

# 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-II				
Part	Subject Status	Subject Title	Subject Code	Credit
III	Core	British Non – Fiction	CENC21	4
	Core	Indian English Literature – II	CENC22	4
	Core	American Literature – II	CENC23	4
	Core	Canadian Literature	CENC24	4
	Core	Shakespeare	CENC25	4
	Core	Literary Theory – I	CENC26	4

## BRITISH NON-FICTION

### Scope:

- To introduce the students to the representative writers of Non-Fiction of the various ages of English Literature.

### Objectives:

- To enable the students to understand and appreciate the cultural realities from classical period to modern times.
- To facilitate the students with empirical forms of knowledge.

### UNIT - I

#### OLD ENGLISH & THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD

The Bible (The Old Testament) : The Book of Jonah  
 Geoffrey Chaucer : A Treatise on the Astrolabe  
 Francis Bacon : Of Goodness  
 Goodness of Nature



**Suggested Reading:**

Larry Scanlon (Editor), The Cambridge Companion to Medieval English Literature 1100–1500, Cambridge University Press, 2009.

**UNIT - II**

**NEO-CLASSICAL PERIOD**

Jonathan Swift : A Modest Proposal  
Joseph Addison : Omens  
Oliver Goldsmith : Instability of Worldly Grandeur

**Suggested Reading:**

Miscellanies in Prose and Verse: Selected from Pope, Swift, Addison, Goldsmith, Sterne, Hume, Smollet, Gay, Shenstone, Prior, Murphy, and Brooke. ... Original Pieces Never Before Published, Gale Ecco, 2010.

**UNIT - III**

**THE ROMANTIC & THE VICTORIAN PERIOD**

Charles Lamb : My Relations  
William Hazlitt : On Going a Journey  
Leigh Hunt : An Earth upon Heaven

**Suggested Reading:**

David Duff, The Oxford Handbook of British Romanticism, O.U.P. Oxford, 2018.

**UNIT – IV**

**THE VICTORIAN & THE GEORGIAN PERIOD**

Mathew Arnold : Literature and Science  
John Ruskin : The Roots of Honour  
J. S. Mill : Of the Liberty of Thought and Discussion

**Suggested Reading:**

David J. DeLaura (Editor), Victorian Prose: A Guide to Research, Modern Language Association of America, 1973.

**UNIT – V**

**MODERNISM & POST-MODERNISM**

A.G. Gardiner : George Bernard Shaw  
George Orwell : A Day in a life of a Tramp  
Aldous Huxley : English Snobbery

**Suggested Reading:**

Judith Kitchen, Short Takes – Brief Encounters with Contemporary Nonfiction, W. W. Norton & Co, 2013.



**References:**

1. Bacon, Francis, and F.G.Selby. Bacon's Essays, Ed. with Introductions and Notes. London: Macmillan, 1927.
2. Lamb, Charles, and Ernest D. North. The Wit and Wisdom of Charles Lamb. Folcroft: Folcroft Library Editions, 1974.
3. The Holy Bible. English Standard Version. Crossway, Wheaton, Illinois – ESV.ORG
4. John Gray and G.W.Smith, On Liberty. Ed. Routledge, 1991.



## INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE- II

### **Scope:**

To help the students to develop a general understanding of Indian English Literature after independence.

### **Objectives:**

- To enable the students to get an overview of the recent trends and developments in Indian English Literature.
- To develop a literary sensibility towards the texts of modern Indian English Literature.

### **UNIT – I**

#### **POETRY**

R. Parthasarathy	: Homecoming
Nissim Ezekiel	: Jewish Wedding in Bombay
Kamala Das	: The Suicide
Meena Alexander	: Blue Lotus

### **Suggested Reading:**

Adil Jussawalla, New Writing in India, Penguin Books Ltd, 1974.

### **UNIT – II**

#### **PROSE**

Gopal Guru	: Dalit Women Talk Differently
Meenakshi Mukherjee	: Realism and Reality: The Novel and Society in India (Chapter-I From Puranas to Nutana)
Amitav Ghosh	: The Diaspora in Indian Culture

### **Suggested Reading:**

Mukherjee, Meenakshi. The Perishable Empire: Essays on Indian Writing in English, Oxford University Press, 2002.

### **UNIT – III**

#### **SHORT STORIES**

R. K. Narayan	: The Blind Dog
Ruskin Bond	: The Window
Jhumpa Lahiri	: A Temporary Matter

### **Suggested Reading:**

Shiv K. Kumar, Contemporary Indian Short Stories in English, South Asia Books, 1992.

### **UNIT – IV**

#### **DRAMA**



Girish Karnad : Hayavadana  
Mahesh Dattani : Brief Candle

**Suggested Reading:**

Abha Shukla Kaushi, Indian Drama in English: Some Perspectives, Atlantic Publishers and Distributors (P) Ltd, 2013.

