

Department of English Literature

MA Courses

Course Title	Contemporary Critical Theory
Course Code	LIT 802 (Core Course that meets the requirement of rubric 8: Literary Theory and Criticism)
Semester	Semester IV (January-May 2023)
Class Timings	Wednesday, 4.00-6.00pm (Prof. Mousumi Guha Banerjee) Thursday, 2.00-4.00 pm (2.30 pm to 4.30pm) Prof. Jibu Mathew George
No. of credits	5
Name(s) of Faculty Member(s)	Prof. Jibu Mathew George Prof. Mousumi Guha Banerjee
Course Description	<p>The history of literary studies over the centuries has witnessed a transition from interpreting and evaluating literary works and authors, an endeavour captured in an approximate form by the term “literary criticism,” to doing theory as a self-reflexive enterprise in itself. As a meta-cultural exercise, contemporary critical theory deals with assumptions and concepts that underlie the production, reception, and understanding of literary and cultural texts as also definition and constitution of literature/culture. More importantly, critical theory, with its interdisciplinary engagements, involves a fundamental rethinking surrounding the subject, history, society, language, and ideology.</p> <p>The course aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) offer a survey of the major schools of twentieth and twenty-first century literary theory; 2) help students gain a critical awareness of the continuity of ideas in the history of criticism, as well as the gradual displacement of once-revered concepts; 3) introduce students to the ideological debates surrounding key concepts in theory; and 4) help students acquaint themselves with the larger world view, and changes thereof, behind theoretical writings. <p>The course is divided into four modules:</p> <p>Module 1 Salient Features of Twentieth-Century Literary Theory, Function of Theory in Literary Research, Hermeneutics, Formalism, Structuralism</p> <p>Module 2 Ideology, Marxism and Post-Marxism, Cultural Materialism, Frankfurt School, Dialogism</p> <p>Module 3 Post-Structuralism, Deconstruction, Psychoanalysis and Psychoanalytic</p>

	<p>Literary Criticism, Feminism, Gender Theory, New Historicism, Postcolonial Theory</p> <p>Module 4 Reader Response Theory, Reception Aesthetics, Genetic Criticism, Intertextuality, History as Literary Artefact</p> <p>Essential Readings 1) Selden, Ramon, Peter Widdowson, and Peter Brooker. <i>A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory</i>. Harlow: Pearson Longman, 2005. 2) Culler, Jonathan D. <i>Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997. 3) Eagleton, Terry. <i>Literary Theory: An Introduction</i>. 2nd ed. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 1996.</p> <p>Suggested Readings 1) Leitch, Vincent B., et al, ed. <i>The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism</i>. New York, NY: Norton, 2018 (Selections). 2) Mongia, Padmini, ed. <i>Contemporary Postcolonial Theory: A Reader</i>. New York: Arnold, 2009 (Selections). 3) Warhol, Robyn R. and Diane Price Herndl, ed. <i>Feminism: An Anthology of Literary Theory and Criticism</i>. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1997 (Selections). 4) Rivkin, Julie and Michael Ryan, ed. <i>Literary Theory: An Anthology</i>. Oxford: Blackwell, 2002 (Selections). 5) Culler, Jonathan D. <i>On Deconstruction: Theory and Criticism after Structuralism</i>. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1982. 6) Parker, Robert Dale, ed. <i>Critical Theory: A Reader for Literary and Cultural Studies</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014 (Selections). 7) Deppman, Jed, Daniel Ferrer, and Michael Groden, ed. <i>Genetic Criticism: Texts and Avant-Textes</i>. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004 (Selections).</p>
Evaluation Scheme	The evaluation consists of <i>two midterm assignments</i> (each with 20% weightage) and an end-of-semester <i>research paper</i> on a topic decided in consultation with the course instructors (60% weightage).

