

SYLLABUS

MANONMANIAM SUNDARANAR UNIVERSITY, TIRUNELVELI-12

PG - COURSES – AFFILIATED COLLEGES

Course Structure for

M.A ENGLISH

(Choice Based Credit System)

(with effect from the academic year 2021- 2022 onwards)

Semester-I				
Part	Subject Status	Subject Title	Subject Code	Credit
III	Core	British Poetry	ZEHM11	4
	Core	British Drama	ZEHM12	4
	Core	Indian English Literature – I	ZEHM13	4
	Core	American Literature – I	ZEHM14	4
	Core	African Literature	ZEHM15	4
	Elective	World Literature in Translation	ZEHE11	3

BRITISH POETRY

Scope:

To make the students understand and appreciate poetry as a literary art form.

Objectives:

- To help the students understand the aspects, sub-genres and movements of British Poetry.
- To facilitate the students trace the development of British Poetry chronologically.
- To make the students learn about the literary movements and trends they represent in literary history.

UNIT - I

OLD ENGLISH & RENAISSANCE

Geoffrey Chaucer : The Prologue to the Canterbury Tales.
(In the Beginning, The Wife of Bath)

Edmund Spenser : Prothalamion

Sir. Thomas Wyatt : They Flee from Me



Suggested Reading:

Stephen Greenblatt, Renaissance Self-Fashioning – From More to Shakespeare, University of Chicago Press, 2005.

UNIT – II –

PURITAN, METAPHYSICAL & RESTORATION AGE

John Milton : Paradise Lost Book IX (Lines 1-191)

John Donne : A Valediction Forbidding Mourning.

John Dryden : Mac Flecknoe.

Suggested Reading:

Alastair Fowler, Genre and Tradition by in The Cambridge Companion to English Literature (Chapter 4), C.U.P., 2004.

UNIT – III

PRE-ROMANTIC & ROMANTIC PERIOD

Thomas Gray : Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard

William Wordsworth : Ode on Intimations of Immortality

Samuel Taylor Coleridge : Dejection: An Ode

P. B. Shelley : The Cloud

Suggested Reading:

James Chandler, Maureen N. McLane. The Cambridge Companion to British Romantic Poetry, Cambridge University Press, 2008.

UNIT – IV

PRE-RAPHAELITE & VICTORIAN AGE

Dante Gabriel Rossetti : The Cloud Confines

Alfred Tennyson : Tithonus

Robert Browning : A Grammarian's Funeral

Matthew Arnold: The Scholar Gypsy

Suggested Reading:

Gerard Genette, The Architext: An Introduction, University of California Press, 1992.

UNIT – V

MODERN PERIOD

T.S. Eliot : The Waste Land

Philip Larkin : Church Going

Seamus Heaney : Blackberry Picking

Ted Hughes : Hawk Roosting

Suggested Reading:

David Duff, Modern Genre Theory, Routledge, 1999.

References:

1. Michael Roberts, Faber Book of Modern Verse, Faber & Faber, 1973.
2. Arthur Quiller Couch, ed., The Oxford Book of English Verse (1250 – 1900). Oxford: O.U.P., 1923.



3. Fifteen Poets by Oxford University Press, 2017.
4. Bennett, Joan. Five Metaphysical Poets. C.U.P., 1964.
5. Dyson, A. E and Lovelock, Julian. Milton: Paradise Lost: A casebook. London: The Macmillan Press Limited, 1973. Print.
6. Grierson & Smith, Critical History of English Poetry. London: O.U.P., 1970.
7. Hobsbourn, Philip. Tradition and Experiment in English Poetry. Macmillan, 1979.
8. J.R. English Poetry of the Romantic Period 1789-1830. Longman, 1988.
9. Palgrave,Ed., Golden Treasury of the Best Songs and Lyrical Poems in the English Language.
10. Parfitt, George. English Poetry of the Seventeenth Century. Longman, 1985.
11. Richards, Bernard. English Poetry of the Victorian Period 1830-1890. Longman, 1988.



BRITISH DRAMA

Scope:

To introduce the students to the representative dramatists of the various ages of British Literature.

Objectives:

- To enable the students understand and appreciate the socio-political realities from the 16th century to modern times.
- To learn about the various theatrical skills and techniques.

