

The English and Foreign Languages University
School of Interdisciplinary Studies
Department of Cultural Studies

M.A. Literary and Cultural Studies Programme
August-November 2024

Courses for Semester – 1

Course Title	Beginner's Guide to Cultural Studies (CORE)
Course Code	MALCSC500
Semester	2024-25 Semester 1 August-November 2024
No. of Credits	5
Day/Time	Tuesday 11am-1pm and Thursday 9-11am
Venue	Room 2, First Floor, New Academic Building
Name of Faculty Member(s)	Dr. ParthasarathiMuthukkaruppan
Course Description: 150/200 words	This course is an introduction to Cultural Studies, an interdisciplinary approach to reading culture and society. Cultural Studies was initially set up as a domain of study in Britain in the 1950s and 1960s. The beginnings of cultural studies in India were located in the context of historical developments in the 1970s and 1980s: the breakup of the Nehruvian consensus and the rise of regional political formations, the crisis in secularism, the growth of new social movements (feminist and Dalit) and the spread of mass media. Around the same period, discussions around the crisis in the Humanities, Historiography and Social sciences and the emergence of Women's Studies, Film Studies and more recently Dalit Studies laid the foundations for a new scholarship outside established disciplinary domains. The course will offer a survey of the key concepts and debates in British cultural studies. It will also introduce the early theories of culture in India and the renewed study of

popular culture as an object of study in contemporary India.

Course Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts and ideas in the field of cultural studies such as theories of discourse, representation, identity and subjectivity
2. Students will demonstrate analytical skills that will enable them to interpret both high and popular cultural texts
3. Students will gain a critical understanding of the mechanisms in which gender, class, caste and other social differences structure relations between people in society
4. Students will gain skills that will help them build careers in teaching, publishing, new media and the NGO sector

Essential Readings for the course:

Introduction

Raymond Williams, "Culture," "A Hundred Years of Culture and Anarchy,"

Stuart Hall, "The Work of Representation",

Madhava Prasad, "Culture" Encyclopedia entry.

Susie Tharu, *Subject to Change: Teaching Literature in the Nineties* (Extracts)

Postcolonial India

Ashish Rajadhyaksha, Introduction to Indian Cinema (Extracts)

SudiptaKaviraj "Indira Gandhi and Indian Politics"

Nivedita Menon and Aditya Nigam, "Introduction: A Genealogy of the 1990s"

Balmurli Natrajan *Culturalization of Caste* (Extracts)

Aravind Rajagopal, Extracts from *Politics After Television*

Popular Culture/ Representation/Identity

Madhava Prasad, Popular Culture, Encyclopaedia entry

Ranjani Mazumdar, "The Bombay Film Poster"

S V Srinivas, "Devotion and Defiance in Fan Activity"

Shahid Amin, "On Representing the Musalman"

William Mazzarella, "Indian Fun: Constructing 'the Indian Consumer' I & II *Shovelling Smoke*

History

Ranajit Guha, "On Some Aspects of the Historiography of Colonial India", Extracts from "The Prose of Counterinsurgency"

Partha Chatterjee, Extracts from "A Brief History of Subaltern Studies"

Kumkum Sangari and Sudesh Vaid, Extracts from "Introduction," *Recasting Women*

Stree Shakti Sanghatana, "Writing about Women in People's Struggles"

Sanal Mohan, "Narrativizing the History of Slave Suffering"

Caste/Gender/Sexuality

Ambedkar, "Ranade, Gandhi and Jinnah"

Kumud Pawde, "The Story of My Sanskrit"

Pandian, *Brahmin and Non-Brahmin* (Extracts)

Amita Tyagi Singh and Patricia Uberoi, "Learning to 'Adjust': Conjugal Relations in Indian Popular Fiction"

Susie Tharu and Tejaswini Niranjana, Extracts from

	<p>“Problems for a Contemporary Theory of Gender”</p> <p>Rinchin, “Querying Marriage and Family” “Section 377”</p>
Evaluation	<p>Active participation in class room discussions (10%)</p> <p>2. Two Short Assignments (20%)</p> <p>3. One oral presentation on one of the topics based on our class room discussions (10%)</p> <p>5. Final paper (10-15 pages) (60%)</p>

