

# COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL-250

Shakespeare from Page to Stage

3 Semester Hours

## HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Description

Shakespeare from Page to Stage focuses on reading, analyzing and interpreting Shakespeare's plays as literary texts; understanding them as products of specific historical, cultural and artistic currents, and as performance text meant for production. Emphasis is given to the process that transforms literary text through production, informed by literary and theatrical elements. This course is writing intensive. Prerequisite: ENGL-121 or ENGL-101. (3 hours weekly) NOTE: Also listed as THET-250.

### Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

### Overall Course Objectives

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

1. Recognize literary terms, concepts, critical strategies and stylistic characters in the texts studied.
2. Demonstrate critical and independent thinking in the interpretation of Shakespearean texts both as literary texts and as performance.
3. Write analytically about Shakespeare's works, using appropriate research and documentation.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the ways Shakespeare's works reflect their intellectual, social, historical and theatrical contexts.
5. Evaluate the ongoing power of Shakespeare's plays to address personal values and goals and to challenge human endeavors.
6. Analyze a monologue for its poetic devices and performance clues and then perform the monologue.
7. Explain the steps necessary to bring a Shakespearean play to production from acting, directing and design perspectives.

### Major Topics

- I. Text Analysis
- II. Historical and Cultural Influences
- III. Theatrical Conventions and Structures of the Elizabethan Era
- IV. Acting Verse
- V. Shakespearean Research: Literary, Archeological, Textual Authority
- VI. Performance and Production in Contemporary Theater
- VII. Performance Criticism

**Course Requirements**

Specific assignments and procedures for evaluating student performance will be determined by the individual faculty member but may include a research project, text analysis essays, performances of monologues and/or scenes; collaboration in planning a performance; class discussions of assigned readings and viewing live and recorded performances.

**Other Course Information**

ENGL-250 is a Literature, Fine Arts and Humanities core course.