UNIT – I

OLD ENGLISH & THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD

Norton & Sackville: Gorboduc
Christopher Marlowe : Jew of Malta

Suggested Reading:

David Scott Kastan, Staging the Renaissance, Routledge; 1st edition, 1992.

UNIT – II

THE JACOBEAN, THE RESTORATION & THE AUGUSTAN PERIOD

John Webster : The Duchess of Malfi
R.B. Sheridan : The Rivals

Suggested Reading:

Howard Erskine-Hill (Editor), Alexander Lindsay, William Congreve: The Critical Heritage (The Collected Critical Heritage: The Restoration and the Augustans), Routledge; 1st edition, 1995.

UNIT - III

THE ROMANTIC & THE VICTORIAN PERIOD

Percy Bysshe Shelley : The Cenci
Bernard Shaw : Arms and the Man.

Suggested Reading:

David Galens, Joyce Moss, World Literature and Its Times: British and Irish Literature and Its Times: the Victorian Era to the present (1837-) Vol 4, Cengage Gale, 2001.

UNIT – IV

THE MODERN PERIOD

John Galsworthy : The Strife
T.S Eliot : Murder in the Cathedral.

Suggested Reading:

Terry Eagleton, Exiles and Emigres: Studies in Modern Literature, Chatto & Windus, 1970.



UNIT - V

THE CONTEMPORARY PERIOD

Samuel Beckett : Waiting for Godot.

John Osborne : Look Back in Anger

Suggested Reading:

Joseph Frank, Widening Gyre: Crisis and Mastery in Modern Literature, Indiana University Press, 1969.

References:

1. Boris Ford, The New Pelican Guide to English Literature 8: From Orwell to Naipaul, Penguin, 2000.
2. Levin, Harry. Christopher Marlowe: The Overreacher. London: Faber, 1961.
3. Martin Seymore – Smith. Macmillan Guide to Modern World Literature, London, 1973.
4. Morwood, James, and David Crane. Sheridan Studies. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1995.
5. Percy Bysshe Shelley, The Cenci, Book Jungle, 2007.



INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE- I

Scope:

To introduce the students to the origin and evolution of Indian English Literature.

Objectives:

- To enable the students to get an overview of the rich tradition of Indian English Literature before independence.
- To introduce the students to the literary texts from various regional, cultural, social, and political locations in India before independence.

UNIT- I

INTRODUCTION

K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar : Indian Writing in English

- Chapter-
1. Introduction
 2. The Beginnings: Rammohan Roy
 3. The Renaissance in India

Suggested Reading:

M. C. Naik- A History of Indian English Literature, Sahitya Akademi, 2009.

UNIT- II

POETRY

- Henry Derozio : To India- My Native Land
The Harp of India
- Toru Dutt : Lakshman
- Manmohan Ghose : The Lonely Road
- Sarojini Naidu : The Faery Isle of Janjira

Suggested Reading:

Krishna Kant Singh, Indian English Poetry Before Independence, Book Enclave, 2017.

UNIT- III

PROSE

- Mahatma Gandhi : The Gospel of Swadeshi
- Jawaharlal Nehru : The Discovery of India
(Chapter 3: "The Quest")
- Ambedkar : Castes in India

Suggested Reading:

John B. Alphonso Karkal, Indian English Literature in the Nineteenth Century, University of Mysore Press.



UNIT- IV

DRAMA

Rabindranath Tagore : Chitra
T. P. Kailasam : Purpose

Suggested Reading:

1. Sudhir Chandra, The Oppressive Present- Literature and Social Consciousness in Colonial India, Routledge, New Delhi.
2. M. K. Naik & S. Mokashi, Perspectives on Indian Drama in English, Oxford University Press, Madras.

UNIT- V

FICTION

A. Madhaviah : Clarinda
Bhabani Bhattacharya : So Many Hungers!

Suggested Reading:

K. S. Ramamurti, Rise of the Indian Novel in English, Sterling Publishers New Delhi.

References:

1. K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar, Indian Writing in English, Sterling Publishers, Private Limited.
2. M. K. Gandhi, The Gospel of Swadeshi, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 1967.
3. Jawaharlal Nehru, The Discovery of India
4. T. P. Kailasam, Purpose, www.tpkailasam.blogspot.com
A. Madhaviah, Clarinda, Nanbar Vattam, 1915.
5. Bhabani Bhattacharya, So Many Hungers! Jaico Publishing House.



