

**DRA 122**  
**ORAL INTERPRETATION**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Prerequisites: ENG 080, RED 080

Corequisites: None

This course introduces the dramatic study of literature through performance. Emphasis is on analysis and performance of poetry, drama, and prose fiction. Upon completion, students should be able to appreciate and to participate in the critical analysis of various literary voices. This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts. Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- a. Recite and perform excerpts from stories, poems, and plays.
- b. Communicate the context of literary works to the audience.
- c. Learn more about themselves and others through the texts they perform.
- d. Develop a detailed analysis of each text.
- e. Define the intellectual, emotional, and aesthetic components of a literary work.
- f. Analyze the intent of an author.
- g. Appreciate and participate in the critical analysis of various literary voices.
- h. Develop methods to think carefully and precisely about performance choices.
- i. Explore the theoretical and analytical issues inherent in performance of literature.
- j. Determine the point of view of a narrator: first, second, third person, omniscient.
- k. Develop practical performance skills.
- l. Show how character is created by explicit and hidden clues.
- m. Acquire fundamental principles of analysis, selection, and evaluation of literature.
- n. Use the voice and body effectively.

**OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:**

- I. Basic Principles
  1. Ethical and Technical Responsibilities
  2. Analysis: Content and Structure
  3. Major Aesthetic Components of Genres and Literary Styles
  4. Major Structural Components of Texts
  5. Volume and Projection

## II. Interpretation of Prose

1. Style
2. Diction: The Choice of words
3. Tone Color: The Sounds of Words
4. Oral Histories
5. Short Stories
6. Narration

## III. Interpretation Of Drama

1. The Nature of Drama
2. Acting versus Interpretation
3. Structural Elements of a Play
4. Analyzing and Working a Scene
5. Rhythm and Style
6. Memorizing Lines
7. Embodying Characters
8. Gender Roles

## IV. Interpretation of Poetry

1. Classification of Poetry
2. Figurative Language
3. Structure of Poetry

## V. Group Performance

1. Readers Theatre
2. Chamber Theatre
3. Political Theatre

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

Textbook will be selected by the instructor.

### **STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 686-3652 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1309.