

M.A. in English – Semester II
Assignments and Course Description 2023
University of Kalyani

[Subject to the approval of the PG Board of Studies in English]

<u>COR 205 ROMANTIC & VICTORIAN (1789-1900): POETRY AND DRAMA</u>					
Unit I Poetry (at least two poets)			Unit II Drama (at least two playwrights)		
Sub-unit I	One long poem or three mid-length poems or ten short poems	STM	Sub-unit I	One full-length play or three one-act plays (by at least two playwrights in case of one-act plays)	STM
Sub-unit II	One long poem or three mid-length poems or ten short poems	STM	Sub-unit II	One full-length play or three one-act plays (by at least two playwrights in case of one-act plays)	STM

<u>COR 206 ROMANTIC & VICTORIAN (1789-1900): FICTION AND NON-FICTIONAL PROSE</u>					
Unit I Fiction (at least two authors)			Unit II Non-fictional prose (at least two authors)		
Sub-unit I	One novel or five short stories	SM	Sub-unit I	One book-length text or three essays or three speeches or three letters	BH
Sub-unit II	One novel or five short stories	SM	Sub-unit II	One book-length text or three essays or three speeches or three letters	BH

<u>COR 207 TWENTIETH CENTURY: POETRY AND DRAMA (1901 TO THE PRESENT)</u>					
Unit I Poetry (at least two poets)			Unit II Drama (at least two playwrights)		
Sub-unit I	One long poem or three mid-length poems or ten short poems	KB	Sub-unit I	One full-length play or three one-act plays (by at least two playwrights in case of one-act plays)	KB
Sub-unit II	One long poem or three mid-length poems or ten short poems	KB	Sub-unit II	One full-length play or three one-act plays (by at least two playwrights in case of one-act plays)	KB

<u>COR 208 -- STRUCTURE OF MODERN ENGLISH, ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING AND STYLISTICS</u>					
Unit I Phonetics, Phonology and English Language Teaching			Unit II Morphology, Syntax and Stylistics		
Sub-unit I	Phonetics & Phonology of English	BH	Sub-unit I	Morphology and Syntax of English	BH
Sub-unit II	English Language Teaching	BH	Sub-unit II	Stylistics	BH

Generic Elective Course (CBCS) --- INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH					
Unit I Poetry and Drama (at least two authors)			Unit II Prose (at least two authors)		
Sub-unit I	One long poem or three mid-length poems or ten short poems	SM	Sub-unit I	One novel or five short stories or three essays or three speeches or three letters	SM
Sub-unit II	One full-length play or three one-act plays (two authors in case of one-act plays)	SM	Sub-unit II	One novel or five short stories or three essays or three speeches or three letters	SM

COR 205 -- ROMANTIC & VICTORIAN (1789-1900): POETRY AND DRAMA

Unit I. Sub-unit I. Poetry

Sagar Taranga Mandal

Course Content: *Hyperion*, John Keats

Topics for discussion:

1. Political resonance and Keats's reading of history
2. Rebellion and Keats's mythic idiom
3. The gothic in *Hyperion*
4. Suffering and speech in *Hyperion*
5. Change and aesthetics in *Hyperion*
6. Miltonic echoes
7. Keats's epic/poetic design
8. Characterisation, imagery

Unit I. Sub-unit II. Poetry

Sagar Taranga Mandal

Course Content: *In Memoriam*, Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Discussions will address but will not necessarily be limited to the following themes:

1. Science and the impact of nineteenth-century evolutionary doctrines
2. *In Memoriam* and the art of mourning
3. *In Memoriam* and the art of writing grief/grievance
4. Patterns of consolation and loss
5. Friendship and marriage
6. Elegiac conventions and ruptures
7. Geology and *In Memoriam*
8. Corpses and specters

A tentative selection of verse sequences will include: 1–8, 9–21, 28–39, 40–49, 78–83, 90–95, 115–124.

Unit II Sub-unit I. Drama

Sagar Taranga Mandal

Course Content: *A Doll's House*, Henrik Ibsen

Topics for discussion:

1. Ibsen and nineteenth-century Norwegian theatre
2. Ibsen's theatrical and architectural metaphors
3. Ibsen's naturalism
4. Ibsen's uncanny; *Unheimlich* and the space of the bourgeois home
5. Ibsen's play of economies and habits
6. Productions of *A Doll's House*
7. Characterization, images, plot

Preferred translations:

1. Ibsen, Henrik. *A Doll's House*. Translated by Michael Meyer. Edited by Non and Nick Worrall (New Delhi: Bloomsbury, 2015)
2. Ibsen, Henrik. *A Doll's House*. Translated by Peter Watts. Edited by Krishna Sen (New Delhi: Pearson Longman, 2006).

