Biography and Autobiography