



NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

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SYLLABUS OF POST GRADUATE DEGREE IN ENGLISH

Part – I

- Paper – 1 : Poetry
- Paper – 2 : Aspects of Language
- Paper – 3 : British Drama
- Paper – 4 : British Novel

Part – II

- Paper – 5 : Literary Theory and Criticism
- Paper – 6 : American Literature
- Paper – 7 : Indian English Literature
- Paper – 8 : Ancient & Modern European Classics in Translation

Paper – I: Poetry

Module – I

- Unit 1 : Chaucer: Prologue to Canterbury Tales
- Unit 2 : Spenser: Amoretti (1 Sonnet), Prothalamion, The Faerie Queen
- Unit 3 : Shakespeare: 4 Sonnets from W.H. (Sonnets –I, 50, 116, and 126)
2 Sonnets from Dark Lady (Sonnets – 130, 138)

Module – II

- Unit 1 : Donne: Canonization, Ecstasy
- Unit 2 : Marvell: The Garden
- Unit 3 : Herbert: The Pulley
- Unit 4 : Milton: Paradise Lost, Book – 1
- Unit 5 : Dryden: Absalom and Achitophel : Book – 1
- Unit 6 : Pope: Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot



Module – III

- Unit 1 : Blake: London
- Unit 2 : Wordsworth: Resolution and Independence
- Unit 3 : Coleridge: Kubla Khan
- Unit 4 : Shelley: Alastor
- Unit 5 : Keats: Odes (all 6)
- Unit 6 : Tennyson: Extracts from In Memoriam (Great English Poems. Ed. V. Young)
- Unit 7 : Browning: Andreadel Sarto and Child Roland
- Unit 8 : Arnold: The Scholar Gypsy
- Unit 9 : Elizabeth Browning: How do I love thee
- Unit 10 : Emily Brontë : No coward soul is mine

Module – IV

- Unit 1 : Hopkins: The Windhover
- Unit 2 : Yeats: Sailing to Byzantium
- Unit 3 : Eliot: The Waste Land
- Unit 4 : Auden: The Unknown Citizen
- Unit 5 : Dylan Thomas: This Bread I break, Fern Hill
- Unit 6 : Philip Larkin: Whitsun Weddings
- Unit 7 : Ted Hughes: Hawk Roosting

Selected Readings:

1. **English Poetry of the Sixteenth Century- Gary Waller(ed)**
2. **Post-Colonial Shakespeares- Ania Loomba and Martin Okrin(ed)**
3. **The Monarch of Wit- J.B. Leishman**
4. **The Judgement of Marvell- Christine Rees**
5. **Self-consuming Artifacts- Stanley Fish**
6. **John Dryden-David Hopkins**
7. **The Eighteenth Century Background-Basil Wiley**
8. **Augustan Satire- Ian Jack**
9. **The Major Satires of Alexander Pope- R.W.Rogers**
10. **A Reading of Paradise Lost- Helen Gardner**
11. **The Art of Wordsworth- L Abercombie**
12. **New Perspectives on Coleridge and Wordsworth- G.L Hartman**
13. **Shelley: A Critical Reading- Earl Wasserman**
14. **The Odes of John Keats- Helen Vendler**
15. **John Keats: His Mind and Art- Bhabatosh Chatterjee**
16. **A Commentary on Tennyson's In Memoriam-A.C Bradley**
17. **Victorian Women Poets-M Reynolds and Angela Leighton(ed)**
18. **"Hughes and Eliot: Possession," by Ronald Schuchard**
19. **"The Ecology of Ted Hughes: Wolfwatching -- the Final Poetic Statement," by Terry Gifford; and**



Paper – II: Aspect of Language

- Module – I: What is language?
History of language.
- Module – II: Phonetics and phonology,
English consonants & vowels
- Module – III: English Morphology.
English syntax.
- Module – IV: Language in Use
Spread of English
Stylistics and Rhetoric

Selected Readings:

1. **The Story of Language-C.L Barber (ELBS).1964**
2. **The Foundations of Language-Andrew Wilkinson (OUP), 1971**
3. **The Tree of Language-Helen and Charlton Laird, 1960**
4. **Exploring Language-Peter Doughty, John Pearce and Geoffrey Thornton, 1972.**
5. **Reflection on Language- Noam Chomsky, 1975**
6. **Study of Language-J.B.Carroll (OUP), 1953**
7. **Language-Edward Sapir, 1921.**
8. **Language, its Nature, Development and Origin-Otto Jespersen, 1922**
9. **Language and its Structure-Some fundamental Linguistic Concepts-Ronald W. Langacker, 1967**
10. **An Outline of English Phonetics (W.Heffer & Sons, Cambridge, U.K) - Daniel Jones**
11. **English in India: Its Present and Future (Asia Publishing House, Bombay) - V.K. Gokak:**
12. **The Other Tongue, English across Cultures-Braj B. Kachru**
13. **English in Use-R.Quirk and Gabriele Stein**
14. **Fundamentals of Good Writing: A Handbook of Modern Rhetoric-C.Brooks and R.P. Warren**