Course title	Contemporary Indian Fiction (ELECTIVE)
Category (Mention the appropriate category (a/b/c) in the course description.)	a. Existing course with revision.
Course code	MALCSE502
Semester	I
Semester	August-November 2024
Number of credits	5
Maximum intake	30. This course is designed for Semester 1 students of the MA LCS and MA LLMC programmes. Students registered for these programmes will be given preference in case of excess registration.
Day/Time	Monday 11 am-1 pm; Thursday 2 pm-4 pm
Venue	Room 2, First Floor, New Academic Building
Name of the teacher/s	Prof. Satish Poduval
Course description	<p>Course Overview and Objectives:</p> <p>This course seeks to familiarize you with some of the key texts and tendencies in the field of contemporary Indian fiction. We will read a selection of literary texts and debates that have firmed up ideas about “Indian” ways of thinking and living together, and draw on relevant discussions from other fields of study—in particular: political economy, urban studies, and social anthropology. Careful textual analysis of literary works will be supplemented with a trans-disciplinary exploration of India as a modern republic and as a sign-system.</p>

	<p>The course will comprise of three modules. The first module (“Orientations”) will focus on the conceptual horizons within which India has been imagined/actualized. The second module (“Temporalities”) will engage with questions of historicity through a focus on the <i>pedagogic</i> and the <i>performative</i> dimensions of national politics. The final module (“Spatialities”) will explore contemporary re-imaginings of India from the centre as well as interstices/margins of the nation.</p> <p>The overall aim is to enable the student to grapple with what Foucault terms the regularities and discontinuities which hinge the actual and the imagined configuration named India.</p> <p>More than 20% of the fictional and critical essays discussed will be different from the last time this course was taught in 2022.</p> <p>Course Outcomes: At the end of the course, students will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Have a fairly deep familiarity with important literary texts and debates in post-1980s India; b) Be able to analyse and respond to recent Indian short-stories and novels with a grounding in contemporary literary and cultural theory; c) Be able to associate the interpretation of fictional texts to the contexts or horizons of making sense; d) Learn to write book reviews and literary essays for publication.
Course delivery	<p>The instructor will introduce and initiate discussions on most of the readings during the first half of the course, which will primarily be in Lecture mode.</p> <p>The students will be expected to make short classroom presentations on pre-chosen texts during the second half of the course, which will primarily be in Seminar mode.</p>
Evaluation scheme	<p>Course Evaluation: There will be a continuous assessment of student performance on the basis of a range of Mid-Term and End-Term tasks.</p> <p>The Mid-Term evaluation will be worth 40 % of the course grade, and be based on the best two scores obtained in the following three tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Assignment 1 (early September) 20 marks (ii) Assignment 2 (early October) 20 marks (iii) Assignment 3 (early November) 20 marks <p>The End-Term evaluation will be worth 60 % of the course grade, and be based on the score obtained in the Final Examination:</p>

	(iv) Final Examination (December) 60 marks
Reading list	<p>Primary Texts: We will discuss a wide range of fictional texts during the semester, including those by: Amitav Ghosh, Mahasweta Devi, Vikram Chandra, Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar, Madhuri Vijay, Anand (P. Sachidanandan), Imayam, Janice Pariat, Urooj, Nisha Susan, Manjula Padmanabhan, Tanuj Solanki, Ajay Navaria, Rana Dasgupta, N.S. Madhavan, and Aravinda Adiga.</p> <p>Additional reading: Discussion of these texts will draw on relevant essays from contemporary literary and cultural theory.</p>

Course Title	Social Theory, Knowledge and Society in India (ELECTIVE)
Course Code	MALCSE516
Semester	August 2024 to December 2024 1 st semester
No. of Credits	5
Day/Time	Monday 2-4 PM and Thursday 4-6 pm
Venue	Room 2, First Floor, New Academic Building
Name of Faculty Member(s)	Dr. Prashant Kumar Kain
Course Description: words (100 words)	<p>Knowledge is a continuous and life long process of learning, unlearning and relearning. As human beings evolve, their perceptions and perspectives about reality change constantly. Knowledge and knowledge production processes have also evolved historically. The philosophic discourses, colonial processes, industrialisation, developments in science, and technology have played an important role in determining the nature, forms and notions of knowledge.</p> <p>Social theories are epistemological tools that provide us perspectives and approaches to see and interpret reality(ies). These engage with history, social beliefs and politics to understand the political determination of human conditioning and subjectivity. Culture becomes an important site and area for determination of human thought and relationships.</p> <p>This course is designed to critically look and trace the developments that shaped up the knowledge production processes and its application across time and space. It intends to introduce the students to the wide range of philosophical, theoretical and</p>

