

THREE-YEAR B.A. ENGLISH HONOURS PROGRAMME (CBCS)

PROGRAMME OUTCOME

The three-year B.A. Honours programme in English follows the Choice Based Credit System adopted by the University of Burdwan in 2017. It is divided into six semesters which provides the students with a comprehensive idea about the scope and importance of literature in society. The first semester, which offers the students core courses (CC) on Classical literature, enables them to develop insight into Classical drama (both tragedy and comedy) and epic, while the second semester introduces them to the nuances of Indian English literature and the British literature of the Renaissance period. It also acquaints them with the concepts of rhetoric and prosody. In the third and fourth semesters, the students are offered core and skill enhancement courses (SEC). The core courses introduce the students to a wide range of texts covering American literature, Popular Literature and British literature and help them to analyse it within cultural, historical and geographical contexts. It trains them to understand the distinctiveness and importance of the different works of world literature and realize the expansive and extensive nature of literature. The skill enhancement courses focus on the necessity of developing skills to understand and analyse the process, practice and techniques of creative writing, critical analysis, translation and cinematography and filmmaking. In semesters five and six, discipline-specific electives are introduced in addition to core courses. The core courses aim to provide detailed knowledge about Women's Writing, Early Modern British Literature, Modern European Drama and Postcolonial Writings. These courses enable the students to form an idea about the journey of literature from its initial days to the modern period. The discipline-specific electives offer specialized knowledge on critical and theoretical subjects related to issues of class, gender, and race. It helps the students to use these critical and theoretical approaches to the analysis of literary and cultural texts. Moreover, it also helps the students to develop an insight into thematic tropes of Indian Partition Literature and Indian Literature translated into English and the nuances of Travel Writing.

SEMESTER-WISE COURSE OUTCOMES:

SEMESTER - I

CC- I: Indian Classical Literature

The objective of this course is to familiarize the students with Indian Classical texts and to enable them to form an idea about the relevance of the various thematic concerns of these texts in the contemporary social situation. They are acquainted with the theoretical and conceptual approaches of Classical Indian aesthetic tradition. They learn to distinguish between Classical Indian and European traditions.

CC II: European Classical Literature

Acquaints the students with the classical texts of Greco-Roman literature and enables them to form an idea about the contemporary Greco-Roman socio-cultural milieu. It helps the students to develop a comprehensive understanding of the major genres (tragedy, comedy, epic), structures and themes of European Classical literary tradition. They learn to understand its relevance in contemporary literary and social life. The perusal of the classical texts of Homer, and Ovid, enlighten them with classical mythology and help them to trace the classical allusions in other literary works.

GE 1: POETRY & SHORT STORY

This course introduces the students to the genre of poetry, prose and short story. The students are acquainted with the works of the major authors of different periods. They learn to assess and analyse the thematic and stylistic features of these works. They also learn to contextualize a text within their specific backgrounds.

SEMESTER-II

CC III: INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

The course traces the evolution of Indian Writing in English from the colonial period to contemporary times. It acquaints the students with the aesthetics of Indian English literature. It helps them to develop an idea about the different themes and contexts of the different genres of Indian English literature.

CC IV: BRITISH POETRY, DRAMA (16TH – 17TH CENTURIES) & RHETORIC AND PROSODY

This course introduces the students to the concept of Renaissance Humanism. It helps them to understand the significance of various forms and types of poetry like sonnets. The students develop an idea about the unique features of different dramatic forms (tragedy, comedy and historical play) of the Elizabethan period. They are exposed to the great masters- Sidney, Spenser, Shakespeare and Marlowe, of the Renaissance/Elizabethan period. Students are also acquainted with the major elements of Rhetorical figures of speech and the features of prosody.

GE 2: ESSAY, DRAMA & NOVEL

This course provides an introduction to the genres of dramas, novels and essays. The students develop an idea about the distinct features of drama and novels. The course introduces the

students to some of the significant essays, plays and novels of English literature composed by Indian, American and British authors belonging to different periods. It offers knowledge on the depiction of socio-cultural and political issues in the works of these writers.

SEMESTER III

CC V: AMERICAN LITERATURE

This course is designed to familiarize the students with the socio-cultural history and tradition of America through a wide range of literary texts including poetry, drama, novel and short stories. The students learn to understand the expansive and extensive nature of American literature from colonial to postcolonial days. They develop an idea about the notions of gender, race and class as reflected in precolonial and postcolonial American literary works.

CC - VI: POPULAR LITERATURE

The students understand the growing significance of Popular Literature and its different forms. They learn to differentiate between the canonical and the popular and to analyse the dialectics between the two. This course enables them to locate and interrogate the representation of class, gender and other markers of identity in the texts of Popular Literature.

CC - VII: BRITISH POETRY AND DRAMA (17TH– 18TH CENTURIES)

This course introduces the students to the post-Renaissance phase of British literature and helps them to develop a comprehensive knowledge of contemporary history and socio-political situations. They are acquainted with the various socio-political and religious movements and their impact on the literature of the time. It also enables them to understand and analyse the elements of epic and mock-epic poetry.

SEC 1: TRANSLATION STUDIES

This course provides the students with the tools required to carry out the task of translation. It enables them to understand the significance of translation studies. The students learn about the various modes and types of translation. They develop an idea about the impact of the translation in the fields of mass communication, advertising and business.

