

Common Course Outline for: ENGL 2120 Shakespeare**A. Course Description**

1. Number of credits: 3 credits
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
Lab hours per week: None
3. Prerequisites: Eligibility for ENGC 1101 and READ 1106
4. Co-requisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: 2 (Critical Thinking) and 6 (Humanities and Fine Arts)

Studying William Shakespeare's writing is a journey of discovery. This course is designed to start students on that journey as they discover the power of Shakespeare's language as well as his uncanny and modern insight into human nature. Students will read, discuss, and write about Shakespeare's plays and poems.

B. Date Last Reviewed: April 2021**C. Outline of Major Content Areas**

1. Drama as a literary genre
2. Background on Shakespeare and Elizabethan theater, times, world view.
3. Types and characteristics of Shakespearean plays (comedy, history, tragedy).
4. Close readings and text analysis of Shakespeare's works.
5. Shakespeare's use of prose and poetry (blank verse, rhythm, rhyme, couplet, sonnet, and sound devices such as alliteration).
6. Literary devices (character and plot development, simile, metaphor, symbolism, irony, theme).

D. Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Interpret the scope and variety of Shakespeare's works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context. (Goals 2b, d; 6a, b, c, e)
2. Respond critically to Shakespeare's work. (Goals 2b, c, d; 6a, c, e)
3. Articulate an informed personal reaction to Shakespeare's works and the ways in which literature informs us about ourselves, other people, and other places and times. (Goals 2b, c, d; 6a, c, e)
4. Examine a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings to Shakespeare's works. (Goals 2b, c, d)
5. Articulate the value assumptions and possible bias which underlie and affect interpretations, analyses, and evaluations of Shakespeare's works. (Goals 2b, c, d; 6a, c, e)
6. Analyze elements of poetry, such as rhythm, rhyme, tone, concrete and abstract language as well as literary devices such as simile, metaphor, symbolism and irony. (6a, c, e)

7. Critically interpret Shakespeare's work and support interpretations with specific textual evidence. (Goals 2b, c, d; 6a, c, e)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

1. Tests/final test
2. Short-answer quizzes
3. Analytical essays
4. Journals
5. Collaborative Projects

F. Special Information: None