	<p>methodological questions, concerns and issues both nationally and globally. There will be extensive review of literature on the basic approaches, perspectives and themes as these are related to Indian society.</p> <p>This course will be useful to those students who wish to know more about the social theory, history, philosophy and sociology of knowledge, critical theory and methodology, social movements etc.</p>
<p>Evaluation Scheme</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Course Modules</p>	<p>Internal – 40 percent Assignment I (20 percentage) - one term paper of 1500 words or classroom sit in exam Assignment II (20 percentage) - class room presentation on selected theme</p> <p>External- 60 percent Final end semester fixed time sit in written exam</p> <p>75% attendance is mandatory and punctuality will be marked Class room participation is encouraged and appreciated</p> <p>PART I: KNOWLEDGE AND SOCIETY Module 1: Theory and society Module 2: History and knowledge Module 3 Introduction to the Basic Concepts related to social theory</p> <p>PART II: SOCIAL THEORY: ROOTS AND APPROACHES Module 4: Positivism Module 5: Interpretive Module 6: Conflict theories Module 7: Critical theory</p> <p>PART III: KNOWLEDGE AND SOCIETY IN INDIA Module 8: Culture and Society in India Module 9: Phenomenological Description of Contemporary India Module 10: State, Democracy, Politics and Representation</p>

Courses for Semester – 3

Course title	Research Methods and Academic Writing (CORE)
Course code	MALCSC698
Category (Mention the appropriate category (a/b/c) in the course description.)	Core Course (Existing course with 80 % percentage revision)
Semester	III
Number of credits	5
Maximum intake	30
Day/Time	Tuesday (4pm to 6pm) & Thursday (11am to 1pm)
Name of the teacher/s	Dr. Venkatesh Vaditya
Course description	<p>This introductory course on research takes off from a delineation of the socio-political context in which human sciences evolved as a distinguished feature from the natural sciences. This course aims to understand socio-economic realities through cultural mediation as cultural practices have a propensity to play an important role in consolidating social classes. The methodological projects in the discipline are structured around the dominant interests of lived experience, discourses or texts and social contexts. The other aspects that are covered in the course are an introduction to the basic terms of research, and the socially embedded and inherently plural and contested nature of the knowledge-enterprise. The section on methods will introduce students to the different research methods mainly, but not exclusively the qualitative research as central modes of doing research in cultural studies – critical ethnographic, interpretive, participatory, archival method etc. As part of this course, the students are expected to define broad areas of their M.A. projects and finalize their dissertation topics.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Course Outcomes</p> <p>After completing this course successfully, the students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will demonstrate knowledge about historical trajectories of knowledge production both in the West and in India. Apart from that, they will be introduced to the context of the rise of human sciences in comparison with the ‘natural’ sciences. 2. Students will be able to evaluate and understand the different goals

	<p>of human sciences including descriptive, normative explanation, prediction, justification & transformation, functions of knowledge: dominance and resistance dimensions.</p> <p>3. The course establishes a broader understanding of the general and particular contexts of (re)production, circulation and of knowledge of the human world in the concrete socio-cultural context of India.</p> <p>4. Students will be introduced to the differential meaning of qualitative and quantitative methods, their role in human sciences particularly in varied cultural contexts, and the problems involved in the use of these methods.</p> <p>5. Students will gain background knowledge of the theme of research, Writing research/project proposal, formulation of research questions, finding resources (literary, oral, visual, electronic), review of literature etc.</p>
Course delivery	Lecture cum Seminar Mode. Class Presentations by the course participants
Evaluation scheme	<p>Internal (modes of evaluation):</p> <p>1. Written exam, Class presentation on selected topics, Research design presentation (Internal 40%: 3 internal tests x 20 marks each (2 best out of 3 will be considered. 40 marks)</p> <p>End-semester (mode of evaluation):</p> <p>2. M.A. project proposal submission(3000-4000 words)----60% (60 marks)</p>
Reading list	Essential readings

