

Course Abstract

If you need accommodations due to a disability, contact Disability Services in Edison Hall Room 100, 732.906.2546.

To foster a productive learning environment, the College requires that all students adhere to the Code of Student Conduct which is published in the college catalog and website.

Course ID and Name: ENG 258: Modern Dramatic Literature

Department: English

Chairperson or Course Coordinator: Michael Nester

Office Location: RH 236

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Prerequisites: ENG 122 or 125 or permission of the department chairperson

Co-requisites:

An introductory study of modern dramatic literature, including plays by Ibsen, Shaw, Chekhov, Brecht, Beckett, Williams, Miller and O'Neill. Major works are analyzed for literary style, form and content; discussions touch on topics such as alienation, theatre of the absurd, existentialism in drama, tragicomedy, dramatic irony, and tragedy of the common man, and the playwright as social agitator.

General Education Status: Humanities

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the program or course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret and analyze dramas and justify their responses orally and in writing.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the formal features of dramas and a knowledge of contexts and terminology.
3. Demonstrate the ability to paraphrase, summarize, and respond to texts by composing a research paper demonstrating the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize source materials and to cite this information correctly.
4. Identify themes, periods and styles of play scripts and differentiate among the major modes of theater such as but not limited to realism, naturalism and theater of the absurd.
5. Recognize major figures in the dramatic literature, distinguish their writing styles in order to discuss, evaluate and critique with greater efficacy.

Course Content Areas:

1. Research and writing: Fundamentals critical judgment, literary devices, figurative language, terminology, periods and styles.

2. Reading: Various works by and about writers such as Ibsen, Shaw, Chekov, Brecht, Beckett, Williams, Miller, and O'Neill.

3. Lecture/Discussion:

- a. Discussion of dramatic principles, terminology and formatting.
- b. Instruction in critical response techniques and classroom discussion of modern dramatic literature.