

# **ELT109 Understanding Poems and Plays**

**Level:** 1

**Credit Units:** 5 Credit Units

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Presentation Pattern:** EVERY SEMESTER

## **Synopsis:**

ELT109 is devoted to the critical appreciation of two literary forms: poetry and drama. By using specific examples, it identifies the key features to look out for when reading either a poem or a play. In recognition of the need to be able to write effectively about these forms, specific guidance is also given on how to prepare, plan, and complete critical essays on each. The aim of the course is to impart both skills and confidence to the beginning reader of poems and plays.

## **Topics:**

- Introduction to Poetry: Looking; Reading
- Understanding Poems: Listening; Understanding; Feeling
- Analysing Poems: Critical Appreciation and Critical Comparison
- Looking at Modern Drama: A View from the Bridge
- Shakespeare's Open Text: The Merchant of Venice
- Interpreting The Merchant of Venice & Course Overview

## **Textbooks:**

Lindy Miller: Mastering Practical Criticism Year 2001 Palgrave Macmillan  
ISBN-13: 9780333802700

Compiled by Jack Hydes.: Touched With Fire: An Anthology of Poems Year 1985 Cambridge UP  
ISBN-13: 9780521315371

By William Shakespeare.: The Merchant of Venice. (eText) Penguin  
ISBN-13: 9781101993712

By Arthur Miller.: A View from the Bridge. (eText) Penguin  
ISBN-13: 9781101665046

**Learning Outcome:**

- Identify the key features of poems and of plays.
- Interpret the stylistic and thematic effects of the key features of poetry and plays.
- Present a critical comparison of two unseen poems.
- Apply close reading skills to a Shakespeare play and a modern play.
- Write properly structured papers on poetry and plays.
- Use proper citation methods in-text and in bibliographies

**Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):**

<b>Components</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Weightage Allocation (%)</b>
Overall Continuous Assessment	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	20
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 2	30
Overall Examinable Components	Written Exam	50
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>