AMERICAN LITERATURE – I

Scope:

To introduce the students to the diverse origins of American Literature.

Objectives:

- To help the students situate early American literary texts in their cultural and historical contexts.
- To familiarize the students with the literary genres of early American texts and prominent American writers.

UNIT - I

PROSE

Frederick Douglass : Self-Made Man
 Ralph Waldo Emerson : American Civilization
 Henry David Thoreau : Slavery in Massachusetts

Suggested Reading:

Daniel S Burt, The Chronology of American Literature: America's Literary Achievements from the Colonial Era to Modern Times, Houghton Mifflin, 2004.

UNIT - II

POETRY

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow : My Lost Youth
 Walt Whitman : Song of the Open Road
 Emily Dickinson : Hope is the thing with feathers
 Robert Frost : Acquainted with the Night
 Ezra Pound : The River-Merchant's Wife: A Letter

Suggested Reading:

Sacvan Bercovitch, ed. The Cambridge History of American Literature. Cambridge University Press, 2005.

UNIT - III

SHORT-STORIES

Edgar Allan Poe : The Tell-Tale Heart
 Jack London : To Build a Fire
 W. W. Jacobs : The Monkey's Paw
 Mark Twain : What Is Man?

Suggested Reading:

James Wilmes, Douglas R, American writers before 1800: a biographical and critical reference guide, Greenwood Press, 1984.

UNIT - IV

DRAMA



Eugene O'Neill : The Hairy Ape
 Tennessee Williams : The Glass Menagerie

Suggested Reading:

Hayes, Kevin J, The Oxford Handbook of Early American Literature, Oxford;
 New York: Oxford University Press, 2008

UNIT - V
FICTION

Louisa May Alcott : Little Women
 John Steinbeck : The Grapes of Wrath

Suggested Reading:

Richard Gray, A History of American Literature, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

References:

1. Emily Dickinson, "'Hope' is the Thing with Feathers" from The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson, The Belknap Press of Harvard University press, 1983.
2. Robert Frost, "Acquainted with the Night" from The Poetry of Robert Frost, Henry Holt and Co, 1970.
3. Douglass, Frederick, and James Daley. Great Speeches by Frederick Douglass (Dover Thrift Editions). Dover Publications, 2013.
4. Emerson, Ralph Waldo. "Ralph Waldo Emerson on American Civilization." The Atlantic, 13 Sept. 2019, www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1862/04/american-civilization/306548.
5. Henry David Thoreau, Slavery in Massachusetts, Blurb, 2019.
6. Edgar Allen Poe, The Tell-Tale Heart, Penguin Classics, 2015.
7. Jack London, To Build a Fire, Ingram short title, 2018.
8. W.W. Jacobs, Gary C. Hoppenstand, The Monkey's Paw and Other Tales of Mystery and the Macabre, Academy Chicago Publishers, 1997.
9. Mark Twain, What Is Man? By Mark Twain – Illustrated, independently published, 2017.
10. Eugene O'Neill, The Hairy Ape, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2013.
11. Tennessee Williams, The Glass Menagerie, Penguin U.K., 2009.
12. Loisa May Alcott, Little Women, Harry N. Abrams, 2019.
13. John Steinbeck, Grapes of Wrath, Penguin, 2011.
14. Walt Whitman, Song of the Open Road, <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/48859/song-of-the-open-road#:~:text=Afoot%20and%20light%2Dhearted%20I,me%20leading%20wherever%20I%20choose>.
15. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, My Lost Youth, <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/44640/my-lost-youth>.
16. Ezra Pound, The River-Merchant's Wife: A Letter, <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/47692/the-river-merchants-wife-a-letter-56d22853677f9>



AFRICAN LITERATURE

Scope:

To introduce African Literature and the different genres

Objectives:

- To familiarize with the social and political consciousness and economic crisis of Africa.
- To make learners aware of various African traditions and cultures through representative texts of African Literature in English

UNIT I

POETRY

David Diop	: Close to You
Rasaq Malik	: Tonight in My Country
Ama Ata Aidoo	: When the Bead Speaks
Lilian A. Aujo	: The Eye of Poetry

Suggested Reading

Gerald Moore & Ulli Beier - Modern Poetry from Africa. www. Forgotten books.com

UNIT II

PROSE

Frantz Fanon	: On National Culture
Nelson Mandela	: Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela. (Chapter 2)
Chinua Achebe	: Colonialist Criticism

Suggested Reading

Anthonia C. Kalu. The Rienner: An Anthology of African Literature. 2007
Bill Ashcroft et al., ed, The Post-Colonial Studies Reader, Routledge, 2006.

