

Semester VI: Courses in English

A.ENG.6.01: Poetry from the Pre-Romantics to the Pre-Raphaelites

A.ENG.6.02: Twentieth Century Fiction and Drama

A.ENG.6.03: Tales of the City (Applied Component)

A.ENG.6.04: English Drama from Marlowe to Sheridan

A.ENG.6.05: Approaches to Popular Culture

A.ENG.6.06: Literature and the Self in Modernist European Writing (Applied Component)

T.Y. B.A. A.ENG.6.01

Title: Poetry from the Pre-Romantics to the Pre-Raphaelites

Objectives: To acquaint the students with the main currents in nineteenth century English poetry through close readings of illustrative poems from the pre-Romantics to the pre-Raphaelites, in the context of changing historical, social, intellectual and aesthetic concerns, and by relating them to relevant expressions in other art forms.

Number of Lectures: 60

Topics:

I The change in sensibility from the neo-classical to the Romantic; the influence of Rousseau, the American and French Revolutions and the Industrial Revolution; the characteristics of Romantic and Victorian poetry (6 lectures)

II Precursors to the Romantics: Gray, Collins, Cowper (3 lectures)

Early Romantic Poets: Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge (12 lectures)

Additional Readings: Wordsworth: *Preface to the Lyrical Ballads* Coleridge: From *Biographia Literaria*, On Fancy and Imagination

III. Later Romantic Poets: Shelley, Keats, Byron (12 lectures)

Additional Readings: Shelley: From *A Defence of Poetry* Peacock: *The Four Ages of Poetry* Keats: From *Selected Letters*

IV. Major Victorian Poets: Tennyson, Browning, Arnold (15 lectures)

Additional Reading: Arnold: *The Study of Poetry*

Hopkins (6 lectures)

Other Victorian Poets: (6 lectures)

Women poets: Emily Bronte, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Christina Rossetti

The Pre-Raphaelites

CIA 1 – Topic I

CIA 2 – Presentations/ Assignments

Recommended Reference Books:

Daiches, David: *A Critical History of English literature* (vol 4.)

Ford, Boris: *The Pelican Guide to English Literature* (vol. 5 and 6)

The Cambridge Companion Series

The Casebook series

Abrams, M.H., *The Mirror and the Lamp*

Armstrong, Isobel: *Victorian Poetry: Poetry, Poetics and Politics*

Bowra, Maurice: *The Romantic Imagination*

Hughes, Linda K. *The Cambridge Introduction to Victorian Poetry*

Read, Herbert: *The True Voice of Feeling*

T.Y. B.A. A.ENG.6.02

Title: Twentieth Century Fiction and Drama

Objectives: To acquaint the students with the main trends in twentieth century fiction and drama in the context of changing historical, social, intellectual and aesthetic concerns and by relating them to relevant expressions in other art forms.

Number of Lectures: 60

Topics:

I Fiction:

A survey of the major trends: the psychological novel (Henry James, Conrad, Lawrence, Forster); stream of consciousness (Joyce, Woolf); allegorical (Golding); social (Greene, Huxley, Orwell); social realism (Kingsley Amis, Sillitoe, Wain, Bradbury); postmodern novels, metafiction, magical realism (John Fowles); Women writers (Doris Lessing, Fay Weldon, Margaret Drabble, A.S.Byatt, Jeanette Winterson, Angela Carter) and writers of non-British origin (Timothy Mo, Ishiguro, Hanif Qureshi) (20 lectures)

Additional readings:

Virginia Woolf: Mr. Bennet and Mrs. Brown

David Lodge: The Novelist at the Crossroads

II. Drama:

A survey of the major developments: the Theatre of Ideas and the Problem Play (Shaw); the Social Comedy of Manners in the tradition of Wilde (Terrence Rattigan, Noel Coward); Irish Verse Drama (Synge, Sean O'Casey); Poetic Drama (Eliot, Fry); European (Brecht, Pirandello, Genet, Sartre, Dario Fo) and American influences (O'Neill, Tennessee Williams, Albee) the Theatre of the Absurd (Ionesco, Beckett); Kitchen-sink Drama

(Osborne, Wesker); Theatre of Menace (Pinter); Stoppard.
(20 lectures)

III. Texts for detailed study:

D.H. Lawrence: *Sons and Lovers*

(10 lectures)

IV. Samuel Beckett: *Waiting for Godot* OR

Tom Stoppard: *Rosencrantz and
Guildenstern Are Dead*

(10 lectures)

CIA 1 – Topic I

CIA 2 – Presentations on Topic

Recommended Reference Books:

