



Storytelling and Storywriting



SYLLABUS

THE ART OF STORYTELLING AND STORYWRITING

MONDAY 11-1, 1-3

Spring Semester 2007

Instructor: Denise Rinehart

Email: theatreamoeba@hotmail.com, please include course title, your name and class number in subject line

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Storytelling course information related to assignments, reading notes and course forms can be located at www.theatreamoeba.com
- No Cell Phone usage allowed during class. Please turn off your cell phone and do not use during class. This includes text messaging.

Course Description:

In this course we will share in the magic of listening, researching, creating and telling stories including audio listening and discussion. Storytelling allows students to internalize important aspects of story beginnings and endings, settings, characters, and plot lines in English. It provides practice in expressing ideas in thought units, using colorful and descriptive language, developing ideas in sequence, and choosing effective action words.

Course Objectives:

To explore the art, origin and uses of storytelling and provide a variety of storytelling techniques styles and exercises to learn and enhance the delivery and uses of storytelling in English. The course will also assist in the integration and application of storytelling in the classroom learning environment useful for future English teachers.

Students are also encouraged to experiment with voice, tone, eye-contact, gestures, and facial expressions. This lets them practice techniques for holding audience attention (Which can be very beneficial when in an interview and business meeting). Students will learn the basics of storytelling: how to select stories, research the history of both international and Korean Storytelling and then focus on techniques for learning those stories, (audience participation (response), volume, pitch, pacing, pauses, gestures, introductions, and endings.) They also examine examples of story sources and then choose one, learn and develop their listening and speaking fluency. In the end of the term students will have the chance to present their projects which will be independently written.

Students will also become aware of their own potential as storytellers, the power of storytelling, the different uses of storytelling in their lives and other settings such as education, business, art and folklore, history, etc.

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance and participation: Because much of the course requirements are to be met is based on student participation such as in-class oral storytelling presentations, class discussions of readings, research and storytelling presentations, attendance is critical. One absence will result in a half grade deduction. Only one class absence is allowed.

20 points @ x 15 class meetings= 300 points

2. Attendance at one storytelling events. Students must attend one event and write a report reviewing and the evaluating storytelling event.

100 points

3. **Research/Summaries; 10 Different Stories and Reports:** Students must locate copy and write a summary report on 10 folktale, fairytales, fables, myths, legends, and personal/historical tales. Story summaries will relate to genres and cultures discussed in class. Each story selected must be recorded on the **Story Summary and Analysis form. (located online)** Story analysis sheets should be placed in the folder on the front of the room. Students should collect their forms the following

week and place the completed forms in their portfolio. You may only hand in one form a week, so plan carefully. Stories must come from at least three different resources such as books, internet, magazines, and articles.

10 @ x 10 = 100 points

4. (5) In-class telling: Each student **will tell a minimum of 4 in-class stories**. These stories must be from each of the different genres. (Fairytale, Fables, Folktale, Myth, Legend, Personal/Historical Story). They must be memorized. After each telling students must complete and submit an in-class storytelling form. Through in-class storytelling's students will gain confidence and learn the art of storytelling. Students will not be allowed to make up this activity if they are absent.

25 points @ x 4 =100 points

5. Midterm 100 points. Write and perform a Story.

6. Storytelling Project and Report: Students will choose one story to present in a final project. They will work in small groups assessing each other and giving feedback. The stories will be presented in the English Theatre Festival in the final week. Students will submit a final take home paper identifying and describing what they learned about the Art of Storytelling in English, highlighting insights into stories discovered, the actual experience of telling stories in and out of class, the developments or changes of their English patterns or confidence, the different use and applications of storytelling, the textbook and other readings, etc. Keeping a personal journal is encouraged throughout the class to assist you in the writing of this report. Paper should be typewritten and three pages in length.

Project 200, Paper 100 points = 300 points

7. Extra Credit: Students may earn up to 100 extra credit points for the following: Additional attendance and participation at a storytelling event. Volunteering at a local English school or organization and telling your story. Feel free to submit another suggestion to Denise.

Grading

Course Attendance and participation **300 points**

Story readings and summaries **100**

Attendance/report of Storytelling Event **100**

In-class storytelling's **100**

Midterm **100**

1 Final Project and Report **300**

TOTAL 1000

FINAL NOTE:

Students will be graded on a curve. More than two lates will be considered an absence. Due to HUFSS rules and regulation I can only give a certain number of As, B's etc.

I hope you enjoy this course. Feel free to make an appointment with me to discuss questions and concerns. Good Luck!