**UNIT – V**

**FICTION**

Indira Goswami : The MothEaten Howdah of the Tusker  
Shashi Tharoor : The Great Indian Novel

**Suggested Reading:**

Vilas Sarang, Nilfuer E. Bharucha, Indian English Fiction 1980-90: An Assessment: 77 (New World Literature Series), B.R. Publishing Corporation, 1994.

Dr B. K. Jha, Modern Indian Writing in English, Alp Books.

**References:**

1. Amitav Ghosh, The Imam and the Indian, Ravi Dayal Publisher, Delhi.
2. Meenakshi Mukherjee, Realism and Reality: The Novel and Society in India, Oxford University Press, 1999.
3. Jhumpa Lahiri, A Temporary Matter (from Interpreter of Maladies).
4. Girish Karnad, Hayavadana, Oxford University Press.
5. Mahesh Dattani, Brief Candle, Penguin Random House India.
6. Indira Goswami, The Moth Eaten Howdah of the Tusker. Rupa & Co. 2004.
7. Shashi Tharoor, The Great Indian Novel, Penguin India, 2009.



## AMERICAN LITERATURE-II

### **Scope:**

To introduce the students to the post-1945 American Literature.

### **Objectives:**

- To introduce the texts that discuss the evolving of American experience and character.
- To highlight the consciousness of people from varying ethnic and cultural background.

### **UNIT - I**

#### **POETRY**

Wallace Stevens : Of Modern Poetry  
Sylvia Plath : Edge  
e e Cummings : anyone lived in a pretty how town  
Maya Angelou : Life Doesn't Frighten Me  
Langston Hughes : Let America be America Again

### **Suggested Reading:**

Christopher John MacGowan, Twentieth-Century American Poetry, Maldon, MA: Blackwell Publications; 2004.

### **UNIT – II**

#### **PROSE**

James Baldwin : Notes of a Native Son  
Alice Walker : In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens  
Amy Tan : Mother Tongue

### **Suggested Reading:**

Jack Salzman, The Cambridge Handbook of American Literature, Cambridge University Press, 1986.

### **UNIT – III**

#### **SHORT-STORIES**

Ernest Hemingway : Big Two-Hearted River  
Flannery O'Connor : A Good Man is Hard to Find  
Harlan Ellison : I Have No Mouth, and I Must Scream  
Jamaica Kincaid : Girl

### **Suggested Reading:**

Gail McDonald, American Literature and Culture, 1900-1960, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publication; 2007.

### **UNIT – IV**

#### **DRAMA**



Arthur Miller : The Crucible  
Edward Albee : The Zoo Story

**Suggested Reading:**

David Krasner, A Companion to Twentieth-Century American Drama 1952-  
Malden, MA: Blackwell Pub, 2005.

**UNIT – V**

**FICTION**

William Faulkner : As I Lay Dying  
Harper Lee : To Kill a Mockingbird

**Suggested Reading:**

John. T. Matthews, A companion to the modern American novel 1900-1950,  
Chichester, U.K.; Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell; 2009.

**References:**

1. Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird, Grand Central Publishing, 1988.
2. William Faulkner, As I Lay Dying, Vintage Classics, 1996.
3. Arthur Miller, Death of a Salesman, Penguin Books, 1976.
4. Edward Albee, The Zoo Story, Jonathan Cape Ltd, 1962.
5. Harlan Ellison, I Have No Mouth & I Must Scream: Stories, Open Road Media, 2014.
6. Flannery O'Connor, A Good Man is Hard to Find and Other Stories, Thomson Learning, 1982.
7. Ernest Hemingway, Big Two-Hearted River, Kindle, 2020.
8. Jamaica Kincaid, Girl, San Francisco Examiner, 1991.
9. Alice Walker, In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens: Womanist Prose, Mariner Books, 2003.
10. Maya Angelou, Life Doesn't Frighten Me, Harry N. Abrams, 1996.
11. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/147907/let-america-be-america-again>
12. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/43435/of-modern-poetry>
13. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/49009/edge-56d22ab50bbc1>
14. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/poems/22653/anyone-lived-in-a-pretty-how-town>



# CANADIAN LITERATURE

## **Scope:**

- To introduce the students to the significant aspects of various genres of Canadian Literature.

## **Objectives:**

- To make the students familiar with the texts that reflect Canadian culture and society.
- To help the students get acquainted with Canadian Literature's richness through representative works of poets, essayists, playwrights, and novelists.

