

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ENG 219 – CREATIVE WRITING: DRAMA (3 CR.)**

Course Description

Introduces the fundamentals and techniques of writing plays. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to improve and focus student creativity and writing in drama.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

Students must have successfully completed ENG 112, College Composition II or ENG 125, Introduction to Literature, or the equivalent, or received division approval.

Course Objectives

GOAL ONE: LEARNING BASIC TERMS AND TECHNIQUES

Students will learn the language and techniques they need to approach dramatic writing meaningfully. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- . use the standard terms that describe plot development, character development, dialogue, and stage directions; and
- . apply their understanding of these terms to their writing and the writing of others.

GOAL TWO: READING CRITICALLY

Students will learn to read analytically and interpretively. By the end of the course, students will have:

- . read a number of works and discussed these works in terms of their effectiveness;
- . engaged in classroom reading, discussions and exercises that illustrate approaches to plot, character, and dialogue; and
- . recognized the validity of different perspectives in the interpretation of drama.

GOAL THREE: WRITING SKILLS

Students will continue to improve their writing skills. By the end of the course, students will have:

- . written at least one properly formatted ten-minute play;
- . written at least one properly formatted opening teaser of a screenplay;
- . written other playwriting exercises as appropriate;
- . attended a play production and written a critical analysis of the script and production; and
- . engaged in all phases of the writing process, including planning, drafting, revising and polishing.

Major Topics to be Included

- The meaning of creativity
- Elements of drama
- Playwriting techniques
- Formatting
- Role of criticism
- Play production
- Screenwriting