

## ***Instructor Information***

**Name:** Audrey Curry

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**Office location:** Fine Arts Building, 141A  
Odessa College  
201 W. University  
Odessa, TX 79764  
Office: 432-335-6618,  
Home: 432-685-1202

**Office hours:** Wednesdays 11:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Online hours:** Thursdays 9:00 am – 1:00 (noon)

**Location of class:** Web course

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## ***Course Information***

### ***Course***

**Title:** SPCH 2341 WB Intro to Oral Interpretation

**Course Credits:** 3 hours

### ***Course Description***

In this course, the student learns to analyze and perform written literature. The reader's evaluation of the literature and personal creativity are utilized toward a targeted objective for a specific audience.

***Prerequisites:*** None

### ***Course Goals/Objectives:***

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Understand the process of oral communication in various speaking contexts.
- Analyze and perform a piece of literature.
- Employ listening behaviors that promote accurate message reception and critical thinking.
- Select language appropriate to the audience, purpose, and context.
- Develop and interpret nonverbal behaviors more effectively.
- Understand and more effectively respond to communication apprehension.
- Use appropriate language and effective delivery techniques in oral presentations

### ***Required Materials and Skills:***

***Textbook*** –Theories of Performance by Elizabeth Bell.

### ***Supplies:***

You will need two, padded mailing envelopes for mailing recorded presentations.

### ***Video cassette:***

When you record a presentation, please record on VHS, VHS-C cassettes, 8 mm-MP or HI 8, DVD's or mini DVD cassettes. (Please indicate on your outline which program you

used to record your presentation on DVD.) If you do not have access to any of these ways to record the presentation, please e-mail me, and we will set up an appointment for you to give your presentation to me in person. You will have to arrange for at least two people to accompany you to my office. These people will also listen attentively to your presentation.

Please do not send your presentation on a tape that contains other special moments such as graduation or your child's first time to walk! Use a blank tape and record at the beginning of the tape. Be sure and rewind the tape so that it is ready for me to view. The basket on my office door is too small to hold many tapes so it is better if you mail them BY REGULAR MAIL to Audrey Curry at 1202 W. Golf Course Rd. Midland, Texas 79701. Do not send your presentation by insured or certified mail and require a signature confirmation because then I have to wait in line at the post office for your homework. Just send in by regular mail. Do not mail them to Odessa College because my mailbox is too small and I cannot retrieve it from the post office if the post office is closed. Thank you for your help with this request.  
Optional supplies: A writing manual: MLA Handbook

### ***Tips for video tapes:***

Be sure and watch the recorded presentation to determine if you can see and hear the presentation clearly. Then, rewind the presentation so that it is at the beginning of the tape. You must tape it at the beginning of the tape so that it is easy for me to find in case you forget to rewind it. I have had presentations taped somewhere in the middle of long segments of other family events. I wish I had time to search for your presentation, but I do not so if I cannot find the presentation on the tape immediately, I will contact you to redo the assignment. If there is no time left in the semester to contact you, then the grade will reflect your ability to follow these instructions. I appreciate your having the envelope weighed so that proper postage is applied. I have to pay "postage due" often, and when I am not at home, the envelope is delayed at the post office for several weeks before it is eventually returned to you. Do not require a signature because then I have to drive to the post office to sign for your homework.

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## ***Hardware/Software requirements***

### ***Computer :***

A minimum of 64 MB RAM, 1 G of free disk space  
150 MHz or higher recommended, a monitor capable of at least 800 x 600 resolution

### ***Peripherals:***

Speakers to be able to listen to audio files.

You may require Camcorders (for Presentation, Photography, etc classes), headphones to be able to record your voice (for Medical Terminology, Presentation, etc)

### ***Software:***

***Anti-virus software*** is highly recommended for students and instructors. Online courses involve much file sharing, which increases your risk of computer virus infection. Anti-virus software will help protect your computer in case of exposure to a computer virus.

