

# Common Course Outline

## THTR/ENGL 180

### Script Analysis

3 Semester Hours

## The Community College of Baltimore County

### Description

**THTR/ENGL 180** 3 credits; 3 lecture hours per week

**Script Analysis** allows students to read, interpret and interact with dramatic literature from a range of periods and styles. Texts will be analyzed primarily through a theatrical perspective and theatrical choices, along with a research component.

**Credit Hours: 3, 3 lecture hours per week**

**Prerequisite: ENGL 101; Co-requisites: THTR 101**

### Overall Course Objectives

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

1. utilize the script as the fundamental basis to analyze performances;
2. apply critical and analytical skills to reading a play;
3. identify an individual style or tone in various playwrights;
4. evaluate various production choices within a play, ranging from set design, acting, light design and direction;
5. perform the role of dramaturg and apply it to a text;
6. produce a scholarly research paper based on one or more plays from class;
7. explore the process of new play development;
8. conduct methods of theatrical critical research;
9. demonstrate the abilities to write and speak clearly about dramatic literature, and to translate this to a discussion of a specific performance;
10. write critically about a specific performance, using both the primary text and secondary sources to support the analysis;
11. lead a critical discussion about a play; and
12. lead a post-performance discussion.

### Major Topics

- I. Plot Development
  - a. Action
  - b. Stasis and intrusion
  - c. Obstacle and conflict
  - d. Exposition
- II. Character Development
  - a. Identifying character through dialogue

- b. An actor's approach to character analysis
- c. Costume design and character
- III. "Thought" in the Play
  - a. Theatricality
  - b. Image and set design
  - c. Theme
  - d. Director's concept
- IV. Applied Analysis to Plays in Various Time Periods
  - a. Ancient Greece
  - b. Renaissance
  - c. Victorian
  - d. Modern
- V. Live Performance Analysis
  - a. Text as preparation
  - b. Production interpretation and performance choices
- VI. Writing about Drama
  - a. Dramatic research components
  - b. Primary and secondary sources
  - c. Theatre criticism

### **Course Requirements**

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Weekly in-class responses to the dramatic texts (can be written, oral, or a combination of both)

Writing: Writing assignments will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

A minimum of two performance analysis papers  
 A final research paper

### **Other Course Information**

If appropriate:

This course is a Theatre core course and an English elective.

Individual faculty members may include additional course objectives, major topics, and other course requirements to the minimum expectations stated in the Common Course Outline.