

**PAPER IV : SHAKESPEARE**

**OBJECTIVES :**

To give the student a firsthand knowledge of the plays of Shakespeare.

To provide the student with a knowledge of the social and intellectual background to the author and his works and to help him understand Shakespeare as a product of his age and socio-cultural conditions.

To draw the attention of the student to the language of Shakespeare's plays, his images, his word-play and his original and creative use of language.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION :**

The rise of the drama in England and the growth of the theatre. The development of 'Tragedy' and 'Comedy' – The influence of popular tastes and preferences on the contemporary stage – Elizabethan theatre and stage conditions.

The classification of Shakespeare's plays both chronological and generic – Tragedies, Comedies, Tragi comedies, Problem plays and Romances.

Shakespeare criticism – The major trends from the beginnings- Eighteenth and Nineteenth century criticism – The Bradleyan approach. The trends set by critics like Raleigh, Dowden, Hudson, Granville Barker, Dover Wilson, Wilson Knight, Wolfgang Clemen, Caroline Spurgeon – Textual criticism – Current trends involving the structuralist, existentialist and linguistic approaches.

Unit I	Hamlet
Unit II	Henry IV Part – I
Unit III	Tempest
Unit IV	Measure for Measure Twelfth Night

Unit V	<b>GENERAL SHAKESPEARE</b>
	The age of Shakespeare
	Shakespeare's Theatre and Audience
	Schools of Shakespeare Criticism
	Shakespeare As a Sonneteer
	Shakespeare As a narrative poet
	Shakespeare Canon and Typology