

# COMM M16: READERS THEATRE

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**Originator**

rpetrello

**Co-Contributor(s)**
**Name(s)**

Mora, Priscilla (pmora)

**College**

Moorpark College

**Discipline (CB01A)**

COMM - Communication Studies

**Course Number (CB01B)**

M16

**Course Title (CB02)**

Readers Theatre

**Banner/Short Title**

Readers Theatre

**Credit Type**

Credit

**Start Term**

Fall 2022

**Formerly**

SPCH M16 - Readers' Theatre

**Catalog Course Description**

Introduces the principles of interpretation of literature from all the major genres (prose, poetry, drama) as well as the techniques of group performance. In groups, students will create, stage, and perform a reader's theatre incorporating each of the major genres of literature.

**Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)**

1506.00 - Speech Communication

**Course Credit Status (CB04)**

D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

**Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)**

A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

**Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)**

N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

**SAM Priority Code (CB09)**

E - Non-Occupational

**Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)**

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

**Course Classification Status (CB11)**

Y - Credit Course

**Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)**

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

**Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Course Noncredit Category (CB22)**

Y - Credit Course

**Funding Agency Category (CB23)**

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

**Course Program Status (CB24)**

2 - Not Program Applicable

**General Education Status (CB25)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Support Course Status (CB26)**

N - Course is not a support course

**Field trips**

Will not be required

**Grading method**

(L) Letter Graded

**Alternate grading methods**

(O) Student Option- Letter/Pass

(P) Pass/No Pass Grading

**Does this course require an instructional materials fee?**

No

**Repeatable for Credit**

No

**Is this course part of a family?**

No

**Units and Hours**

**Carnegie Unit Override**

No

**In-Class**

**Lecture**

**Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Activity**

**Laboratory**

**Total in-Class**

**Total in-Class**

**Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Outside-of-Class**

**Internship/Cooperative Work Experience**

**Paid**

**Unpaid**

**Total Outside-of-Class**

**Total Outside-of-Class**

**Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Total Student Learning**

**Total Student Learning**

**Total Minimum Student Learning Hours**

157.5

**Total Maximum Student Learning Hours**

157.5

**Minimum Units (CB07)**

3

**Maximum Units (CB06)**

3

**Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)**

**Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | demonstrate an understanding of the various genres of literature through the creation of a group program performance. |
| 2 | demonstrate appropriate performance techniques for the different genres of literature in a group performance.         |
| 3 | demonstrate appropriate staging choices for a group performance.  |

**Course Objectives**

**Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | identify and respond sensitively to plot, setting, point of view, characters, tone, style, and theme of a literary work.  |
| 2 | use research to gather information about the time and setting in which a piece of literature is set.  |
| 3 | gather information from the text to create thorough character analyses.   |
| 4 | evaluate how literature reflects the author's cultural, moral, gender-based, psychological, and philosophical assumptions, which are sometimes implicit or even hidden. |
| 5 | identify and respond sensitively to rhyme and meter in poetry.  |

6	identify and respond sensitively to unifying themes and literary devices between genres through the compilation of a multi-genre program with a central thematic argument.
7	develop a compiled script for a performance group which: a. Uses selections of each of the major genres of literature. b. Uses literature to develop an argument. c. Requires all performers to play a variety of roles. d. Contains all necessary elements of structure.
8	develop full-fledged characterizations that bring to light a literary persona's physical, vocal, psychological, etc., mannerisms within a group.
9	perform multiple characters within the framework of a group performance of a compiled script.
10	design set pieces that can be used with multiple functions.
11	block a compiled Readers Theatre script using organic and symbolic blocking.

## Course Content

### Lecture/Course Content

5.00%

Basic principles

- A rationale for performance
- Theoretical differences between interpretation and acting
- History of oral interpretation
- Oral tradition in diverse cultures
- Genres of literature
- Intertextuality
- Choosing an appropriate selection

5.00%

The role of the interpreter

- Interdependency of: literature/interpreter/observer
- Literature as message
- Interpreter as translator

5.00%

Analysis of the literature: structural components

- Denotative and connotative meanings
- Persona
- Locus
- Climax

5.00%

Analysis of the literature: aesthetic components

- Unity and harmony
- Variety and contrast
- Balance and proportion
- Rhythm

5.00%

The subtext

- Beats
- Objectives
- Obstacles
- Objects vs. actions
- Emotional memory/affective memory/sense memory

