

**ASSAM DON BOSCO UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**Modified Course Structure / Syllabus in SPRING 2020**

**BA Honours-English**  
**Semester II**

**LSAT0009: ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH II**

**(4 Credits – 60 hours)**

**Objective:** *This course introduces students to the literary forms of short fiction and essays taken from different periods of English literature. The learners are expected to analyse the texts and explore the different themes and motifs in relation to the socio-cultural context in which the prescribed texts are placed. This paper also seeks to introduce students to Linguistics as the scientific study of language and to familiarize them with the key concepts at different levels of language organisation.*

**Module I: Selected Short Stories (20 hours)**

- a. The Purloined Letter – Edgar Allan Poe
- b. The Doll’s House – Katherine Mansfield
- c. The Rocking Horse Winner – D H Lawrence
- d. The Home-coming – Rabindranath Tagore

**Module II: Selected Essays (20 hours)**

- a. A Room of One’s Own – Virginia Woolf
- b. **Politics and the English Language- George Orwell.**
- c. Introduction: The absurdity of the Absurd – Martin Esslin
- d. Imaginary Homeland - Salman Rushdie

**Module III: Language and Linguistics: Key concepts (20 hours)**

Language and linguistics; langue and parole; synchrony and diachrony; competence and performance; signifier and signified; phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics; organs of speech; vowel and consonant sounds; syllable; stress and intonation; morphs, morphemes and allomorphs; word- formation; idiolect, dialect and register; prefixes and suffixes; syntactic structures.

**COURSE/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- CO1:** Define the genres of literature, viz. fiction and poetry and to write about the selected writers and their important literary works. (Remembering)
- CO2:** Interpret the selected literary works and they are able to explain the plot, theme and character of the fictions and dramas. (Understanding)
- CO3:** Make use of the themes of the literary works in creative writing in various contexts. (Applying)
- CO4:** Take part in critical interpretation or criticism of the literary texts, critically analyse the themes and compare and contrast the different characters of the selected fiction and poetry. (Analysing)
- CO5:** Assess and evaluate the selected fiction and poetry vis-à-vis their context and socio- political and cultural background. (Evaluating)
- CO6:** Discuss, summarize and critically appreciate the selected poems and other literary texts. (Creating)

**Suggested Readings**

- 1. John Lyons, Language and Linguistics: An Introduction, Cambridge University Press
- 2. David Crystal, Linguistics, Pelican
- 3. RK Bansal and JB Harrison, Spoken English – A Manual of Speech and Phonetics, Orient Blackswan

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**LSLC0037: LITERARY CRITICISM: ARISTOTLE TO I. A. RICHARDS**

**(3 Credits – 45 hours)**

**Objective:** *This paper acquaints the students with important ideas of Western literary criticism from the time of Aristotle to the Modern period and expects them to examine the implications of those key ideas (on poetry, drama, etc.) that have marked the history of Literary Criticism. This course has been designed to present the students with the opportunity to study the key concepts associated with the names of significant literary thinkers and critics in the history of English Literature.*

**Module I: Literary Criticism: Key Ideas and Concepts I (10 hours)**

Plato: Views on Poetry, Theory of Mimesis; Longinus: Ideas On the Sublime, Sources of Sublimity in Literature; Philip Sidney: Ideas on Apology for Poetry;

**Module II: Literary Criticism: Key Ideas and Concepts II (10 hours)**

Matthew Arnold: The Touchstone Method, Grand Style, High Seriousness; I. A. Richards: The Referential and Emotive Uses of Language, Statement and Pseudo-Statement, Tenor and Vehicle, Stock Response; F.R. Leavis: Enactment, Literary Criticism and Philosophy

**Module II: Selected Critical Texts (25 hours)**

- a. Poetics by Aristotle
- b. Biographia Literaria (Chapter 13) by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

**COURSE/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- CO1:** Define key critical terms and concepts. (Remembering)
- CO2:** Find out the implications of the key ideas on the prose, poetry, drama and fiction in literature (Remembering)
- CO3:** Distinguish between the various ideas of western literary criticism from the time of Aristotle to the Modern Period. (Understanding)
- CO4:** Analyse a representative critical text in literature. (Analysing)
- CO5:** Assess the works of the significant literary thinkers in the history of English literature. (Evaluating)
- CO6:** Discuss and summarise the key concepts of the various critical text. (Creating)

**Suggested Readings**

1. Selected Critical Texts (mentioned in the course structure)
2. Culler, Jonathan. Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction.
3. Abrams, M. H. A Glossary of Literary Terms.
4. Cuddon, J.A. The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory.
5. Wimsatt, W. K. & Cleanth Brooks. Literary Criticism: A Short History.
6. Habib, M. A. R. A History of Literary Criticism: From Plato to the Present.

