INFO 5441 Advanced Storytelling Syllabus

Welcome to the Advanced Storytelling Class!

Course Overview

Hello! I'm Dr. Tonda Bone, the instructor and designer of this iteration of INFO 5441 Advanced Storytelling for Information Professionals. This is a dynamic and comprehensive graduate-level course that provides in-depth study of specific, advanced techniques of storytelling and storytelling concert development.

Who should take this course? Students who have had INFO 5440 Storytelling for Information Professionals as the required prerequisite or who have consent of the instructor and students seeking the Graduate Academic Certificate in Storytelling.

Official SLIS Course Description

Personal storytelling performance development -- psycho-social development; voice and vocal dynamics; movement and gesture; facial expression, posture and performance dress; characterization; dialect and linguistic factors; musical effects; nonverbal behaviors. Training for public storytelling performances in libraries, schools, and community information settings. Advanced program planning, including development, implementation and evaluation of an individual or group storytelling concert. Advanced study of the current trends and research in storytelling.

Prequisite: INFO 5440 Storytelling for Information Professionals.

Course Overview And Objectives

To guide the student in developing his/her unique identity as a storytelling performer in libraries, schools, community, and information settings.

To enhance knowledge of advanced storytelling concepts through exercises, discussion, topical tutorials, and practical experiences.

To develop versatility, opening the creative imagination, expanding the repertoire and sharpening the sense of style in storytelling performance work.

To further develop the storytelling craft by articulating personal goals and plans for achieving them and finding the personal storytelling voice.

To improve students' skills in the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of storytelling outreach services including participation in developing and performing in a Storytelling Festival/Concert.

To explore current trends in storytelling, particularly as they apply to performance and outreach and digital storytelling.

Course Access

This course instructional content is presented online via Canvas learning management system technology. The course begins the first official day of classes in the semesters in which it is offered. Registered students will be uploaded into the student database and can access the course using their UNT EUID and password beginning on the first day.

If this is your first Canvas course, you may find the Canvas Student Guides to be a helpful "got to" resource.

The course follows a structured format and fosters a collaborative learning culture -- this is not a self-paced course.

Contact Information

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WWW: http://tondabone.com/

Dr. T's Accessibility and Responsiveness Parameters:

I think you will find me highly accessible and responsive to you in both discussion and via email. Please use the discussion boards as much as possible for questions and problem solving so that I and your peers can all deliver assistance. Please also use discretion with email and consult with me as needed for real problems you cannot otherwise solve via assistance in the boards. For example, assignment-related questions should go in the Assignment/Peer Help forum; questions about your specific grade should be directed to me privately via course messaging.

I generally will be actively in the class every day Monday - Friday. I generally will take off all day on Saturday and Sunday, so if you have questions about assignments, please catch me during business days. For rare occasions that I am away at a conference or doing consulting, I will post messages to the class.

Course Materials

You need to obtain these BEFORE clas begins. We use Lipman immediately.

Required Texts:

> Doug, Lipman. *The Storytelling Coach: How to Listen, Praise, and Bring Out People's Best.* August House, Inc.
>
> *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). (2009). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
>
> Organizer's Special Interest Group. 2003. *Producer's Guide*. National Storytelling Network. Download here: http://www.pro-sig.org/03_Producers_Guide.pdf. You'll reference this guide throughout the semester.

Optional, but suggested for your professional collection:

> de Las Casas, Dianne. *The Story Biz Handbook*. Libraries Unlimited, 2008.

Order these books through the UNT bookstore or from an online provider such as amazon.com, half.com, barnesandnoble.com, chegg.com, efollet.com, etc.

Course Technology

Reliable Internet access is required. Blackboard is the course management software used at UNT. Visit the Canvas App and Browser Compatibility page for system requirements.

This course requires that students have computing technology and equipment specifications as follows:

1. Hardware. When you sign in to Canvas, the system's browser check will run to ensure your settings are compatible. See the Helpdesk (http://helpdesk.unt.edu) for more information.
2. Streaming Media Player. You may need a media player to view some video files. I suggest the free VLC Media Player by VideoLan. (http://www.videolan.org/vlc/index.html)
3. Microphone. You will need a microphone to record audio for your video files and/or to participate in web conferencing activities. Note that sometimes, integrated microphones in laptops pick up too much ambient fan noise and are not sufficient for this class. Test your microphone using your system's sound recorder or web camera software to check the audio quality.
4. Web camera. You will need a web camera to record your storytelling performances and/or to participate in web conferencing activities. Typically, if you have good lighting, your integrated web camera will be sufficient for this class.
5. Speakers. You need speakers to hear the audio in the video files.
6. Required Technology and Software. Other software we might use will be provided through the course or as open source tools.

Assignments

All storytelling performances will be submitted as video performances through YouTube.

Class Participation: Full participation in all class activities and discussion postings. These are weekly "talking points" and exercises posted to your discussion group.

Test Video Link: Create and post a brief video to ensure your use of the technology.

Storytelling #1: Preparation and submission of one folk, fairy, or contemporary tale.

Group Coaching Exercise: You will view and provide coaching for your group member's performances.

Storytelling #2: Preparation and submission of one story related to your Concert Program.

Group Coaching Exercise: You will view and provide coaching for your group member's performances.

Concert Theme & Stories Assignment: Describe your concert theme and the 2 stories you will perform as part of that concert program.

Storytelling #3: Preparation and submission of the second story related to your Concert Program.

Group Coaching Exercise: You will view and provide coaching for your group member's performances.