5.00%

Interpretation of prose

- Types of prose (e.g., factual, personal essays, journals, oral histories, fiction, etc.)
- Point of view
- Action and plot
- Setting

5.00%

Cutting and excerpting literature

- Preserving authorial intent
- Preserving genre integrity
- Preserving plot integrity
- Preserving character integrity

5.00%

Interpretation of drama

- Structural elements of a play

- Setting the scene
- Embodying characters
- Physicalization of multiple characters
- Vocalization of multiple characters

5.00%

The interpretation of poetry

- Classification of poetry (e.g., narrative, lyric, dramatic)
- Figurative language
- Rhyme and meter
- Tone and color

15.00%

The compilation of readers' theatre scripts

- Sequential style
- Interwoven style
- Argument-based style

5.00%

Set and costuming for Readers' Theatre

10.00%

Blocking for readers' theatre

25.00%

Performance of readers' theatre

**Laboratory or Activity Content**

n/a

**Methods of Evaluation**

**Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):**

- Written expression
- Skills demonstrations

**Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):**

- Skills demonstrations
- Other (specify)
- Classroom Discussion
- Projects
- Participation
- Reports/Papers/Journals

**Other**

student performances

**Instructional Methodology**

**Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course**

- Lecture
- Other (specify)

**Specify other method of instruction**

Instructor-led demonstration of blocking choices

**Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:**

- Instructor will present course material through lectures.
- Instructor will present course material through supplemental articles and videos.
- Instructor will lead class discussions on relevant course topics.
- Instructor will provide detailed feedback on student presentations.

## Representative Course Assignments

### Writing Assignments

Character analysis paper  
 Creation of a compiled script for group performance  
 Scene analysis paper  
 Thematic analysis paper

### Critical Thinking Assignments

analyze gender and culture based assumptions in literature.  
 analyze best choices for blocking a variety of genres of literature such as prose, poetry, and drama.

### Reading Assignments

read selections of contemporary short narratives, such as The Moth collections  
 read selections of contemporary poetry.  
 read at least three contemporary plays.

### Skills Demonstrations

block an ensemble performance of a compiled script.  
 perform a compiled script as part of an ensemble.

## Outside Assignments

### Representative Outside Assignments

Attending a play  
 Attending a slam poetry performance  
 Attending a literature reading

## Articulation

### Equivalent Courses at other CCCs

College	Course ID	Course Title	Units
Grossmont College	COMM 136	Readers Theatre	3
San Joaquin Delta College	COM ST 13	Readers Theatre	3
Santa Ana College	CMST 158	Readers Theatre	3

## District General Education

### A. Natural Sciences

### B. Social and Behavioral Sciences

### C. Humanities

### D. Language and Rationality

### E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology

### F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies

### Course is CSU transferable

Yes

### CSU Baccalaureate List effective term:

F1995

**CSU GE-Breadth**

**Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking**

**Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning**

**Area C: Arts and Humanities**

**Area D: Social Sciences**

**Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development**

**Area F: Ethnic Studies**

**CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:**

**UC TCA**

UC TCA  
Approved

**IGETC**

**Area 1: English Communication**

**Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning**

**Area 3: Arts and Humanities**

**Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

**Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences**

**Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)**

**Textbooks and Lab Manuals**

**Resource Type**  
Textbook

**Classic Textbook**  
Yes

**Description**  
Yordon, Judy. *Experimental Theatre: Creating and Staging Texts*. Waveland, 1996.

**Resource Type**  
Textbook

**Classic Textbook**  
Yes

**Description**  
Lewis, Todd. *Communicating Readers Theatre: Messages in Group Performance*. Kendall Hunt, 2007.

## Library Resources

### Assignments requiring library resources

Literature Selection and Research

### Sufficient Library Resources exist

Yes

### Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources

Utilize library resources for researching character or scene analysis papers.

### Primary Minimum Qualification

COMMUNICATION STUDIES/SPEECH

## Review and Approval Dates

### Department Chair

12/04/2021

### Dean

12/08/2021

### Technical Review

11/04/2021

### Curriculum Committee

02/15/2022

### DTRW-I

MM/DD/YYYY

### Curriculum Committee

MM/DD/YYYY

### Board

MM/DD/YYYY

### CCCCO

MM/DD/YYYY

### Control Number

CCC000529105

### DOE/accreditation approval date

MM/DD/YYYY