

TERM: FALL 2025

COURSE NUMBER & CATEGORY: ENGL 2109 Intro to Drama: Shakespeare

COURSE TITLE: INTRO SHAKESPEAREAN DRAMA

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: TR 9:55-11:35 AM

INSTRUCTOR: DR. JUDY PARK

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

This course will introduce you to drama through the lens of Shakespeare and the English literary renaissance (16th and 17th centuries). It takes its examples from tragedy (and its variants), a genre which, since the time of the ancient Greeks, has been central to both theatrical practice and theories of drama, ranging from Aristotle's notion of the audience's catharsis to Artaud's search for a Theatre of Cruelty. We will examine Shakespearean tragedies and tragicomedies as a means of understanding this literary form, while exploring the variety of social needs to which the theatre, more broadly, can respond. If, in Shakespeare's words, "All the world's a stage," we may learn to better question our own social cues through the study of his plays. Assignments for the course will be both creative and analytical in nature, incorporating creative writing, performance, and literary analysis.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who successfully complete this course will acquire greater familiarity with several canonical dramatic works and their social contexts. They will strengthen their ability to engage creatively and analytically with dramatic texts, and they will develop their understanding of how the elements of drama (such as plot, characterization, setting, speech, movement, and theme) interact to produce meaning.

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

N/A

RECOMMENDED/PREREQUISITES:

N/A

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

This course does not count toward the English major or minor requirements; however, English majors interested in creative writing are advised to take one lower-division ENGL 2100 course to satisfy the Core Curriculum EXP: Creative Experience requirement.

CORE ATTRIBUTES:

EXP: Creative Experience