Paper – III: British Drama

- Module – I: Marlowe: Edward – II
Ben Jonson: Volpone
- Module – II: Shakespeare: Hamlet, The Tempest
- Module – III: R. B. Sheridan: The Rivals
O. Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest



G. B. Shaw: Man and Superman

Module – IV: T. S. Eliot: Murder in the Cathedral

J. Osborne: Look Back in Anger

S. Beckett: Waiting for Godot

Selected Readings:

1. **Volpone-Philip Brockbank**
2. **Ben Jonson: Modern Critical Views- Harold Bloom**
3. **Jonson: Four Comedies- Helen Ostovich**
4. **Shakespearian Tragedy- A.C. Bradley**
5. **What Happens in Hamlet-Dover Wilson**
6. **Twentieth Century Interpretation of Hamlet- David Berlington**
7. **The Shakespearean Tempest- G.Wilson Knight**
8. **The Tempest: A Casebook- Ed by D. J Palmer**
9. **Twentieth Century Interpretation of The Tempest- Hallet Smith**

Paper – IV: British Novel

Module – I: H. Fielding – Tom Jones

Jane Austen – Emma

Module – II: Emily Brontë – Wuthering Heights

Charles Dickens – Great Expectations

Module – III: George Eliot – Middlemarch

Joseph Conrad – Heart of Darkness

Module – IV: James Joyce – A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

Selected Readings:

1. **Jane Austen: Irony as Defense and Discovery-Marvin Mudrick**
2. **Jane Austen-Tony Tanner**
3. **The Dickens World-A.H.House**
4. **Dickens: The Critical Heritage-P.Collins**
5. **Middlemarch: Critical Approaches to the Novel-Barbara Hardy**
6. **Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness, Modern Critical Interpretations-Harold Bloom**
7. **Culture and Imperialism-Edward Said**
8. **James Joyce: A Critical Introduction-Harry Levin**
9. **“Myths of Power in Wuthering Heights” in Myths of Power: A Marxist Study of the Brontes- Terry Eagleton**



Part – II

Paper – V: Literary Theory and Criticism

Module – I

- Unit 1 : Aristotle – Poetics, Ed. I. Bywater
- Unit 2 : Dryden – An Essay of Dramatic Poesy
- Unit 3 : Johnson – The Life of Milton

Module – II

- Unit 1 : W. Wordsworth – Preface to Lyrical Ballads (1800)
- Unit 2 : S. T. Coleridge – Biographia Literaria – Chapters – XIII, XIV, XVIII
- Unit 3 : Matthew Arnold – The Study of Poetry

Module – III

- Unit 1 : T. S. Eliot – Tradition and the Individual Talent
- Unit 2 : I. A. Richards – Principles of Literary Criticism, Chs. 22 & 24
- Unit 3 : Cleanth Brooks – The Well – Wrought Urn (Chapters on Immortality Ode & Grecian Urn)

Module – IV

- Unit 1 : Structuralism
- Unit 2 : Deconstruction
- Unit 3 : Neo-Historicism
- Unit 4 : Cultural Materialism
- Unit 5 : Marxist Criticism
- Unit 6 : Feminist Criticism

Books Recommended:

1. Aristotle's Theory of Poetry and Fine Art-S.H Butcher
2. Aristotle On the Art of Poetry- Ingram Bywater
3. Classical Literary Criticism-T.S. Dorsch
4. Literary Criticism, A Short History- W.K. Wimsatt and Cleanth Brooks
5. Literary Theory: An Introduction– T. Eagleton
6. Newton – 20th Century Literary Criticism: A Reader
7. Milton and the English Revolution-Christopher Hill
8. Lives of the Poets-John Wain(Ed)
9. The Mirror and the Lamp: Romantic Theory and the Critical Tradition-M.H.Abrams



