

**CEDAR CREST COLLEGE**  
**THS 109 – Fall 2008                      Tues./Thurs. 5:30 – 6:45 PM**  
**Prose and Poetry: Oral Interpretation**  
**Alumnae Little Theatre**

**INSTRUCTOR:**        Tim Brown  
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**OFFICE HOURS:**    Tues. and Thurs. – 2:30 – 5:00PM; or by appt.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**    *“Active participation is required in reading works of literature, prose and poetry aloud in class. Students develop their ability to share the rhythm and natural music of selected pieces. This course is an excellent confidence-builder for people who must speak to large groups or for actors working on vocal control and expression.” (3 credits)*

**TEXTBOOK:**            **No “official text” but materials to be distributed in class**

**OUTCOMES:**            By sharing literary choices and performing them aloud, students will build self-confidence, vocal control and expression. Students will choose appropriate selections for analysis, as well as performance. Students will be able to make decisions regarding emotion and discovered meaning of a selection. Students will explore both verbal and non-verbal forms of communication and interpretation.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- All presentations must be accompanied by the appropriate written work, which will be assigned throughout the semester as we discuss each individual presentation. You will not be able to deliver your presentation without the written work turned in prior to the presentation. If you can't deliver your presentation, your grade will obviously be affected.
- Class attendance and participation is a **MUST**. This is not a lecture class, but a discussion and participation class. There will be 1000 total points available to you in this course. **100 of those, or 10% of your total grade, will be reflected by your attendance.** No absences = 100 points. One absence = 90 points. Two absences = 80 points. Three absences = 50 points. Four or more absences = 0 points. Your grade related to participation and assignments, of course, will also be affected. Take this as an EASY way to score 100 points!
- All work must be submitted to me **typed, and on paper**. This seems obvious, but I won't accept e-mails or discs containing work assignments. As for the handwriting issue, mine is awful, and I would never force you to read mine. As such, I don't want to second guess what you might be writing, either.
- Everyone in class will be receiving constructive criticism from me, as well as from peers. We will always be working to create a positive work atmosphere, and constructive

criticism, both positive and negative, is a part of that environment. Please keep this in mind as you present, as well as when you comment.

- I will make myself available to you outside of class to work on any of your presentations or to discuss any other issues related to class. Please see me during office hours, or make arrangements to meet me at another time.

### **HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

You are required to abide by the Academic Policies of this college. This information can be found in the 2007-2008 Cedar Crest College catalog, or online.

### **DOCUMENTATION OF DISABILITIES**

Students with documented disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center. See the Student Handbook for complete information.

### **CLASSROOM PROTOCOL AT CEDAR CREST COLLEGE**

The Student Handbook states that *“Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to be a courteous, respectful classroom environment.”* In a plainer parlance, that means that **when you’re IN class, BE in class. Respect the class.** No cell phones. No text messages. No sleeping. No working on homework for other classes. No late arrivals or early departures without permission. *“Get a job. Cut your hair. Don’t do drugs. Stay in school.”* I anticipate that everyone in my classes will know enough to understand the concept, but if not, please consult the Student Handbook, and if questions remain, please ask.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Tues. Aug. 26th	Intro. To Course
Thurs. Aug. 28th	Discussion of Oral Interpretation and Ice-Breakers
Tues. Sept. 2nd	Warm-Ups, Vocal Work and Diction
Thurs. Sept. 4th	Oral Interpretation From The Page & Disc. Of Char. Intro.
Tues. Sept. 9th	<b>Presentation of Character Introduction</b>
Thurs. Sept. 11th	Prose Selection and Development of Cuttings
Tues. Sept. 16th	Finalize Cuttings and In-Class Work on Prose
Thurs. Sept. 18th	<b>Presentation of Prose Selections</b>
Tues. Sept. 23rd	Critique of Prose and Intro. to Poetry
Thurs. Sept. 25th	Poetry Selection and Development of Themes
Tues. Sept. 30th	In-Class Work on Poetry Selections
Thurs. Oct. 2nd	Vocal Expansion Work – Poetry Development
Tues. Oct. 7th	<b>Presentation of Poetry Selections</b>
Thurs. Oct. 9th	Critique of Poetry and Intro to Dramatic Interp.
Tues. Oct. 14th	<b>NO CLASS – FALL BREAK</b>
Thurs. Oct. 16th	<b>Presentations by CCC Forensics Speech Team.</b>
Tues. Oct. 21st	Point of View and Character Development
Thurs. Oct. 23rd	<b>NO CLASS – Attend EURYDICE</b>

Tues. Oct. 28th Thurs. Oct. 30th	GOTE, Physical and Vocal Integration In-Class Work on Dramatic Interp Selections
Tues. Nov. 4th Thurs. Nov. 6th	<b>Presentation of Dramatic Interp. Selections</b> Critique of Dramatic Interp. And Intro to Duo Interp.
Tues. Nov. 11th Thurs. Nov. 13th	Process of Selecting and Cutting Duo Script Physicality and Character Dialogue in Interp.
Tues. Nov. 18th Thurs. Nov. 20th	Discussion of Character Relationships and Interaction Duo Rehearsal Time
Tues. Nov. 25th Thurs. Nov. 27th	In Class Work on Duo Interp. NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING
Tues. Dec. 2nd Thurs. Dec. 4th	<b>Presentation of Duo Interp. Selections</b> Discussion and Critique of Duo Interp. Presentations, Eval., and Wrap-Up

### **GRADING**

Evaluation will be made on a **1000 point total**, with the following values given to each assignment:

Character Introduction	100 points
Prose Presentation	100 points
Poetry Presentation	200 points
Dramatic Interp. Presentation	200 points
Duo Selections	200 points
Attendance	100 points
Participation	100 points
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1000 points</b>

This makes the final grades pretty easy to figure out:

900 – 1000 points	A
800 – 899 points	B
700 – 799 points	C
600 – 699 points	D
599 and below	F

There's only one catch to the system above. As this class is entitled "Oral Interpretation" everyone **must complete ALL of the Presentations** in order to receive a passing grade. Consider it the "Automatic Disqualification" rule.

*Any questions on anything you've read thus far? Please ASK me!! My intent is for this to be a valuable course for you, but I'd be lying if I said I didn't want to have fun with the class as well!!! ☺*