

# University High School English Department

Course title: LITERATURE OF MODERN DRAMA

1 semester course: 1/2 English credit  
 Prerequisite: Successful completion of Freshman English  
 Grades: 10-12

<b>Content</b>	<b>Skills</b>	<b>Benchmarks</b>
<p>Drama as a Genre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure</li> <li>• Style</li> <li>• Dramatic Literature and the Theatre</li> </ul> <p>Realism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical background</li> <li>• Philosophical background</li> <li>• Realistic Dramatic Literature (Ibsen, Shaw, Strindberg, Zola)</li> </ul> <p>Expressionism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical background</li> <li>• Philosophical background</li> <li>• Expressionist Dramatic Literature</li> </ul> <p>Theatricalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical background</li> <li>• Philosophical background</li> <li>• Theatricalism in Dramatic Literature (Wilder, Brecht, American musical)</li> </ul>	<p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close Reading</li> <li>• Reading aloud</li> <li>• Analysis – literary &amp; critical</li> <li>• Library and internet research</li> </ul> <p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Analysis</li> <li>• Summary writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Dialectical notebook</li> </ul> <p>Listening/Speaking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading aloud</li> <li>• Socratic, small group, and whole class discussion</li> <li>• Discussion leading</li> <li>• Scene study and performance</li> <li>• Oral presentations</li> </ul> <p>Critical Thinking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis – literary &amp; critical</li> <li>• Dialectical notebook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and Understand literature representative of various societies, eras, and ideas.</li> <li>• Apply strategies for comprehending, interpreting, analyzing and evaluating a range of texts, drawing on their own experience and knowledge as well as other sources.</li> <li>• Write effectively for specific audiences and purposes, adapting language conventions appropriately,</li> <li>• Analyze writing tasks and purposes systematically, use elements of the writing process appropriately, and adopt a variety of strategies during the course of their writing.</li> <li>• Create and communicate knowledge, using technological resources to gather and synthesize information.</li> <li>• Use language to define and represent questions, issues and problems for research.</li> <li>• Read and write independently for learning and enjoyment.</li> <li>• Use language knowledgeably, reflectively, constructively and critically.</li> </ul>

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<p>Absurdism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Historical background</li><li>• Philosophical background</li><li>• Absurdist Dramatic Literature</li></ul> <p>Contemporary Dramatic Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Various styles</li><li>• American theatre 1950-present</li><li>• Sample of contemporary dramatic literature</li></ul>	<p>Media Literacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• View and analyze a variety of films and audiotapes of dramatic literature adaptations.</li><li>• Listen to audio versions of drama</li><li>• Library and internet research</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between and among the components of the listening process.</li><li>• Analyze and evaluate the effects of audio and visual media.</li><li>• Identify and utilize the skills necessary for competent communication across audio and visual media.</li></ul>
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