UNIT III

SHORT STORY

Nadine Gordimer	: Some Monday for Sure
Oyet Sisto Ocen	: In the Plantation
Ben Okri	: What the Tapster Saw

Suggested Reading

Emenyonu, Ernest N., editor. Writing Africa in the Short Story. Boydell & Brewer, 2013.

UNIT IV –

DRAMA

Athol Fugard	: Master Harold and the Boys
Wole Soyinka	: The Strong Breed

Suggested Reading



Martin Banham (Editor), Errol Hill (Editor), George Woodyard (Editor) -
Cambridge Guide to African Theatre

UNIT V

FICTION

Buchi Emecheta : The Bride Price

Ngugi WaThiong'o : A Grain of Wheat

Suggested Reading

Chinua Achebe, No Longer at Ease, Penguin Books, 1994.

References:

1. Patricia Hill Collins. Black Feminist Thought. Routledge, New York.
2. Frantz Fanon. The Wretched Earth. Grove Press
3. Nadine Gordimer. Some Monday for Sure. Heinemann, London.
4. Buchi Emecheta. The Bride Price. Allison & Busby, UK.
5. Ngugi WaThiong'o. A Grain of Wheat. Penguin Books Limited, London.
6. Athol Fugard. Master Harold and the Boys. Three Rivers Press, New York
7. Wole Soyinka. The Strong Breed. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
8. Suubi. A Collection of Short Stories and Poems from African Writers.
9. Okri, Ben. Stars of the New Curfew. Random House, London.
10. Mandela, Nelson. Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela. Philadelphia: Little Brown & Co.
11. The Post-Colonial Studies Reader, Ed. Bill Ashcroft et al. Routledge, 2006.



WORLD LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

Scope:

- To introduce the students to seminal literary texts across the world translated into English.

Objectives:

- To familiarize the students with different socio-cultural context that produce a narrative.
- To make the students understand the significance and nuances of translation.

UNIT – I

POETRY

Khalil Gibran : Joy and Sorrow
Pablo Neruda : Ritual of my Legs
Mahmoud Darwish : The Passport

Suggested Reading:

Theo D'haen, David Damrosch, Djelal Kadir, The Routledge Companion to World Literature, 2011.

UNIT – II

EPIC

Ilango Adigal : The Cilappatikaram: The Tale of an Anklet

Suggested Reading:

David Konstan, Epic and History Kurt A. Raaflaub · 2009

UNIT – III

SHORT STORIES

Tayeb Salih : A Handful of Dates
Marcel Ayme : The Man who could walk through walls
Fyodor Dostoevsky : An Honest Thief

Suggested Reading:

Ferenc Molnár , Great Short Stories of the World: A Collection of Complete Short Stories, Chosen from the Literatures of All Periods and Countries. Deutsche Nationalbibliothek · 2017

UNIT – IV

DRAMA

Dario Fo : Accidental Death of an Anarchist
Bertolt Brecht : Galileo

Suggested Reading:

David Wiles & Christine Dymkowski, The Cambridge Companion to Theatre History, Cambridge University Press, 2012.



UNIT – V
FICTION

Gabriel Garcia Marquez : Love in the Time of Cholera
Elie Wiesel : Night

Suggested Reading:

John N. Duvall ed., Modern Fiction Studies, John Hopkins University Press,
Vol.66, 2020.

References:

1. Khalil Gibran, The Prophet, Fingerprint Publishing, 2017.
2. Pablo Neruda, Residence on Earth, Souvenir Press, 2003.
3. Mahmoud Darwish, Unfortunately, It was Paradise – Selected Poems, University of California Press, 2003.
4. Marcel Ayme, The Man who could walk through walls, Pushkin collection, 2012.
5. Fyodor Dostoevsky, An Honest Thief, Read Books, 2018.
6. Dario Fo, Accidental Death of an Anarchist, Bloomsbury, 1987. Alfred A. Knopf, 1988.
7. Elie Wiesel, Night, Penguin U.K., 2008.
8. Ilango Adigal, The Cilappatikaram: The Tale of an Anklet, translated by R.Parthasarathy, Penguin India, 2004.