Daiches, David: *A Critical History of English Literature* (vol. 4)

Ford, Boris: *The Pelican Guide to English Literature* (vol. 7 and 8)

The Cambridge Companion Series

Cox and Dyson: *The Twentieth Century Mind* Vols. 1, 2 and 3

Daiches, David: *The Modern Age*

Esslin, Martin: *The Theatre of the Absurd*

Fraser G.S: *The Modern Writer and his world* Taylor

John Russell: *Anger and After*

T.Y. B.A. A.ENG.6.03 (Applied Component)

Title: Tales of the City

Learning Objectives: To examine literature and films that record the urban experience in all its facets, not only the excitement, velocity and freedom of city life, but also its darker side marked by loneliness, alienation and a host of individual and social constraints.

Number of Lectures: 60

Topics:

I. An introduction to modern urban culture: socio-political realities; aspects of modernism; manifestations of capitalism; the city as a construct of the imagination; romanticized as the fulfilment of aspirations; isolation and freedom (3 lectures)

Case study: nineteenth-century Paris as the epitome of the modern metropolis; the concept of the *flaneur* (3 lectures)

Readings: Selections from Baudelaire, *Les Fleurs du Mal* and *The Painter of Modern Life*

Walter Benjamin, "On Some Motifs in Baudelaire" in *Illuminations*

Burton Pike, "The City as Image"

George Simmel, "The Metropolis and Mental Life"

II A . The city in literature: (8 lectures)

Readings from Dickens *Oliver Twist*, Conrad *The Secret Agent*, Joyce *Ulysses/ Dubliners*, Orhan Pamuk *Istanbul*, Orwell, *Down and Out in Paris and London*

II B Crime and the City: (10 lectures) Readings: Sherlock Holmes, Raymond Chandler, Noir Anthologies, Films: Chinatown, Taxi Driver, Rear Window, Run Lola Run

III A . The cinematic city: (8 lectures) Representations of Mumbai and Kolkata, Films: Manhattan, Roman Holiday, Midnight in Paris, Chunking Express

III B Modern and postmodern film dystopias: (6 lectures) Films: Metropolis, Blade Runner

III C. Life on the margins: (7 lectures) Films: City of God, Padre Nuestro, Boyz n the Hood, Saturday Night Fever

CIA 1 -- Test on topic I

CIA 2 -- Assignment: Narratives of Mumbai or any Indian city

Recommended Reference Books:

Clarke, David (ed.), *The Cinematic City*

Frisby, David: *Cityscapes of Modernity: Critical Explorations*

Kaarsholm, Preben (ed.): *City Flicks: Indian Cinema and the Urban Experience*

Leach, Neil (ed.), *The Hieroglyphics of Space: Reading and Experiencing the Modern Metropolis*

Legates, Richard T. & Frederic Stout: *The City Reader*: Majumdar, Rajani: *Bombay Cinema* Parker

Simon: *Urban Theory and Urban Experience: Encountering the City*

T.Y. B.A. A.ENG.6.04

Title: English Drama from Marlowe to Sheridan

Learning Objectives: To provide a historical survey of English drama from Shakespeare to Sheridan in the context of the socio-political, cultural and intellectual background of the period from 1550 to 1750.

Number of lectures: 60

Topics:

I A. Overview: (8 lectures)

- a. Elizabethan Drama: the Native tradition: Mystery, Miracle, Morality Plays, the Interludes; the Classical influence; the theatre in Shakespeare's day
- b. The Jacobean Mood: the Malcontent, the closing of the theatres
- c. Restoration Drama: The re-opening of theatres after the Interregnum, Comedy of Wit, Heroic and blank verse tragedy
- d. Sentimental Drama and the revival of laughter on the stage

I B. Discussion of representative plays by Lyly, Kyd, Jonson, Webster, Tourneur, Middleton, Congreve, Wycherly, Dryden, Etherege, Goldsmith (15 lectures)

II. Texts for detailed study: Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus* OR Webster: *The Duchess of Malfi* (12 lectures)

III. Text for detailed study: Shakespeare, *Hamlet* OR *A Winter's Tale* (15 lectures)

IV. Text for detailed study: Sheridan, *The School for Scandal* OR Goldsmith: *She Stoops to Conquer* (10 lectures)

CIA 1 – Topic I A

CIA 2 – Presentations/ Assignments: Topic I B

Recommended Reference Books:

David Daiches, *A Critical History of English Literature* (vol. 4)

Ford, Boris: *The Pelican Guide to English Literature* (vols. 7 and 8)

The Cambridge Companion Series

The Casebook Series

Bradbrook, M.C: *The Growth and Structure of Elizabethan Comedy; Themes and Conventions in Elizabethan Tragedy*

Ellis, Fermor- Una: *Jacobean Tragedy*

Loftis, John: *Restoration Drama*

Nicoll, Allardyce: *World Drama*

T.Y. B.A. A.ENG.6.05

Title: *Approaches to Popular Culture*

Learning Objectives: To examine the major theories of popular culture and apply them to the study of selected cultural texts.