### ***Other software:***

Your instructor may require you to submit assignments typed in Microsoft Word document, or ask you to view course content that is in the form of Microsoft Powerpoint. In this case you must have access to Microsoft Word (**fill in the version**) and Powerpoint applications. Some of the content may in be Acrobat format for which you will need [Acrobat Reader](#) to view those documents. There may be video files in the course for which you will need [Windows Media Player](#) or [QuickTime](#) or [Real Player](#).

***Please contact the instructor concerning specific software or hardware that may be required for his/her course.***

***Internet connection:***

56 K modem or better

***Browser and settings:***

Microsoft Internet Explorer 6" (IE 6) works best with Blackboard on computers running the Microsoft Windows operating system.

Java and Cookies must be enabled. To enable

1. In Internet Explorer 6, go to the "Tools" menu and choose "Internet Options".
2. Choose the "Privacy" tab and move the slider to "Medium" (which is the default setting) to enable Cookies.
3. To enable Java (if not installed, first see next item "Java Plug-in for Windows..." or Java Plug-in for Macintosh" below), while remaining in the "Internet Options" window choose the "Advanced" tab.
4. Scroll down until you see the "Java (Sun)" item and check the box beside "Use Java...".
5. Click "OK".
6. You may need to close your browser and all other applications and restart your computer before this setting takes effect.

***Email:***

Students enrolled in Odessa College must use Odessa College email address.

Go to <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/it/studentemail.htm> to set up your email account.

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## ***Course Schedule***

***Important Dates:***

Last day to drop or withdraw with a "W" is April 17.

***Weekly schedule with dates at the end of the schedule:***

Complete one lesson each week. Please send each week's assignment in regular e-mail to [curry1202@suddenlink.net](mailto:curry1202@suddenlink.net) or mail it to my address: 1202 W. Golf Course Rd. Midland, Texas 79701. My Odessa email will be used by students in a separate class. Do not send the information as an attachment, just a short e-mail. Title the subject line of the e-mail with you first initial and last name and the week of the assignment and the Oral Inter. Example: "JSmith wk 6 Oral interp" Begin reading poetry, Bible verses, or very short stories to find one by week 6. See week 6 for details. Thank you.

- Week 1** Jan 20-23 Read syllabus on blackboard.  
E-mail student information (full name, cell phone, home phone, address) to [acurry@odessa.edu](mailto:acurry@odessa.edu)  
Read Chapter 1 – Introducing Theories of Performance  
Folklorist Richard Bauman makes 5 claims about communication which are used throughout the book for connecting theories to communication. Please identify those 5 claims in a regular e-mail without attaching it and send it to me.
- Week 2** Jan. 26-30 Read Chapter 2 – Constituting Performance  
List the six parts of a tragedy as divided by Aristotle. Define frames.
- Week 3** Feb. 2-6 Read Chapter 3 –Performing Texts  
Mnemonic thought is based on memory. Share an example of a rhyme or thought that you aided you in remembering information.  
Watch the overview video presentation under Information.
- Week 4** Feb. 9-13 Read Chapter 4 – Performing Drama  
Think of a play or sitcom or movie that you have seen. Identify the parts of the dramatic form as introduced on the bottom of page 90.
- Week 5** Feb. 16-20 Read Chapter 5 – Performing Culture.  
Share a traditional ritual that you observe.
- Week 6** Feb. 23-27 Read Chapter 6 – Performing Social Roles  
Type a double-spaced copy of the selection you have found. Your poem or story should be 5 to 7 minutes in length when read aloud. Underline all the words that you will emphasize then you read the selection aloud. Draw marks: / to show where you will pause as you read. Put your selection in a one inch, black spiral notebook. Practice the selection this week once every night. Practice until you have 80-90 percent of eye contact with your audience.  
Remember that you must find 3 people who are willing to listen to your presentation when you have it recorded. If you do not have the recording equipment, then you may e-mail me and we will set up a time for you to give your presentation to me in person. You will be responsible for having two friends accompany you to my office and serve as audience members. Eye contact is critical when reading a selection. Write a short 3 sentence introduction to your selection. Send a copy of the selection and introduction with your recording to 1202 W. Golf Course Rd. Midland, Texas 79701
- Week 7** March 2-6 Read Chapter 7 – Theory in Perspective: How Am I a Subject?  
On page 182, complete the “make a list” activity by answering the first paragraph only. Then think about your selection from week 6. How could you use your body to communicate as you read your presentation? Memorize the introduction for your final performance. Use 100% eye contact on introduction when you perform it again.