Dr. Jai Singh

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Course Title	INDOLOGY ACROSS TIME AND SPACE: A STUDY OF LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Course Code	LIT 901
Semester	4 th Semester January 2023 to April 2023
No. of Credits	5
Core Course	Core Course for MA in English /MA in English Literature (Core -9) English Literature
Class Hours	Tuesday: 9 am-11 am and Thursday: 9 am-11 am
Link to join WhatsApp Group	https://chat.whatsapp.com/FEUqfZIU9IP66ytlQv92vo
Name of Faculty Member	Dr Jai Singh
Course Description	<p>The Orientalists or Indologists who theorized India belong to three major European countries – Germany, France, and Britain. Intellectually German Orientalists were the major theorists of India and chief among them was Max Muller. The British practiced the Indian reality theorized by the German Orientalists to establish their political, and cultural hegemony, which was necessary for exploitation of this subcontinent. British colonial Indology or Oriental studies, which were in reality dominated by German scholars, took shape and concrete direction after the British came to India. Political motivations have been always dominant in the pursuit of Indological studies during the colonial era, right from the outset since the time of Sir William Jones. The British colonial authorities funded both the glorification of Indian religion and condemnation of the same, which is clear from the fact that they funded both Muller and Mill. Müller moved to England in 1846 in order to study Sanskrit texts in the collection of the East India Company. Müller's connections with the East India Company and with Sanskritists based at Oxford University led to a career in Britain, where he eventually became the leading intellectual commentator on the culture of India, which Britain controlled as part of its Empire. The Orientalist scholarship "retrieved" and put into circulation many classical Sanskrit and Persian texts, which reauthorized Indian literature and reaffirmed the significance of an Indian tradition, which was an invention and creation by Indologists. This highly restructured version of the past that emerged in the Orientalist framework restructured the theory and praxis of religion, culture, and literature that undermined the authority of literatures produced across the subcontinent without the tag of Indian and undercut the societies that gave rise to them.</p> <p>This course will introduce major Orientalists who worked on India such as Sir William Jones, August Wilhelm Schlegel, James Mill, Thomas Babington Macaulay, Friedrich Maximilian Muller, Morris Winternitz, Sri S Radhakrishnan, Sri Aurobindo, Swami Dayananda Sarasvati, Vivekananda, and Samuel Huntington and thinkers who challenged these Orientalist concepts such as Said, Aijaz Ahmed. Some of the texts to be studied in this course will be as Edmund Burk's "Speech in the Impeachment of Warren Hastings", Edward Said's <i>Orientalism</i> (some portions), Thomas Maculay's "Minute on Indian Education", Jana Sequoya, "How (!) Is an Indian?: A contest of Stories", Robert Young, "Hybridity and Subaltern Agency", James Mill "The Indian Form of Government", Raymond Schwab "The Asiatic Society of Calcutta", Ronald Inden "Orientalist Construction of India" Shelden Pollock "Indology, Power and the Case of Germany" Richard King "Orientalism, Hinduism and Feminism".</p>
Evaluation Scheme	Total Marks 100 (Internal (Assignments)- 40%) (End Semester Exam (Assignments) -60%)

Course Title	African and Caribbean Literatures
Course Code	LIT9 04
Semester	IV Semester(January 2023 to April 2023)
No. of Credits	5
Class Hours	Monday (02.00 - 04.00 pm) and Wednesday (02.00 - 04.00 pm)
Name of Faculty Member	Dr. Eligedi Rajkumar Prof. Aparna Lanjewar Bose
Course Description	<p>This course offers a survey of the literature produced by African and Caribbean writers. The main objective of this course is to study African, Caribbean literatures, and explore the historical, social, political and cultural contexts of these literatures. It would render a historical perspective on colonization and its aftermath; its impact on the psyche; narratives of cultural nationalism; problems of cultural hegemony; postcolonial ambivalences; migration, diasporic and gendered subjectivities. The course enable students to write research papers in the field of African and Caribbean literatures.</p> <p>Course Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate knowledge of colonial and postcolonial discourses. • Apply this knowledge to understand and appreciate the literatures in one's own culture. • Identify and discuss various issues, and concepts in African and Caribbean Novel, Drama and Short Stories • Develop a critical perspective on African, Caribbean literary texts and writers. • Interpret and Analyze readings across different historical, cultural contexts and genres. • Demonstrate critical reading, and research writing skills in the field of African and Caribbean literatures.
Evaluation Scheme	<p>Mid-semester Assignment – 20% ,</p> <p>Classroom presentation (PPT) – 10% ,</p> <p>Regular participation in classroom discussions – 10%</p> <p>End-semester Term Paper – 60%</p>

Course Title	John Milton's Poetry
Course Code	LIT112
Semester	IV Semster Mondays and Wednesdays (9.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.)
No. of Credits	5
Name of Faculty Member(s)	V. Rajasekhar
Course Description: words (100 words)	<p>The module consists of two parts. During the first part, students will have the opportunity to study about the origin and history of the epic as a literary form from the times of Greek writers. The course will begin with an introduction to Homer and the Oral tradition. Students will study about Epic features with examples from specific texts. Later, students will study about the English Epic and its background with specific reference to Paradise Lost.</p> <p>During the second part, students will be introduced to the other major works of John Milton such as "An Ode on the Morning of Christ's Nativity," "Elegy Written in a Churchyard," some Sonnets, and pamphlets.</p> <p>The module will be taught through the lecture mode. The Instructor will give an introduction to the general historical, and socio cultural background, which will explain the nature of the socio-philosophical thought.</p> <p>The texts will be approached through both comparative studies and individual close readings involving the class.</p> <p>Discussion within the group forms an essential element within this module, and therefore, it is absolutely essential that all class members have read the assigned material before the class commences.</p>
Evaluation Scheme	<p>Internal -40 External-60</p> <p>Internal Assessment, final term paper. Students will have to submit periodical assignments and the course will conclude with an end-of-term paper.</p>