GE 3: CONTEMPORARY INDIA: WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT

This course offers a comprehensive idea about the issues of gender, inequality, patriarchy and oppression. The students will learn about the role of the various women's movements in India, both in the pre-independence and post-independence periods. They will also gain insight into women's involvement in the national movement, partition and political struggles. The course introduces students to the works written by some significant/ notable women writers of India. They learn to assess how the issues of gender and discrimination have been represented in the writings of these writers.

SEMESTER IV

CC - VIII: BRITISH LITERATURE (18TH CENTURY)

In this course, the students develop an idea about the concepts of Enlightenment and Neoclassicism. They are acquainted with 18th-century British literature and its socio-cultural and historical background. The course introduces the students to the English novel and other forms of writing that flourished in the Eighteenth century.

CC - IX: BRITISH ROMANTIC LITERATURE

The students are acquainted with the Romantic Age of British literature. They learn to identify the attributes and features of the Romantic movement. Moreover, this course introduces the students to the works of stalwarts like Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelly and Keats. They form an idea about the various genres and trends of the time and develop insight into the concepts of imagination, pantheism, fancy and others.

CC - X: BRITISH LITERATURE (19TH CENTURY)

The objective of this course is to teach the students the distinct features of Victorian socio-cultural and literary traditions. The students are acquainted with the Victorian concepts of faith and doubt, utilitarianism and industrialism. The course introduces the poetic form of dramatic monologue to the students. They also learn to identify and critically analyse the thematic and structural techniques of Victorian novels.

SEC – 2: FILM STUDIES

This course is designed to acquaint the students with the scope and trends of cinema. The objective of this course is to provide the tools which enable the students to develop an idea about the evolution of cinema and review various types of films. It introduces them to the different concepts and ideas of cinematic techniques.

GE 4: ACADEMIC WRITING AND COMPOSITION

This course introduces the students to the conventions of academic writing. It enables them to cultivate the practice of critical thinking. They learn to analyse and evaluate any type of text. The students also gain insight into the art of paraphrasing and summary writing. The students are also exposed to the basic knowledge of editing, referencing and proofreading.

SEMESTER V

CC - XI: WOMEN'S WRITING

The objective of this course is to acquaint the students with the voices of women articulated in different spaces and times. They are acquainted with the emergence and evolution of women's writing as a distinct form of literature. The students become familiar with a wide variety of women's texts ranging from Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* to Rassundari Debi's *Amar Jiban*. They learn to identify and analyse the questions of selfhood and female experience in women's writing. The students develop an idea about the social constructs of caste, class, race and gender and their impact on the lives of women.

CC - XII: BRITISH LITERATURE (EARLY 20TH CENTURY)

This course introduces the students to the concepts of Modernism and Postmodernism and enables them to locate the impact of this cultural phenomenon in British literature. The course will also offer knowledge about the new experiments that have been carried out in the representative writings of the early 20th century. The students will gain insight into the concepts of psychoanalysis, stream of consciousness and myth and learn to identify their role as tropes of knowing the condition of modernity.

DSE – 1: MODERN INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Through this course, the students will learn about the significance of the translation of literary writings in a cross-cultural country like India. It familiarizes the students with a wide range of texts selected from various Indian languages like Bengali, Urdu and Gujarati. The students will

gain knowledge about the form, style and thematic aspects of 20th-century Indian literature. They will also learn to identify how the questions of caste, gender, modernity and resistance have been represented in 20th-century Indian literature.

DSE-2: PARTITION LITERATURE

This course offers significant insights into the impact of partition on Indian literature and helps the students to understand the terror and trauma of an entire generation, who were victims of this painful episode of Indian history. They will learn about the concepts of colonialism, nationalism, homelessness and exile and their representation in Indian literature. The students will gain insight into the problems of communalism and violence. It also enlightens them about the horrible impact of partition on women.

SEMESTER VI

CC - XIII: MODERN EUROPEAN DRAMA

Through this course, the students will learn about the significant dramatic changes that took place in twentieth-century European drama. They develop an idea about the concepts of realism, individualism, and existentialism and learn to identify the role of these concepts in influencing Modern European drama. They can assess and analyse the new thematic and stylistic experiments carried out by dramatists like Ibsen, Beckett, Ionesco, and Brecht.

CC - XIV: POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURES

The objective of this course is to provide a detailed knowledge of postcolonial literature and its cultural, historical, and theoretical offshoots. The students will be acquainted with texts selected from previously colonized countries like India, Australia, and Latin America. The students will learn to discuss, distinguish and identify the unique postcolonial elements reflected in literary works of different cultures.

DSE -3: LITERARY THEORY

This discipline-specific elective will sensitize the students about the major literary theories in general. They learn about the scope and relevance of these theories in textual reading and in understanding the socio-cultural conditions. This course teaches the students about the theories of the major theorists of Marxism, Feminism, Poststructuralism and Postcolonial Studies.

DSE -4: LITERARY CRITICISM AND HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

This course will provide a comprehensive idea about the origin and evolution of the English Language. It also offers a detailed knowledge of the evolution of literary criticism from the Classical to the Modern period. They learn to apply these theories to the interpretations of various literary texts.

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