- Week 8**      March 9-13  
 Mark a copy of your selection and mark places where you can vary volume to give the selection vocal variety.  
 Decide which lines should be soft and which ones should be loud.
- Spring break March 16-20 You may work ahead on the assignments.
- Week 9**      March 23-27  
 Mark lines where you can vary the rate. Deliver some lines more slowly and some lines with increased speed.
- Week 10**     March 30 – April 3  
 Mark your copy of the selection with where you will breathe as you read the selection. Every detail of the selection is critical to the performance. Send the marked with your final, recorded presentation.
- Week 11**     April 6-10 Type one page about the author of the selection. Include a paragraph about why you think the author wrote the selection.
- Week 12**     April 13-17  
 Summarize the meaning of the selection.
- Week 13**     April 20 -24  
 Practice 10 times and then record the selection and mail the recording and the marked copies to me at 1202 W. Golf Course Rd, Midland, Texas 79701 by Friday of Week 13.
- Week 14**     April 27 – May 1 Read Chapter 8 – Performing Resistance, pages 199-205.
- Week 15**     Week 15 – May 2-6  
 Read Chapter 9 – Performing Technologies, pages 233-245.
- Week 16**     Email me what you enjoyed the most about the class.  
 There is not a final exam because your final oral presentation is counted as the final test of all that you learned in oral interpretation.

Complete assignments by Friday of each week. Do not e-mail me when you are late turning in an assignment. Get the assignment done and turned in as quickly as possible. If there is a deduction for being late, then at least you have done your part and will get some credit. I spread out due dates in all my classes so that I have time to watch all the presentations. If every class turned in the final presentation during the last week of class, I could not see every presentation by the time that grades are due. The later you turn in the presentation, the less time there is for me to give you the appropriate feedback for your hard work. Good luck with the course. I look forward to working with you and seeing your presentations. Please see the calendar dates below and get them copied on your calendar. Do not e-mail me and ask, "When is the next presentation due?" I have multiple sections of different presentation courses and each course has different due dates. I need for you to read your schedule for that information. Thank you for doing your best in this course.

Mrs. Curry

Week 1 – Jan 20-23

Week 2 – Jan. 26-30

Week 3 – Feb. 2-6

Week 4 – Feb. 9-13

Week 5 – Feb. 16-20 Your first speech is due this week.

If you do not have recording equipment, you may set up an appointment by e-mail for giving it on Feb. 11 or 18 or mail it by Feb 19th.

Check for last day to complete fall degree application in your schedule of classes

Week 6 – Feb. 23-27

Week 7 – March 2-6

Week 8 –March 9-13

Spring break March 16-20 You may work ahead on the assignments.

Week 9 – March 23-27

Week 10 –March 30 – April 3 Your last speech is due this week.

If you do not have recording equipment, you may set up an appointment by e-mail for giving it on April 1 or mail it by April 2.

Last Day to Drop or Withdraw with a W is 1:00 pm on April 17<sup>th</sup>, BUT please speak to me before making that decision. I want to help you succeed in the class, and I want to know if you are having a difficulty. Remember that if you fall behind on quizzes or tests, you may catch up by taking as many quizzes and tests that you have time to take. All quizzes and tests are available for you to take throughout the semester.

