



HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Course Name: THE DRAMA

Course Number: ENG* E214

Credits: 3

Catalog description: This course is an exploration of the genre of drama as a literary form. Each dramatic piece, both tragedies and comedies, will be read and analyzed structurally, thematically, historically, and artistically. It is a survey of the masterpieces of the theater from its Greek beginnings to modern times. Works by classic playwrights as well as major figures from the great ages of drama are included. Play selection will be varied by semester, text, and instructor's specialty. Primary emphasis is on the plays themselves with attention given to the history of theater and style of the individual playwright.

Prerequisite, Corequisite, or Parallel: EN 102

General Education Competencies Satisfied:

HCC General Education Requirement Designated Competency Attribute Code(s):

AESX **Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind**

Additional CSCU General Education Requirements for CSCU Transfer Degree Programs:
None

Embedded Competency(ies):

None

Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):

HUM **Humanities elective**

Course objectives:

General Education Goals and Outcomes:

Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind: Students will understand the diverse nature, meanings, and functions of creative endeavors through the study and practice of literature, music, the theatrical and visual arts, and related forms of expression.

Course Specific Objectives:

1. Define the drama as both literature and art



2. Identify and analyze the tools and devices of the playwright
3. Identify and analyze the elements of plot, setting, characterization
4. Read and analyze the play within historical, social, political, cultural, and aesthetic contexts
5. Experience an aural presentation of the script
6. Explore the universal themes of drama
7. Articulate ways in which the drama responds to and influences society and culture
8. Articulate the ethical dimensions surrounding the creation, circulation, and interpretation of works of literary art
9. Engage with dramatic literature through experiencing the plays as the basis for the performing arts

Course Content:

I. Study of the following periods of drama including sample selections:

- A. Greek Theater**
 1. Oedipus Trilogy
 2. The Medea
 3. The Orestia
- B. Renaissance Theater**
 1. William Shakespeare
 2. Ben Jonson
 3. Christopher Marlowe
- C. Restoration Theater**
 1. Moliere
 2. Richard Brinsley Sheridan
 3. William Congreve
- D. Realism**
 1. Henrik Ibsen
 2. Anton Chekhov
- E. Absurdist Drama**
 1. Eugene Ionesco
 2. Edward Albee
 3. Harold Pinter
- F. Plays of Social Criticism**
 1. Tennessee Williams
 2. August Wilson
 3. Arthur Miller
 4. Lorraine Hansberry



5. George Bernard Shaw
- G. Modern Drama**
1. David Mamet
 2. Yasmina Reza
 3. Wendy Wasserstien
 4. Tony Kushner
- H. The Musical**
1. Rogers & Hammerstein
 2. Lerner & Lowe
 3. Stephen Sondheim
 4. Andrew Lloyd Webber / Tim Rice
- II. Define, identify, discuss examples of the following dramatic concepts:**
- A.** The play and playwright as both craft & art
 - B.** The elements of plot & script
 - C.** Characterization, Setting, Stagecraft as tools of the playwright

Date Course Created:

Date of Last Revision: 03/03/2017