Unit II Sub-unit II. Drama

Sagar Taranga Mandal

Course Content: *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, George Bernard Shaw

Discussions will address the following topics:

8. Shavianism and art
9. Prostitution and propaganda
10. Class, morality, and the "New Woman"
11. The working woman and the market
12. The working woman and leisure/culture
13. Intergenerational conflict
14. Characterization, images, plot

COR 206 --- ROMANTIC & VICTORIAN (1789-1900): FICTION AND NON-FICTIONAL PROSE

Unit I. Fiction

Sharmila Majumdar

Unit I. Sub-unit I.

Course Content:

Jane Austen

Mansfield Park

Topics for discussion not necessarily restricted to the ones mentioned below:

The British social system and the theme of social mobility

Characters and roles of Fanny Price, Mary Crawford, Mrs. Norris and Bertram brothers

Wit and humour

The Antigua Plantation and colonialism

Unit I. Sub-unit II.

Emily Bronte

Wuthering Heights

Topics for discussion not necessarily restricted to the ones mentioned below:

Narrative technique

The Setting

Imagery

Plot

Dream sequences

Heathcliff- a hero or an anti-hero

Treatment of the theme of love

Important characters

Unit II. Non-fictional Prose

Baisali Hui

Course Description

The course focuses on the development and growth of prose writing in England during the 19th century taking into consideration the socio-economic and literary-philosophical contexts of the era.

The course includes a variety of prose texts across the century dealing with subject matters ranging from literature and literary assessment to personal/objective perceptions on life, society and the world.

Unit II Sub-unit I.

Course Content: *Preface to Lyrical Ballads* by William Wordsworth

Course Description: The *Preface* as a non-fictional prose piece produced by one of the most acclaimed poets of the first half of the 19th century exhibits insights on and draws attention to

- (i) The age-old prose-poetry dichotomy existing in the literary scenario—metrical composition vs. prose writing—literature and science
- (ii) The line of development in the nineteenth century theorisation on literature—*Preface* as a defence of the Romantic creed of creativity
- (iii) Poet-poetry-readership interface—the poet’s responsibility to the reader and the society—Wordsworth on criticism and the criticism of *Preface*
- (iv) Wordsworth on language, style form and metre of poetry—challenging the ornate poetic diction, advocating the use of ‘a selection of language really spoken by men’—Wordsworth on language and the language of the *Preface*.
- (v) The interrelation between knowledge, aesthetic pleasure and literature—nuances of imaginative reconstruction of lived experience

Unit II. Sub-unit II.

Course Content: Three essays from the latter half of the 19th century

- (a) “Knowledge Its Own End” by Cardinal Newman
- (b) “Personal Style” by J. A. Symonds
- (c) “On the Modern Element in Literature” by Matthew Arnold

Course Description: The essays will be discussed in light of the socio-cultural and literary atmosphere of the late 19th century and with reference to the following aspects:

- (i) The growth of essay writing in England and the issues involved —subject matter, style, narrative strategy, subjective involvement, social responsibility, fact-fiction dichotomy and the like
- (ii) The need and function of ‘liberal’/ ‘philosophical’ knowledge in the contemporary world—acquiring knowledge for its own sake as the chief aim of university education
- (iii) The varied traits of personal prose style—language use as an index of the personality of the writer—‘style is the man’
- (iv) ‘Modern’ element in literature leading to moral and intellectual deliverance— a survey of literature from the classical times to mark the modern element therein and the need to imbibe it

COR 207 --- TWENTIETH CENTURY: POETRY AND DRAMA (1901 TO THE PRESENT)**Unit I. Sub unit I. Poetry****Kuntal Bag**

Course Content: **W. B. Yeats:** ‘Sailing to Byzantium’, ‘Byzantium’, ‘Coole Park and Ballylee’, ‘Leda and the Swan’. **Philip Larkin:** ‘Church Going’, ‘Next, please’, ‘At Grass’, ‘Ambulances’. **Ted Hughes:** ‘The Thought fox’. **W. H. Auden:** ‘The Shield of Achilles’.

Course Description: The poems will be discussed in relation to their form and content along with the socio-cultural contexts in which they were composed.