- Belsey, Catherine. "9. Textual Analysis as a Research Method". *Research Methods for English Studies*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2013, pp. 160-178. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9780748683444-010>
- Chatterjee, Partha. "17. A Brief History of Subaltern Studies (1998)". *Empire and Nation: Selected Essays*, New York Chichester, West Sussex: Columbia University Press, 2010, pp. 289-301. <https://doi.org/10.7312/chat15220-019>.
- Dirks, Nicholas. *Castes of Mind - Colonialism & the Making of Modern India*, Chapert-3: "Ethnographic State", Princeton University Press, 2001.
- Geertz, Clifford, "Thick Description: Towards an Interpretive Theory of Culture", in *Interpretation of Cultures: Selected Essays*, New York, Basic Books, 1973.
- Graff, Gerald, and Cathy Birkenstein.. "*TheySay/I Say*": *The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*. W.W. Norton & Company, 2014.
- Kannabiran, Vasantha and K. Lalitha. "That Magic Time: Women in the Telangana People's Struggle".
- Kaviraj, Sudipta. "Why is the Mirror Cracked?" *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, vol. 33 no. 3, 2013, p. 380-391.
- Letherby, Gayle. *Feminist Research in Theory and Practice*, Open University Press, 2003, Chapet-2: United we stand? The feminist reconstruction of knowledge, Chapet-5: Whose life is it anyway? Issues of power, empowerment, ethics and responsibility.
- MLA Handbook*. Ninth Edition. The Modern Language Association of North America, 2021.
- Mohan, Sanal. "Narrativising Oppression and Suffering: Theorizing Slavery", *South Asia Research*, vol. 26 no.1, 2006, pp.5-40.
- Pickering, Michael. Capter-10: "Engaging with History", *Research Methods for Cultural Studies*, Michael Pickering (Ed) Edinburgh University Press, 2008, pp. 193-213.
- Pink, Sarah. Chapter-7: "Analysing Visual Experience" *Research Methods for Cultural Studies*, Michael Pickering (Ed), Edinburgh University Press, 2008, pp. 125-149.
- Richard Johnson, Deborah Chambers, Parvati Raghuram and Estella Tincknell. *The Practice of Cultural Studies*, Chapter-3: "Method and the researching self", Sage, 2004.
- Steedman, Carolyn. "2. Archival Methods". *Research Methods for English Studies*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2013, pp. 18-31. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9780748683444-003>.
- Thomas, Qwul'sih'yah'maht Robina Anne, Chapter-9: "Honouring The Oral Traditions of My Ancestors Through Storytelling" in *Research as Resistance: Critical, Indigenous & Anti-Oppressive Approaches*, Brown, Lesley & Susan Strega (eds), Canadian Scholars Press Inc, 2005, pp. 237-254.
- Tripura Bishwaranjan*. "Decolonizing Ethnography and Tribes in India: Toward an Alternative Methodology", *Frontiers in Political Science*, vol. 5, 2023. doi: 10.3389/fpos.2023.1047276
- Van Dijk, Teun, Principles of Critical Discourse Analysis, *Discourse & Society*, Vol (4) 2, 1993, pp 249-283.
- Whitehead, Tony L, *What is Ethnography, Methodological, Ontological & Epistemological Attributes*, EICCARS Working Papers, 2004.
- Wilson, Shawn, *Research is Ceremony: Indigenous Research Methods*, Fernwood Publishing Company, 2009.

Course title	Dalit and Black Literatures: Reading Caste and Race (ELECTIVE)
Category (Mention the appropriate category (a/b/c) in the course description.)	Elective Course. Existing course with revision. 40 % percentage revision.
Course code	MALCSE601
Semester	III (Aug-Nov 2024)
Number of credits	5
Maximum intake	30 (MA III semester students only)
Day/Time	Tue2pm-4 pm; Friday 11am-1pm
Name of the teacher/s	Prof. K. Satyanarayana
Course description	<p>The aim of this course is to read the forging of categories of caste and/as race in Dalit and African American literatures and the historical conversations and comparisons between caste and racial oppression. Beginning with a brief survey of the historical conversations between the Black Panthers and the Dalit Panthers, the course introduces some selected scholarly and literary debates on caste and race and analyses the intersections of caste and race. It will cover a range of themes such as racial/caste identities, Afro-Dalit solidarity, literary representation of Dalit and Black lives and the questions of identity and equality. Selections of seminal texts and debates from Dalit and African literary and cultural movements are included for discussion.</p> <p>Course Outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts and ideas in Dalit and Black writing and thinking. 2. Students will demonstrate analytical skills that will enable them to compare caste and racial oppression. 3. Students will gain a critical understanding of race, class, caste, gender and other social differences in India and the USA.
Course delivery	Lecture cum Seminar Mode. Class Presentations by course participants
Evaluation scheme	1. Internal Assignments (40%) 2. Final Examination (60%)

