

CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE
Course Outline

English 250B
Introduction to Shakespeare

Length in weeks: 18
Hours per week: 3
Units: 3
Category: I

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Reading and discussion of eight representative plays and a dozen sonnets by Shakespeare will guide the student to an appreciation of the scope of Shakespeare's achievement.

OBJECTIVE

The aim of this course is to help students increase appreciation for the plays and poetry of Shakespeare in particular and for plays and poetry in general. As a university-transferable course, it will be conducted at a level appropriate to lower-division students.

COURSE CONTENT

1. Othello
2. King Lear
3. Macbeth
4. Antony and Cleopatra
5. Measure for Measure
6. All's Well that Ends Well
7. The Winter's Tale
8. The Tempest

The student should read the assigned material on or before the dates given at the first class meeting. Students who are so inclined may submit proposals for critical papers as alternatives to the midterm.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

1. Lecture and discussion
2. Films, videotapes, etc.
3. Outings to local theatre productions

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Text: The Riverside Shakespeare (Houghton-Mifflin). This is an optional text. Students may use other sources for completing the reading assignments.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PROGRESS

1. Attendance and participation = 10% of grade
 2. Midterm and final essay examinations = 90% of grade
- 12/89