Unit I. Sub unit II. Poetry**Kuntal Bag**

Course Content: T. S. Eliot, *The Waste Land*

Course Description: The text will be taught in relation to the following topics:

1. Composition and publication
2. Form
3. Eliot’s use of points of view, allusion, myth and anthropology
4. As a social and cultural critique

Unit II. Sub-Unit I. Drama**Kuntal Bag**

Course Content: Harold Pinter, *Birthday Party*

Course Description: The text will be taught in relation to the following topics:

1. Comedy of Menace
2. Pinter’s style: ‘Words and silence’
3. Theatrical context and sociopolitical dimensions.
4. Character analysis

Unit II. Sub-Unit II. Drama**Kuntal Bag**

Course Content: Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot*

Course Description: The text will be taught in relation to the following topics:

1. European culture and theatre after World War II: Existence on stage
2. Absurdity: Trap(s) of reason and/or of religion
3. Memory, time and space
4. Stagecraft
5. Language: pattern of negativity; all or nothing?

COR 208 --- STRUCTURE OF MODERN ENGLISH, ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING AND STYLISTICS

Unit I. Sub-unit I. Phonetics & Phonology of English

Baisali Hui

Course Content & Course Description:

Organs of speech and speech mechanism—Segmental phonemes of English and their allophonic variations -- Syllable formation and syllable structure -- Suprasegmental features of British RP –Word accent, rhythm and intonation –Connected speech and weak forms – Phonemic transcription

Fluency and accuracy in English pronunciation – Difficulty areas of the Indian learners of English with special reference to Bengali learners – The concept of General Indian English (GIE)

Unit I. Sub-unit II. English Language Teaching

Baisali Hui

Course Content & Course Description:

Principles and problems of language teaching – Theories of language and language acquisition – The Behaviorist, Innatist and Interactionist schools

Language teaching approaches and methods – Grammar-Translation Method, Reform Movement and Direct Method, Audiolingual Approach, Communicative Language Teaching and various other methods

Teaching of English as a second language – The classroom, syllabus and teaching materials, teacher-learner interface, interlanguage and errors, testing and evaluation -- The teaching of English in post-colonial India

Unit II. Sub-unit I. Morphology & Syntax of English

Baisali Hui

Course Content & Course Description:

Notions of grammar, grammaticality and acceptability—Descriptive and prescriptive approaches to language study – Different paradigms of linguistics

Morphology – Morphemes and allomorphs – Derivation and inflection –Morphological analysis –Morphophonemic processes

Syntactic analysis – IC analysis—Basics of Transformational Generative Grammar—the Noun Phrase, Verb phrase and the relationals

Surface structure and deep structure configuration of sentences – *Aspects* model – Linguistic competence and Universal Grammar

Unit II. Sub-unit II. Stylistics

Baisali Hui

Course Content & Course Description:

Theories and strategies of stylistic analysis—Style, context, register – Functions of language and language use – Practical stylistic analysis

Generic Elective Course (CBCS) --- INDIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**Unit I. Sub-unit I. Poetry**

Sharmila Majumdar

Course Content:

K. Ramanujan (1929 – 1993)

- a) On the Death of a Poem
- b) Self-Portrait
- c) Elements of Composition

R. Parthasarathy (1934 -)

- a) The Stones of Bamiyan
- b) Homecoming
- c) Exile
- d) Tamil

Jayanta Mahapatra (1928 -)

- a) Myth
- b) Deaths in Orissa
- c) Traveller

There will be close reading of the poems with reference to the Indian poet's negotiation of an alien tongue and indigenous cultural root; structure, style and language of the poems.

Unit I. Sub-unit II. Drama

Sharmila Majumdar

Course Content: *Silence! The Court is in Session* - Vijay Tendulkar

1. Silence! As a play of social criticism
2. The technique of play within a play
3. As a feminist play
4. Major characters in the play

Unit II. Sub-unit I. Prose

Sharmila Majumdar

Course Content: Five stories from *Malgudi Days* by R. K. Narayan

1. An Astrologer's Day
2. The Missing Mail
3. The Doctor's Word
4. The Tiger's Claw
5. Forty-Five a' Month

Unit II. Sub-unit II. Prose

Sharmila Majumdar

Three Essays

- a) Tagore's Nobel prize acceptance speech
- b) Tryst with Destiny speech – Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) Dancing in Cambodia – Amitav Ghosh