	Attendance is compulsory. Students are expected to initiate discussion on one of the assigned readings by highlighting key questions and issues.
Reading list	<i>Reading list will be distributed in the first class.</i>

Course title	Introduction to Michel Foucault (ELECTIVE)
Category (Mention the appropriate category (a/b/c) in the course description.)	Elective Course. Existing course with revision. 70 % percentage revision.
Course code	MALCSE662
Semester	III
Number of credits	5
Maximum intake	30 (on first-come-first-served-basis for MA III semester students only)
Day/Time	Wednesday 11 am—1 pm; Friday 2—4 pm
Name of the teacher/s	Dr. Uma Maheswari Bhrugubanda
Course description	<p>Michel Foucault is one of the most influential thinkers of the last century and his work continues to be significant in contemporary times too. He is read across the humanities and social sciences because he has shaped a new perspective on a range of fields—modernity, history, medicine, law, sexuality, society and culture. His ground-breaking work has shifted the way we understand concepts like “power”, “knowledge”, “truth”, “subjectivity” and “ethics” and has introduced new concepts like “bio-politics” and “governmentality” This course introduces students to some key texts written by Foucault which will help us understand his most important ideas and concepts. Alongside these, we will read some useful critical introductions to his work which will help us grasp the context in which he wrote, the modes of thinking he was critiquing, and who his main interlocutors were. Towards the end of the course, we will reflect on the ways in which Foucault’s work has shaped the thinking of Indian scholars and also explore how it might help our class in undertaking contemporary social and cultural analysis.</p> <p>Course Outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental

	<p>concepts and ideas in Michel Foucault's work</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Students will gain a critical understanding of the ways in which Foucault's scholarship shapes and informs the work of many contemporary thinkers and writers. 3. Students will demonstrate analytical skills that will enable them to use Foucault's ideas to rethink and reinterpret society and culture. 4. Students will gain skills in close reading and critical thinking as well as class presentation that will prepare them for teaching at the post-graduate level 5. The course will equip them to undertake for further research in the field of cultural studies and other fields like gender studies, media studies, heritage studies.
Course delivery	Lecture cum Seminar Mode. Class Presentations by course participants
Evaluation scheme	<p>Internal 40%: 3 internal tests x 20 marks each (2 best out of 3 will be considered). 40 marks</p> <p>End-semester 60% : End term assignment on topic decided in consultation with the instructor. 60 marks</p>
Reading list	<p>Essential reading:</p> <p>Lisa Downing. <i>The Cambridge Introduction to Michel Foucault</i></p> <p>Lois McNay. <i>Foucault: A Critical Introduction</i></p> <p>Select Essays from Paul Rabinow and Nikolas Rose ed. <i>The Essential Foucault: Selections from Essential Works of Foucault, 1954-1984</i></p> <p>“What is an Author?”</p> <p>“Truth and Power”</p> <p>“Lives of Infamous Men”</p> <p>“What is Critique?”</p> <p>“On the Genealogy of Ethics: An Overview of Work in Progress”</p> <p>“The Subject and Power”</p> <p>“The Birth of Biopolitics”</p> <p>“On the Concept of the ‘Dangerous Individual’ in Nineteenth Century Legal Psychiatry”</p> <p>“Nietzsche, Genealogy, History”</p> <p>“Society Must be Defended”</p> <p>Nivedita Menon. “Foucault and Indian Scholarship”</p> <p>Partha Chatterjee. Selections from <i>The Politics of the Governed</i></p> <p>Additional reading:</p>

	<p>Paul Rabinow, ed., The Foucault Reader Gary Gutting, Michel Foucault: A Very Short Introduction Foucault, Power/Knowledge: Selected Interviews etc 1972-77 (edited by Colin Gordon) David Hoy (ed) Foucault: A Critical Reade P. Rabinow (ed) M.Foucault: Ethics, Subjectivity, Truth</p>
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