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**BA Honours –English**  
**Semester IV**

**LSDW0061: INDIAN DIASPORIC WRITINGS**

**(4 Credits- 60 hours)**

**Objective:** *The course aims to acquaint the students with the 'fight for identity' amongst the Indian diaspora. The course also aims to give an insight into the globalised Indian literature of the modern century.*

**Module I: Introduction (15 hours)**

Diaspora literature- meaning and features, Diaspora conditions and sensibilities, Role of memory, Cultural displacement, Nation and identity, Memory, Indo-American Diaspora, Main issues in Indian diaspora literature.

**Module II: Selected Fiction (25 hours)**

- a. The Namesake- Jhumpa Lahiri.
- b. **The Mimic Men- V.S. Naipaul**

**Module III: Selected Travel Texts (20 hours)**

- a. The Middle Passage- V.S.Naipaul.
- b. **From Heaven Lake- Vikram Seth**

**COURSE/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- CO1:** Define the various attributes of the Indian diaspora and the 'ambivalence' of their attitudes towards their own motherland as well as their adopted homeland. (Remembering)
- CO2:** Recall the cultural manifestation in the representative works of the Indian diasporic writings. (Remembering)
- CO3:** Demonstrate the quest for cultural identity on the part of the citizens of Indian diaspora and would be able to understand the psychological, social and political problems associated with diaspora culture. (Understanding)
- CO4:** Apply the themes of these texts to further explore the conscientiousness of relationship between the 'homeland' and the 'diaspora'. (Applying)
- CO5:** Discover our own country from a different prism through the eyes of writers who have lived in a composite culture. (Analysing)
- CO6:** Assess and evaluate the selected texts vis -a - vis their context and socio political and cultural background. (Evaluating)
- CO7:** Discuss, summarise and critically appreciate the selected poems and other literary texts. (Creating)
- CO8:** Construct and evaluate the theoretical readings of the various texts. (Creating)
- CO9:** Create an interpretation of the texts in the context of diaspora conditions. (Creating)

**Suggested Readings**

1. Appudurai, Arjun,. *Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization*. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 2005
2. Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities*. Verso, London, 1994
3. Khair, Tabish, Babu *Fictions: Alienation in Contemporary Indian English Novels* ; Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2001
4. Mukherjee, Meenakshi. *The Twice Born Fiction*. Pencraft, New Delhi, 2001

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**LSCT0062: LITERARY AND CULTURAL THEORY: 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AND AFTER**

**(3Credits-45 Hours)**

**Objective:** *The course would acquaint the students with the works of significant critics. The course would familiarise the students with important critical movements and enable them to apply principles of criticism to literary text. The course would encourage them to undertake further reading in critical movements and critical theory and acquaint with the intellectual shifts in the reading of culture, language and literature in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and later.*

**Module I: Twentieth Century Criticism (12 hours)**

- a. T.S. Eliot's Impersonality Theory, Objective Correlative, Dissociation of Sensibility.
- b. F.R. Leavis- Enactment, Literary Criticism & Philosophy.

**Module II: Literary and Cultural Theory: 20<sup>th</sup> Century and After (16 hours)**

- a. **Formalism: New Criticism and Russia Formalism**
- b. **Feminism-Concept**
- c. **Postcolonialism-Concept and Theory**
- d. **Ecocriticism- Concept and Theory**

**Module III: Critical essays (17 hours)**

- a. **"Towards a Feminist Poetics" - Elaine Showalter**
- b. The Metaphysical Poets – T.S. Eliot

**COURSE/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- CO1:** Define the practical utility of these critical theories of the 20th century and later. (Remembering)
- CO2:** Explain the genesis and growth of the various critical fields and their use in analysing literary texts. (Understanding)
- CO3:** Utilize the contemporary theories in analysing the texts that they study in future. (Applying)
- CO4:** Make use of the theories in their subjects and would be able to generate a new approach of looking at literary texts. (Applying)
- CO5:** Estimate the texts in terms of their political, social and psychoanalytical, implications. (Evaluating)
- CO6:** Develop a more profound critical approach after the study of these theories. (Creating)

**Suggested Readings**

1. Cuddon. *A Dictionary of Literary terms and Theories*, Penguin
2. Wimsatt and Brooks eds. *Literary Criticism: A Short History*, Indian ed., Oxford Book Company
3. Selden, Widdowson and Brookereds, *A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory*, 5th Edition, Indian ed. Cambridge University Press.