Week 11 –April 6-10

Week 12 –April 13-17

Week 13 – April 20 -24

Week 14 – April 27 – May 1

Week 15 – May 2-6

Week 16 – Check your email to find your critique of the final presentation.

I need time to grade all final presentations so I appreciate those of you who turn in assignments in a timely manner. Do not drop the course because you are late on a due date. E-mail me or call me and let's talk about your situation. I care about your success and will help you in any way that I can.

*If you are considering dropping this course, please discuss your reasons with the instructor prior to dropping the class. I want to talk to you about any problem or conflict that arises. I want to help you achieve success in this class.*

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## **Course Evaluation**

### **Assignments:**

There will be two presentation due this semester

### **Discussion Requirements**

***There are no discussion items.***

### ***Point system and letter grades for Evaluation of students:***

Week 1 and Student Information	10 percent	100 points
Week 2	10 percent	100 points
Week 3	10 percent	100 points
Week 4	10 percent	100 points
Week 5	5 percent	50 points
Week 6 Presentations & marked copies	10 percent	100 points
Week 7	5 percent	50 points
Week 8	5 percent	50 points
Week 9	5 percent	50 points
Week 10	5 percent	50 points
Week 11	5 percent	50 points
Week 12	5 percent	50 points
Week 13 Final Performance Exam	10 percent	<u>150 points</u>
Total		1000 points

900 – 1000 points	A (superior)
800 – 899 points	B (outstanding)
700 – 799 points	C (average)
600 – 699 points	D (passing)
Below 600 points	F (failing)

Please notice that if you do not give any presentations, the highest number of points possible is 700 points and that is if you have perfect scores on all assignments. You must give your presentations to be successful in this class.

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## ***Policies and Procedures***

### ***Announcements:***

Read announcements each day.

### ***Methods of instruction:***

Lectures are recorded so that you may download the lectures on an ipod or MP3 player. Selected lectures are videotaped for you to watch.

### ***Course activities/submission and completion policy:***

I set up my course so that students may work ahead as they have time. Students must complete at least one quiz per week as indicated on the week-by-week course schedule. I understand that some students have conflicts or the server goes down and that delays students from taking quizzes so I decided to create a course that is self-paced to the extent that you may work ahead when possible. Students who work ahead are wise in that if conflicts arise at the end of the semester or need to finish early, students have had the opportunity to avoid problems with finishing the course. Keep working ahead every chance that you get. Finishing the class early feels great.

### ***Incomplete policy:***

I do not grant an "incomplete" because the course is set up for you to complete it at your convenience. You have the opportunity to complete the work during any of the 24 hours

a day that are available to get the work done. If you are unable to complete the course, please speak to me as I will consider problems on an individual basis.

***Instructor's response time:***

I will do my best to respond to your e-mails within 3 days. E-mails sent on Friday may not be read until the following Monday.

***Long Term absence policy:***

If you are absent from the course for more than 2 weeks, please contact me. You will be considered absent unless prior arrangements have been made.

***Orientation:***

There is no orientation class that meets in person before the course begins.

***Semester end course evaluation:***

Odessa College provides an evaluation process at the end of each semester so that you have an opportunity to evaluate the course.

***Academic honesty*** is fundamental to the activities and principles of college. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences. Any effort to gain advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Any suspicion of academic dishonesty will be reported and investigated. A student who engages in scholastic dishonesty that includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will receive an "F" in the course. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with Odessa College's regulations and procedures. For complete information on student conduct and discipline procedures, please consult the handbook. Assignments such as presentations that are downloaded from the Internet are considered under the auspices of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course.

***Statement of special accommodations:***

Please notify the instructor of any disabilities that require special accommodations for taking this class. This information is required on the information sheet that is completed during the first week of class. Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations and modifications as addressed under Section 504/ADA regulations. Students needing assistance because of a disability may contact the counseling office no later than 30 days prior to the start of the semester.