## **UNIT - I**

### **POETRY**

Orpingalik	: My Breath.
Margaret Atwood	: The Animals in that Country
Daniel David Moses	: Inukshuk
Earle Birney	: The Bear on the Delhi Road
Irving Layton	: The Bull Calf

### **Suggested Reading:**

Daniel David Moses, Terry Goldie, An Anthology of Canadian Native Literature in English, Oxford University Press, 1998.

## **UNIT – II**

### **PROSE**

Stephen Leacock	: Who Knows It
Margaret Laurence	: A Place to Stand On
Eden Robinson	: An Excerpt from The Sasquatch at Home

### **Suggested Reading:**

Coral Ann Howells (Ed), Eva-Marie Kröller (Ed), The Cambridge History of Canadian Literature, Cambridge University Press, 2013.

## **UNIT - III**

### **SHORT- STORIES**

Morely Callaghan	: The Snob
Dismond Pacey	: The Boat
Alice Munro	: Sunday Afternoon

### **Suggested Reading:**

Margaret Atwood (Ed), Robert Weaver (Ed), New Oxford Book of Canadian Short Stories in English, Oxford University Press, 1997.





**UNIT IV:  
DRAMA**

Michael Cook : Jacob's Wake  
Joan MacLeod : The Valley

**Suggested Reading:**

Eugene Benson, William Toye, The Oxford Companion to Canadian Literature, Oxford University Press, 1981.

**UNIT V:  
FICTION**

Margaret Laurence : The Stone Angel  
Mordecai Richler : The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz

**Suggested Reading:**

Cynthia Sugars, Eleanor Ty, Canadian Literature and Cultural Memory (Themes in Canadian Sociology), O.U.P. Canada, 2014.

**References:**

1. Browne, S.J. Rev. Joseph. T. The Art of Non-Fiction. Macmillan Company, 1960.
2. Dhawan, R.K. Commonwealth Writing. A Study in Expatriate Experience. Prestige, Delhi, 1994.
3. Manorama Trikha. Canadian Literature Recent Essays. Pencraft International, Delhi, 1994.
4. ---. Canadian Short Stories, Pencraft International, Delhi, 1999.
5. ---. Twentieth-Century Canadian Poetry, Pencraft International, Delhi, 2001.
6. Niaz Zaman. Other Englishes: Essays on Commonwealth Writing. University Press Limited, 1991.
7. Shrin Kudchedkar. Canadian Voices. Pencraft International, Delhi, 1996.



# SHAKESPEARE

## **Scope:**

To enable the students to understand the various aspects of Shakespeare's dramatic art through representative plays.

## **Objectives:**

- To enable the students to comprehend the magnitude of the Shakespearean World.
- To make the students familiar with the significance of the characters, title, plot, theme and style.
- To prepare the students to appreciate Shakespearean verse.

## **UNIT -I**

### **GENERAL SHAKESPEARE & POETRY**

Shakespeare and his age - Elizabethan theatre and audience - Folios and Quartos - Women in Shakespeare - Fools and Clowns in Shakespeare - The Supernatural element Venus and Adonais

## **UNIT – II**

### **COMEDY & DARK COMEDY**

A Midsummer Night's Dream  
Measure for Measure

## **Suggested Reading:**

E.K.Chambers, William Shakespeare: A Study of Facts and Problems, Oxford University Press, 1930.

## **UNIT – III**

### **TRAGEDY AND TRAGICOMEDY**

Macbeth  
The Winter's Tale

## **Suggested Reading:**

Catherine Belsey, Why Shakespeare? Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

## **UNIT – IV**

### **HISTORICAL PLAYS**

Henry V  
Coriolanus

## **Suggested Reading:**

Wolfgang Clemen, Development of Shakespeare's Imagery, Routledge, 1977.



## UNIT – V SHAKESPEAREAN CRITICISM

A.C.Bradley	: Shakespearean Tragedy
Alan Sinfield, Jonathan Dollimore	: "Introduction: Shakespeare, Cultural Materialism and the New Historicism," An Extract from political Shakespeare: New Essays in Cultural Materialism.
Elaine Showalter	: "Representing Ophelia: Women, Madness, and the Responsibilities of Feminist Criticism." An Extract from Shakespeare and the Question of Theory
Catherine Belsey	: "Iago, the Essayist." An Extract from Shakespeare in Theory and Practice

### **Suggested Reading:**

1. Jonathan Dollimore, Alan Sinfield, Political Shakespeare: Essays in Cultural Materialism, Manchester University Press, 1994.
2. Gary Taylor, Stanley.W.Wells, William Shakespeare: A Textual Companion (Oxford Shakespeare), Oxford University Press, 1988.