Number of Lectures: 60

Topics:

I. Definition of popular culture, in relation to high and low culture, folk and mass culture (6 lectures)

I B. The Culture and Civilization school – Matthew Arnold and Leavis (6 lectures)

II A. The Mass Culture debate, Americanization and the critique of mass culture, the Frankfurt School and the culture industry (5 lectures)

II B. Marxism and ideology – Gramsci, Althusser (4 lectures)

III. Gender Studies (4 lectures) Applications: the representation of gender on television; romance, chick-lit, in fiction and film (4 lectures)

IV. A. Structuralism and genre theory (4 lectures) Applications: popular narrative genres in fiction and film: detective, thrillers, fairy tales, fantasy, science fiction, action, comics (6 lectures)

IV B. Postmodernism – Lyotard, Baudrillard, Jameson (6 lectures)

Recommended Reference Books:

Ashley, Bob (ed.), *Reading Popular Narrative: A Sourcebook*

Berger A.A.: *Narratives*

Easthope, Anthony: *Literary into Cultural Studies*

Fiske, John: *Television Culture*

Hall, Stuart (ed.), *The Cultural Studies Reader*

McCracken, Scott: *Pulp*

Storey, John: *An Introduction to Cultural Theory and Popular Culture*

Strinati, Dominic: *An Introduction to Theories of Popular Culture*

T.Y. B.A A.ENG.6.06 (Applied Component)

Title: Literature and the Self in Modernist European Writing

Learning Objectives: To examine critically the construction of the self in modernist European literature, to question the assumptions and biases of such constructions, and to explore other modes and manifestations of the self.

Number of Lectures: 60

Topics:

I. Introduction: A discussion of essential questions such as What is `the self` and what is `subjectivity`? How are identity and self-identity produced in different historical periods, and in different social and cultural contexts? How do these issues impact "writing the self"? The philosophical and psychological aspects of such questions. These discussions will form the critical perspective for the readings and texts for detailed study.

(6 lectures)

I B. A brief look at traditional writings about the self, namely autobiography and life writings (letters, memoirs, diaries), and the kind of selfhood that writers have been able to construct for themselves, using notions of subjectivity and identity, in the modern period.

Readings from:

(15 lectures)

Dostoevsky, *Notes From the Underground*

Oscar Wilde, *De Profundis*

James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*

Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*

Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*

Luigi Pirandello, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*

Arthur Koestler, *Darkness at Noon*

Jean-Paul Sartre, *No Exit*

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

The Diaries of Anais Nin

Andre Gide: Journal

II. Texts For Detailed Study:

1. Short story Kafka, *The Metamorphosis* (6 lectures)

2. Jean Anouilh, *Antigone* (6 lectures)

III. Text for Detailed Study:

Novella: Albert Camus, *The Outsider* (10 lectures)

CIA 1- Topic 1 A

CIA 2- Assignments/Presentations

As the semester progresses, the student is expected to gain an understanding of ideas and modes of self-construction and of `writing the self`, to view them critically, and to interrogate the transhistorical, universal assumptions of modernist Western selfhood. For the final term paper the student could then consider writings about the self produced in any period or place, by exploring the questions of identity, self-construction, self-possession, gender, memory and narrative that they raise.

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR 4.02 *ONLY*.

Ashcroft, Bill, Gareth Griffiths, Helen Tiffin (ed.): *The Empire Writes Back*

Boehmer, Elleke: *Colonial and Postcolonial Literature*

Das, Bijay Kumar: *Postmodern Indian English Literature*

Jain, Jasbir: *The Writers of Indian Diaspora*

King, Bruce (ed.): *New National and Postcolonial Literatures: An Introduction*

Wilson, Emmanuel, *Reworlding the Literature of the American Diaspora*

Bigsby, C.W.E., *Twentieth Century American Drama Vol. 1 and Vol. 2*

Cunliffe, Marcus (ed.), *American Literature since 1900 (The Penguin History of Literature vol. 9)*

Ford, Boris (ed.), *The New Pelican Guide to English Literature, vol. 9, American Literature*

The Norton Anthology of American Literature

Devy, *After Amnesia*