

## **ALT 401: ALT 402: DRAMA**

### **Unit Description**

The unit traces the origins of drama and major movements in its development; classical Greek tragedy; medieval miracle and mystery plays; Shakespearean and Jacobean theatre; French neo-classical theatres; Brechtian theatre and the theatre of the absurd. Emphasis is on drama as an instrument of social expression and transformation.

### **Unit Objectives**

- ❖ Define the nature and forms of Drama
- ❖ Explore the origins of Drama and introduce students to the major movements in its development.
- ❖ Analyse some of the works of major playwrights and discuss their place in the development of Drama.
- ❖ Examine the underlying themes and concerns of the works of these playwrights.

### **References**

- ✓ Clarke R. F. *The growth and nature of drama*.
- ✓ Macgowan, Meltimiz. *The Living Stage*
- ✓ Nocol R. *The Development of Theatre*
- ✓ Macgowan, Melmitz. *Golden Age of Theatre*
- ✓ Courney, Styann. *Modern Drama in Theory and Practice*

### **Unit Description**

This unit is a study of selected and largely representative creative texts from the south, west and north of Africa (the east having been covered in ALT 200). The unit focuses on how African writers from these three corners evaluate, in their imaginative representation of reality, various social, economic and cultural issues that have shaped what might be called the “African Experience”. Significant happenings such as colonisation, independence as well as globalisation will be given prominence.

### **Unit Objectives**

- ❖ To situate African Literature on the world map by studying its origins and subsequent influences.
- ❖ To improve critical competence of African Literature.
- ❖ To interrogate and improve understanding of some of the sensibilities that are unique to the African experience.
- ❖ To expose students to themes and styles commonly found in African Literature.
- ❖ To get an update on the major literary trends in creative writing from Africa.

### **References**

- ✓ Ashcroft, Bill. (1989). *The Empire Writes Back*. New York: Routledge.
- ✓ Bhabha, Homi. (1994). *The Location of Culture*. New York: Routledge.
- ✓ Gikandi, Simon. (1987). *Reading the African Novel*. Portsmouth: Heinemann.
- ✓ Ngara, Emmanuel. (1985). *Art and Ideology in the African Novel: A study*. London: Heinemann.
- ✓ OlaniyanTejumola and AtoQuayson (Eds). (2007) *African Literature: An Anthology of Criticism and Theory*. New Jersey: Wiley-Blackwell.