The definition of a disability for purposes of ADA is that she or he (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantively limits a major life activity, (2) has a record of such an impairment or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment. Students who have provided all documentation and are eligible for services will be advised of their rights regarding academic accommodations and responsibilities. Odessa College is not obligated to pay for diagnosis or evaluations nor is it obligated to pay for personal services or auxiliary aids. If you need accommodations because of a disability, please inform the professor of the course. For example, if you must give your presentation while sitting down, then I need to know before evaluating your presentation. If no disability exists, then I expect students to stand while delivering a presentation.

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## **Preparation for Emergency**

### **Computer Crash**

Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities. Computers are available on campus if you experience problems with your computer.

NOTE: Identify a second computer that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

### **Server problems**

When the Blackboard server needs downtime for maintenance, the BlackBoard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing the time and the date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems your course instructor will send an email.

### **Complete Loss of Contact**

If you lose contact with your instructor completely (i.e. you cannot contact your instructor via Blackboard or email) your instructor or you may have to contact each other via cell phone.

### **Lost/Corrupt/Disappeared files**

The student must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g., BlackBoard server crash or virus infection, students own computer crash, loss of files in cyberspace, etc) or any contradictions/problems, the instructor may request you to resubmit the files.

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## **Support Services**

### **ADA Accommodation/Support**

Becky Rivera-Weiss                      432-335-6861 [brivera@odessa.edu](mailto:brivera@odessa.edu)

### **Admissions & Registration & Transcripts**

Becky Beard    Director                      432-335-6443 [bbeard@odessa.edu](mailto:bbeard@odessa.edu)

### **BlackBoard Technical Support**

April Vanecek                                      432-335-6781 [avanecek@odessa.edu](mailto:avanecek@odessa.edu)

Derrick Conway                                      432-335-6682 [dconway@odessa.edu](mailto:dconway@odessa.edu)

### **Bookstore**

Molder, Sammie    Manager                      432-335-6654 [smolder@odessa.edu](mailto:smolder@odessa.edu)

### **Business Office**

Pollock, Debbie    Manager                      432-335-6600 [dpollock@odessa.edu](mailto:dpollock@odessa.edu)

### **Computer Services**

Carson, David    Director                      432-335-6649 [dcarson@odessa.edu](mailto:dcarson@odessa.edu)

### **Counseling**

Kunkel, Martha    Director                      432-335-6346 [mkunkel@odessa.edu](mailto:mkunkel@odessa.edu)

***Help Desk (Student Learning Center)***

Angela Tombs 432-335-6714 [atoms@odessa.edu](mailto:atoms@odessa.edu)

***Financial Aid and Scholarship***

Nesmith, Dee Director 432-335-6429 [dnesmith@odessa.edu](mailto:dnesmith@odessa.edu)

***Library***

Petersen, Carolyn Director 432-335-6641 [cpetersen@odessa.edu](mailto:cpetersen@odessa.edu)

***Testing Center/Career Center***

Pease, Terri Coordinator 432-335-6816 [thilliard@odessa.edu](mailto:thilliard@odessa.edu)

***Vice President of Instruction***

Alred, Dr. Clayton 432-335-6413 [calred@odessa.edu](mailto:calred@odessa.edu)

***Vice President of Student Services***

Bauske, Dr. David 432-335-6683 [dbauske@odessa.edu](mailto:dbauske@odessa.edu)

***Access to Odessa College Library Online Catalog***

<http://www.odessa.edu/dept/library/>

***Help available:***

I want you to succeed in this class and am available to work with you online or outside of class. I am more than happy to sit down with you and discuss unfamiliar concepts or terms. If you have a question on a quiz or exam, please make an appointment to come by my office during office hours to discuss your questions. Please have your textbook with you as all the questions are found in the textbook. Type the question and the answer choices for our discussion.

Let this syllabus serve as an outline to the objectives and materials that we will cover. This syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of Audrey L. Curry.