

Semester-I

Core I Introduction to Literary Studies

Course Objectives

- The course “An Introduction to Literary Studies” deals with questions concerning the nature of literature
- It will provide an understanding of the major literary genres and it gives an overview of the formation of the same.
- This beginner’s course has been designed for students who have opted for a major in English and it will benefit students with a general introduction to literature as well as induce them for a more serious pursuit going ahead in this programme.
- The course will enable students to improve their proficiency through reading, respond to texts, draw lessons and insights from those, understand and appreciate other cultures and relate to events, characters and their own lives.
- It will also to expose students to models of good writing.
- It will develop the potential of students in a holistic, balanced and integrated manner encompassing the intellectual, spiritual, emotional and physical aspects in order to create a balanced and harmonious human being with high social standards.

Unit-1

What is literature? Literature and Society, Literature and Life, Literature and Science, the literary canon, genre, literary theory and criticism

Poetry: Lyric, Sonnet, Ballad, Ode, Elegy, Epic, Mock-Epic, Dramatic monologue

Prose: Novel, Novella, Short Story, Essay, Biography, Autobiography

Drama: Comedy, Tragedy, Tragi-comedy, one act-play, Epic play

Unit-2

Poems to be read: Sonnet no 130 by William Shakespeare, ‘The Skylark’ by P B Shelley, ‘Human Seasons’ by John Keats, ‘The Brook’ by Lord Alfred Tennyson, “Because I could not stop for death” by Emily Dickinson, “Village Song” by Sarojini Naidu, “Love After Love” by Derek Walcott

Unit-3

Prose to be read: “The Bet” by Anton Chekhov, “The Verger” by Somerset Maugham, “The Fight between Leopards” by Jim Corbett, “The Night the Tiger came” by Manoj Das, “The Bicycle” by Dash Benhur, “The Man who Knew Too Much” by Alexander Baron, “The way to Equal Distribution” by Mahatma Gandhi, “A Call to Youth” by S. Radhakrishnan and “Miseries of the Rich” by G B Shaw

Unit-4

Drama to be read: *Doctor Faustus* by Christopher Marlowe Act-5, Scene-2,

One Act play: *The Bear* by [Anton Chekhov](#).

The teacher is supposed to acquaint the learners with the difference in tone, language and setting between a comedy, a tragedy and a tragi-comedy.

Prescribed Texts

Hillis Miller, “What Is Literature?” (Canvas); *The Norton Introduction to Literature*, Introduction (1-13)

“What is literature?” by Terry Eagleton in *An Introduction to Literary Theory*

Blackwell Publication 1983, 1996

The Widening Arc: A Selection of Prose and Stories, Ed. Asima Ranjan Parhi, S Deepika, Pulastya Jani, Kitab Bhavan, Bhubaneswar, 2016.

“The Art of Fiction” by Henry James (available on the internet archive)
Melodious Songs and Memorable Tales, Gyanajuga, 2015.

Suggested Readings

- ✓ Kennedy, X.J. and Dana Gioia. *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*. 11th ed. Portable ed. New York: Longman, 2009.
- ✓ Gardner, Janet E. et al ed. *Literature: A Portable Anthology*, 2nd ed. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-312-46186-7
- ✓ Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein (Case Studies in Contemporary Criticism)*. Ed. Johanna M. Smith. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2000. ISBN: 978-0-312-19126-9
- ✓ Mays, Kelly J. *The Norton Introduction to Literature, Portable 13th Edition*. ISBN: 978- 0-393-42046-3
- ✓ Miller, Hillis. “What Is Literature?” (Canvas); *The Norton Introduction to Literature, Introduction (1-13)*
- ✓ Forster, E. M. *Aspects of the Novel*
- ✓ <https://archive.org/stream/in.ernet.dli.2015.136479/2015.136479>.
- ✓ <https://www.thereader.org.uk/featured-poem-the-brook-by-alfred-lord-tennyson/>
- ✓ https://archive.org/stream/georgebernardsh00hendgoog/georgebernardsh00hendgoog_djvu.txt
- ✓ https://archive.org/stream/in.ernet.dli.2015.136479/2015.136479.The-Works-Of-J-B-Priestley_djvu.txt