Concert Program Design Assignment.

Press Release Assignment.

Grant Proposal Assignment.

Assignments Summary

(Not in strict order of occurrence.)

Assignment	Points
Class Participation --Consists of discussion and activity in the course; 4 points each	48 points
Video Link Test Submission	2 points
1st Performance	5 points
Coaching Response Exercise	5 points
Concert Theme & Stories Assignment	3 points
2nd Performance	5 points
Coaching Response Exercise	5 points
3rd Performance	5 points
Coaching Response Exercise	5 points
Concert Program Design Assignment	8 points
Press Release Assignment	4 points
Grant Proposal Assignment	5 points

Grading Criteria

Rather than using complicated formulas to calculate your grade, I have assigned varying point values to your course tasks. These values associate directly with the activity's weight and impact on your overall grade in the course. For example, your first storytelling performance, which is worth up to 5 points, also is worth 5% of your course grade. Along with individual grades and comments, a running point total is available in your My Grades area, so you always know where you stand in the course at any given time.

Please note that this course is highly interactive. It requires weekly participation in discussion assignments and also peer review of performances. This participation is one of your grading criteria.

Scale:

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: 59 or less

Online Participation

Students are required to use Canvas to submit and exchange assignments electronically and contribute to online discussions. In online discussions, this means substantive remarks on directed discussion topics beyond merely agreeing or disagreeing without justification or support. Points may be deducted for substandard contributions. Students are also expected to visit the class on a regular basis to read and respond to communications and course material. Canvas enables faculty to track where and when students visit various areas of the course site, times of first and last logins, and number of conference postings. This information is used, in part, in determining the participation grade for the course.

In class discussions and group assignments, both onsite and online, instructors and students are expected to demonstrate professional and courteous behavior. This means interacting in a supportive and tactful manner based on mutual respect for each other's ideas and approaches.

Late Work Policy:

All work is due at Midnight, Central time, on the date stated on the course calendar. Late work may be excused and accepted only by prior arrangement with the instructor or in the case of a documented illness or emergency. Any other late work receives an automatic 11% deduction for each 24 hours late. No unexcused work will be accepted after 48 hours past the original due date.

Students are advised that it is better to submit partial work for some credit rather than submitting nothing. Please plan accordingly.

Incomplete Grades

The Graduate Catalog located at http://www.unt.edu/catalogs/ describes and explains grading policies. A grade of Incomplete (I) will be given only for a justifiable reason and only if the student is passing the course. The student is responsible for contacting the instructor to request an incomplete and discuss requirements for

completing the course if an approval is agreed upon. If an incomplete is not removed within the time frame agreed upon by instructor and student, the instructor may assign a grade of F.

Withdrawal from the Course

The Graduate Catalog located at http://www.unt.edu/catalogs/ describes and explains withdrawal policies and deadlines. The UNT semester course schedule lists specific deadlines. A grade of Withdraw (W) or Withdraw-Failing (WF) will be given depending on a student's participation and grades to date. Please note that a student who simply stops participating and does not file a UNT withdrawal form may receive an F.

Assignment Competencies

INFO 5441 requires the following kinds of intellectual and communication competencies:

- Applying analytical thinking and problem-solving skills for information synthesis and response
- Professional style writing
- Literature searching using library catalogs and indexes and Web search engines
- Following specific assignment instructions
- Meeting assignment deadlines

Effort Expected

This is a three-credit-hour course. Students can expect to work 3 - 4 hours per week for each credit hour. This means students may spend about 9 - 12 hours a week on readings, assignments, discussions, and story preparation.

ADA Information

Any student with a disability that will require accommodation under the terms of federal regulations must let the instructor know on the first day of class and present a written accommodations request to the instructor by the second week of class. Information concerning specific accommodations to provide equal opportunities is available from the Office of Disability Accommodation.

Policy on Academic Misconduct:

UNT takes a strong stance against plagiariasm and holds its students to high standards of ethics.

Academic Integrity

Plagiariasm offenses can result in immediate course failure and/or removal from the University. Please review the UNT's plagiarism policy: https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/academic-integrity

Dr. T's Philosophy of Hope for Good Work by All

I will give you 100% of my best as your teacher and will incorporate into my work in this class all that I ask of you: Be who you are. Do your best. Use good judgment. Trust your instincts. Participate fairly. Help others. Be kind and generous in thought and deed. Give credit where credit is due. Pat yourself on the back

INFO 5441 Syllabus

file:///C:/Users/tbone360/Documents/1_work/Tonda Bone/syllabi-html/...

for a job well done.

Course Content: Consult Course Calendar for Due Dates

Unit One, Modules 1 - 5

Introduction, Coaching Consideration and Training, Storytelling and Skills Development Work, Concert Development and Planning

Assignments in this unit:

- Weekly Discussion posts
- Video Test Link Submission
- 1st Storytelling Performance
- 1st Performance Group Coaching assignment

Unit 2, Modules 6 - 10

Storytelling Program Design

Assignments in this unit:

- Weekly Discussion posts
- Concert Theme and Stories assignment
- 2nd Storytelling Performance
- Concert Program Design assignment
- Press Release assignment

Unit 3, Modules 11 - 14

Training Youth as Storytellers, Applying Concert Program Design, Growing as a Professional Storyteller

Assignments in this unit:

- Weekly Discussion posts
- 2nd Performance Group Coaching assignment
- 3rd Storytelling Performance
- 3rd Performance Group Coaching assignment
- Grant Proposal Letter assignment
- Story Abstract assignment

The End of the Syllabus