RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 262 Introduction to Drama

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: English 262 Introduction to Drama

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2023

D. Effective Term: Fall 2023

E. Sponsoring Department: English

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3 Laboratory: 0 Out of class student work per week: 6

H. ☒ Prerequisite (s): ENGL 111 English Composition I
   ☐ Corequisite (s):
   ☐ Prerequisite (s) and Corequisite (s):

I. Additional Fees: None

J. Name and E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval: Ronald Tyson Ronald.tyson@raritanval.edu; Patrice Marks Patrice.marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: ENGL 111 English Composition I This course is a study of the literature of global playwrights from the time of the ancient Greeks to the present. Students examine forms of dramatic expression through reading plays and viewing films. In addition to the literary aspects of plays, the course also deals with the historical development of the theatre and examines plays in both a contemporary context and within the sociocultural and sociopolitical contexts of their time.

III. Statement of Course Need
A. Introduction to Drama provides students with the opportunity to study an important literary genre. It is a course typically featured in college English departments and meets RVCC’s general education goals as well as those of the English Department’s Associate of Arts degree in English. The course transfers to a four-year program as an elective, a general education elective, or a free elective.

B. This course does not have a lab component.

C. This course generally transfers as a Humanities/English Literature general education course dependent on the transfer institution.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective
B. This course serves as a General Education course in Humanities/English Literature.
C. This course meets a genre-based Category B elective requirement in the English A.A. degree.
D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

A. Definition of drama
B. How to read drama scripts
C. Drama from North America, Europe, Asia, South America, and Africa and from BC to contemporary times.
D. Literary Movements such as Romanticism, Realism, Modernism, Bengali Renaissance, Postmodernism, Absurdism, Postcolonialism
E. Theatre in relation to culture, history, and politics, including Morality Plays, Kabuki Theatre, Epic Theatre, and War of Resistance

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:
1. Analyze plays within their literary, historical and social contexts, both orally and in writing (GE 1, 6, 7, *)
2. Use textual evidence to support logical and persuasive claims in writing using appropriate literary terminology (GE 1, *)
3. Explain how modern and post-modern dramas are influenced by Greek, Renaissance, Baroque, Neoclassical and/or Kabuki Theatre.
4. Identify dramatic discourse intonation and dramatic space, including the staging, costuming, props, and lighting.
B. **Assessment Instruments**

1. exams
2. in-class formal and informal writing
3. presentations
4. essays
5. journals/reflection writings
6. research papers
7. individual and/or group projects
8. discussion questions
9. discussion board postings
10. reading quizzes
11. class participation

VII. **Grade Determinants**

A. exams
B. essays that effectively communicate in standard English, with attention to grammar and mechanics
C. presentations
D. projects
E. class participation

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course are:

A. lecture/discussion
B. small-group work
C. guest speakers
D. student oral presentations
E. simulation/role-playing
F. independent study

VIII. **Texts and Materials**

Possible textbooks and any other major text sources and other materials:

A. OER, public domain and library-licensed materials, may be curated into a collection of readings for this course in lieu of an anthology/textbook.

E. Brecht, Bertolt, *The Good Woman of Szechwan*

F. Elkunchwar, Mahesh, *Reflection and Other Plays*

G. Chikamatsu Monzaemon, *The Courtesan on Buddha Plain*

H. Orlov, Stephen and Samah Sabawi (Eds), *Double Exposure: Plays by Jewish and Palestinian Diasporas*

I. Sanchez Scott, Milcha, *Evening Star*

J. Sophocles, *Antigone*

K. Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*

L. Soyinka, Wole, *The Bacchae of Euripides and A Play of Giants*

M. Saadallah Wannous, *Four Plays from Syria*

N. Wallace, Naomi and Ismail Khalidi (Eds), *Inside/Outside: Six Plays from Palestine and the Diaspora*

O. Wilson, August, *Fences*

P. Instructors may also elect to use copies of individual plays.

(Please note: This course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

**IX. Resources**

Classroom with internet access

**X. Honors Options**

There is no Honors Option for this course.