### **Reference:**

1. Craig, W.J. ed. Shakespeare: Complete Works. U.K.: Oxford University Press, 1975.
2. Bradley, A.C. Shakespearean Tragedy, Toronto: Macmillan & Co. Ltd., 1989.
3. De Graziaz, Margreta and Stanley Wells. Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.
4. Hopkins, Lisa. Beginning Shakespeare, Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2007. McEachern, Claire. ed. Cambridge Companion to Shakespearean Tragedy, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
5. A.C. Bradley, Shakespearean Tragedy: Lectures on Hamlet, Othello, King Lear, and Macbeth, Penguin Classics, 1991.
6. Alan Sinfield, Jonathan Dollimore. "Introduction: Shakespeare, Cultural
7. Materialism and the New Historicism," Political Shakespeare: New Essays in
8. Cultural Materialism. Ithaca: Cornell UP, 1985.
9. Elaine Showalter, "Representing Ophelia: Women, Madness, and the
10. Responsibilities of Feminist Criticism, Shakespeare and the Question of Theory. Ed.
11. Patricia Parker and Geoffrey Hartman. New York & London: Methuen, 1985.
12. Catherine Belsey, "Iago, the Essayist." Shakespeare in Theory and Practice, Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 2008.



# LITERARY THEORY - I

## **Scope:**

- To enhance the students comprehension with the chronological survey of critical theory.

## **Objectives:**

- To make the students understand the concepts and nature of theories and their applications.
- To enable the students to interpret literary texts by focusing on a theory.

## **UNIT - I – CLASSICISM**

Aristotle	: The Elements of Tragedy (An Extract from Poetics)
Philip Sidney	: An Apology for Poetrie.
Ben Johnson	: Extract from Timber or Discoveries

## **Suggested Reading:**

Rita Copeland (Ed), The Oxford History of Classical Reception in English Literature: Volume 1: 800-1558, O.U.P. Oxford, 2016.  
Michael Hattaway (Ed), A Companion to English Renaissance Literature and Culture, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

## **UNIT - II – RENAISSANCE, RESTORATION & NEO-CLASSICISM**

John Dryden	: An Essay of Dramatic Poesy
Alexander Pope	: Essays on Criticism
Samuel Johnson	: Preface to Milton

## **Suggested Reading:**

Michael Meehan, "Neo-classical Criticism", Encyclopedia of Literature and Criticism, Routledge, 1991.

## **UNIT - III – ROMANTICISM**

William Wordsworth	: Preface to The Lyrical Ballads
S.T. Coleridge	: Biographia Literaria (Chapter - XIV & XVII)
Keats	: Selection from The Letters
	1. Letter written to Shelley
	2. Letters written to Benjamin Bailey

## **Suggested Reading:**

Paul Hamilton (Ed), The Oxford Handbook of European Romanticism, Oxford University Press, 2019.



Donald H. Reiman, "The Romantic Critical Tradition", Encyclopedia of Literature and Criticism, Routledge, 1991.

#### **UNIT - IV**

##### **VICTORIAN & MODERN AGE CRITICISM**

Matthew Arnold : The Study of Poetry  
 Henry James : The Art of Fiction  
 F.R.Leavis : Literary Criticism and Philosophy

##### **Suggested Reading:**

Boris Ford, The Cambridge Guide to the Arts in Britain - Romantics to Early Victorians, Cambridge University Press, 1988.  
 Geoffrey Strickland, "Great Traditions: The Logic of the Canon", Encyclopedia of Literature and Criticism, Routledge, 1991.

#### **UNIT - V-**

##### **NEW CRITICISM**

T.S.Eliot : Tradition and Individual Talent  
 I.A.Richards : Towards a Theory of Comprehending  
 William Empson : The Seventh Type of Ambiguity

##### **Suggested Reading:**

Rick Rylance, "The New Criticism", Encyclopaedia of Literature and Criticism, Routledge, 1991.

##### **References:**

1. Lodge, David. Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism: A Reader, Longman, 1972.
2. Lodge, David and Nigel Wood, Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader, Longman, 3rd edition, 2008.
3. Ramaswami S & Sethuraman V.S. The English Critical Tradition: An Anthology of English Literary Criticism, Vol.1 & vol.2, Trinity Press, 1986.
4. Encyclopedia of Literature and Criticism. Eds. Martin Coyle. Peter Garside et al. Detroit: gale Research Inc. 1999.
5. Prasad B. An Introduction to English Criticism. New Delhi: Trinity Press, 2014.
6. Barry, Peter. Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory, Viva Books, 2010.
7. Das B. and Mohanty J.M. Literary Criticism: A Reading. O.U.P., 2018.
8. Enright D.J. Chikera, Ernst de. English Critical Texts. O.U.P., 1997.
9. Wimsatt JR, William K. Brooks, Cleanth. Literary Criticism: A Short History. Oxford & I.B.H. Publishing co, 1978.

