

DESCRIPTION OF COURSES

Course Title: Interpretation of Dramatic Literature

Number of Hours: Twenty (20) class hours

Course Description: The course in Interpretation of Dramatic Literature is intended to develop a recognition of the elements of dramatic form and an awareness of the means employed by the playwright in developing his theme. The participant is lead to discover the conversion of idea through words to action. Theatrical symbolism, illusion, style and type provide guides to the technical and aesthetic structure of a dramatic work of art. Short papers and an essay analyzing the play which the participant will select for a project are required.

Instructor: Mrs. Margaret L. Walker

Course Outline

- I. The elements of the play
 - A. Plot
 - B. Character
 - C. Theme
 - D. Language
 - E. Time
 - F. Place
- II. The types of Drama
 - A. Tragedy
 - B. Comedy
 - C. Serious Drama
 - D. Melodrama
 - E. Farce
- III. Selected styles of Drama
 - A. Classic
 - B. Elizabethan
 - C. Romantic
 - D. Realistic
 - E. Fantasy
- IV. Play Interpretation
 - A. Understanding the Dominant Dramatic Values
 - B. Recognizing the Theme
 - C. Treatment of viewpoint, spirit, style
 - D. Analyzing the characters
 1. Purpose to the theme
 2. Motivation or objective to plot
 3. Relation to other characters
 4. Development - positive or negative
 - E. Acting scenes or units
 - F. Thematic, emotional and action climaxes
 - G. Mood