



SHAKESPEAREAN INTERPRETATION

Textbook:

Any collection of Shakespearean plays and sonnets

Prerequisites:

Freshman and sophomore speech

Course Description:

This course teaches the basic criteria for the interpretation of character in a play based on the clues contained in the context of the script. Additionally, the concepts of Voice, Accentuation, Memorization, Gestures, and Confidence as presented in earlier grades will be reinforced.

Course Goals:

- To develop public speaking skills
- To make students comfortable in presenting their interpretation to a group of people
- To convey ideas and character to an audience
- To further develop memorization skills

Course Objectives:

- To understand the correct way to convey an interpretation to people
- To understand the physical aspects of public speaking
- To understand the interface between a playwright's words and the actors interpretation
- To understand how to captivate an audience
- To understand how to be an active audience member.

Course Sequences:

- I. Students will select sonnets from among the official canon of Shakespearean sonnets
- II. Sonnets will be presented with appropriate oral and physical interpretation
- III. Students will research to select a 3 to 5 minute monologue or soliloquy from a Shakespearean play.

Semester ends

- I. Students will study and interpret the play from which their selection is taken with special emphasis on their character within it and the context of the selection.
- II. Students will present their selection and be coached by the instructor in their interpretation.
- III. Students will present for their parents at an evening presentation as well as the student body.
- IV. Presentations will culminate in selection of representatives for the speech competition

Evaluation:

On a scale devised by the instructor, and published for the students as a rubric, presentations will be graded.