

Mayland Community College

Welcomes you to:

Drama 126.51

Storytelling

3 Credit Hours/3 Contact Hours

Spring 2007

Course Description

This course introduces the art of storytelling and the oral traditions of folk literature. Topics include the history of storytelling, its value and purpose, techniques of the storyteller, and methods of collecting verbal art. Upon completion, students should be able to present and discuss critically stories from the world's repertory of traditional lore. *This course has been approved to satisfy the*

Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts

Prerequisite: RED 090

Instructor Information

Instructor: Andrew Gall

Office location: Mayland Community College- Yancey Campus/Yancey County Cultural Resources Commission (over Yancey County Public Library) Suite #2

Telephone number: (828) 682-4285 or (828)775-7710

Email Address: agall@mayland.edu; agall@parkwayplayhouse.com

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 8-10 AM and 3:30-5PM; Fridays 1:00 PM-5:00 PM; and by appointment

Course Information

DRA 126.90 will meet M-Th in room 203 or the Auditorium at Mountain Heritage HS. This section of DRA 126 will meet during Fourth Period at Mountain Heritage High School and will conform to the Yancey County Public School Calendar. The last day of classes for this course will be May 8, 2007.

Required Texts: a variety of handouts and other resources provided by the instructor or accessible online.

LRC Resources: The Learning Resources Center offers students an array of print and electronic resources related to this course. Please touch base with one of the librarians for assistance.

Required supplies:

Course Objectives/Competencies:

1. To understand the purposes and values of storytelling in a variety of cultures
2. To explore the changing role of storytelling throughout history.
3. To understand the origins and uses of traditional stories
4. To learn techniques for researching and evaluating stories as storytelling texts.
5. To learn performance skills for storytelling, including movement, voice, and other performance techniques.
6. To understand methods of incorporating storytelling into the individual student's career.
7. To develop skills needed to collect, preserve, and perform family and community stories.
8. To observe contemporary storytellers at their craft

Attendance Policy/Tardiness/ Make-Up Work:

Attendance is crucial to getting the most out of this class. Individual students are responsible for all material covered in the course, including lecture material and notes, handouts, and assignments. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to meet with other class members or the instructor to insure you are receiving the information you will need to stay on track. Three tardies or early departures of fifteen minutes or more equal an absence, and students missing more than half a class will be counted absent. Students who are asleep in class will be counted absent. In addition, attendance will be factored into the grade, with one point given for each day present. Therefore, a student who was present every day would automatically have a 100 on the attendance grade.

Grading Criteria:

Students are expected to:

1. Attend all class meetings.
2. Prepare all out of class assignments before class (late assignments will receive a letter grade cut for each day overdue, and papers more than one week overdue will NOT be accepted). Students are responsible for seeing that work handed in outside class was received. Work not turned in during the appropriate time during class will not be returned in a timely fashion.
3. Actively participate in class activities, including responses to classmates' work and presentations.
4. Perform three stories with the class, including one scripted story, a story told from a created character's point of view, and a story generated from a primary source
8. Complete journals and assignments.

The final grade for the course will be determined by the instructor's evaluation of the student's work during the entire semester.

The course grade will be determined as follows:

Performances and presentations (including preliminary responses and analysis)	50%
Attendance and class participation (including responses to others students' performances)	30%
Journals	20%

Grading Scale:

- A=93-100**
- B=85-92**
- C=77-84**
- D= 69-76**
- F=69 and below**

Inclement Weather Procedures:

This class coincides with the Mountain Heritage High School/Yancey Public School System Academic Calendar, and will follow the Yancey County Schools inclement weather policies.

Academic standards: In addition to good academic performance, students should exhibit the qualities of honesty and integrity. Any form of dishonesty, cheating, fabrication, the facilitation of academic dishonesty, and plagiarism will make students subject to disciplinary action. *At the minimum, such students will receive an F for the course.* Measures for probation, suspension, or expulsion may also result.

Withdrawal dates:

- Unconditional Withdrawal through February 13, 2007
- Conditional Withdrawal through March 27, 2007
- Emergency Withdrawal only through the last day of class

Administrative Withdrawal Statement: **If a student has not been in contact with the instructor and has not attended class for a consecutive two-week period, an administrative withdrawal will be submitted by the instructor.** Unless the student formally withdraws from the course, he or she will receive an F.

Accommodations: Any student requesting special accommodations for this course due to a disability should apply for services through the SOAR office or Counseling Center, which will document the disability. A counselor will then help determine which accommodations, if any, the student needs for success in this course.

Course Schedule

This is just a basic outline. Changes will be announced in class, as will additional assignments and activities. Regular attendance will allow you to be aware of these assignments and changes. **Disclaimer:** *Course procedure may vary to meet the needs of a particular group.*

Week One

- Introduction to the course and each other

- What is storytelling
- Personal mythologies and histories

Week Two

- Historical perspectives on story telling
- Researching
- In class workshop time
- Journal Review

Week Three

- In class rehearsal time and initial presentations and notes
- Performance preparation techniques
- Voice and vocal preparation

Week Four

- Physical work
- Viewpoints- Anne Bogart
- Viewpoints exercises
- Journal Review

Week Five

- Viewpoints exercises ctd.
- Viewpoints in composition

Week Six

- Presentations and responses
- Journal Review
- In class workshop time

Week Seven

- Rehearsal and development
- One on one meetings with instructor

Week Eight

- Final performances and review
- Final journal entries