10. **Critical Theory- Michael Fischer**
11. **Critical Approaches to Literature-David Daiches**
12. **The Second Sex- Simone de Beavoir**
13. **A Dictionary of Modern Critical Terms-Roger Fowler**
14. **Literature, Marxism and Cultural Materialism- John Higgins**
1. **15.Twentieth Century Criticism- David Lodge**
15. **Modern Criticism and Theory-David Lodge**

Paper – VI: American Literature

Module – I: Context of American Literature – Puritans & Enlightenment

Module – II:

- Unit 1 : **Non-Fictional Prose**
(i) Emerson: a) The American Scholar, b) The Poet
(ii) Thoreau: Walden
- Unit 2 : **Novels**
(i) Herman Melville – Moby Dick
(ii) Ernest Hemingway – The Old Man and the Sea
(iii) William Faulkner – The Sound and the Fury
(iv) Toni Morrison – Sula
- Unit 3 : **Short Stories**
O’Henry – The Cop and the Anthem
O’Connor – Good Country People

Module – III: American Poetry

- Unit 1 : Walt Whitman – a) Song of Myself, b) Passage to India
- Unit 2 : Robert Frost – a) Mending Wall, b) After Apple-Picking
- Unit 3 : Wallace Stevens – The Emperor of Ice-cream
- Unit 4 : Emily Dickinson – a) Because I could not stop for Death, b) Flowers
- Unit 5 : Ginsberg – Howl – Parts I, II, III

Module – IV : American Drama



Unit 1 : Eugene O'Neill – Mourning Becomes Electra

Unit 2 : T. Williams – The Glass Menagerie

Unit 3 : Arthur Miller – Death of a Salesman

Selected Readings:

1. **American Renaissance- F.O. Matthiessen**
2. **Transitions in American Literary History-H.H.Clarke**
3. **American Romanticism, Vol I-David Morse**
4. **The Literary History of the United States-Robert E. Spiller**
5. **A Companion to Melville Studies-John Bryant**
6. **Melville: A Collection of Critical Essays- Richard Chase**
7. **The Modern Novel-Walter Allen**
8. **Hemingway: The Writer as Artist-Carlos Baker**
9. **Twentieth Century Interpretations of The Old Man and The Sea-Katharine Jobs**
10. **The Portable Faulkner-Malcolm Cowley**
11. **From Puritanism to Postmodernism-Richard Ruland and Malcolm Bradbury**

Paper – VII: Indian English Literature and Indian Literature in Translation

Module – I: Background & Non-fictional Prose

Unit 1 : Tagore – Crisis in Civilization

Unit 2 : Nehru – Discovery of India, Chapters 3, 4, 6

Unit 3 : Subhas Chandra Bose – An Indian Pilgrim, Chapter 10

Module – II: Fiction

Unit 1 : Mulk Raj Anand – The Untouchable

Unit 2 : R. K. Narayan – The Guide

Unit 3 : Raja Rao – Kanthapura

Unit 4 : Kamala Markandeya – Nectar in a Sieve



Unit 5 : Amitava Ghosh – Shadow Lines

Unit 6 : Anita Desai – Clear Light of Day

Module – III:

Unit 1 : H. L. V. Derozio : a) To The Pupils of The Hindu College b) The Harp of India
c) Chorus of Brahmins

Unit 2 : Sarojini Naidu : a) Village Song, b) Caprice, c) If You Call Me

Unit 3 : Toru Dutt : a) Lakshman, b) Our Casuarina Tree, c) The Lotus

Unit 4 : Nissim Ezekiel : a) Night of the Scorpion, b) Marriage,
c) Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S.

Unit 5 : Jayanta Mahapatra : a) Dawn at Puri, b) Indian Summer, c) Again, One Day,
d) Walking by the River

Unit 6 : Kamala Das : a) My Grandmother's House, b) The Looking Glass,
c) The Dance of the Eunuche

Module – IV: Drama

Unit 1 : Tagore – Red Oleanders

Unit 2 : Girish Karnad – Tughlaq

Unit 3 : Vijay Tendulkar – Silence, the Court is in session

Unit 4 : Mahesh Dattani – Final Solution

Books Recommended:

1. **Three Indo-Anglican Poets-** K.R. Ramachandran Nair,
2. **Indian Writing in English-** Srinivasa K.R. Iyenger
3. **The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures-** Bill Ashcroft,
4. **The Twice-born Fiction-** Meenakshi Mukherjee
5. **The Novels of Raja Rao-** Esha Dey
6. **Raja Rao-** M.K. Naik
7. **Anita Desai, "The Indian Writer's Problems" *Perspectives on Anita Desai*. - Ed. Ramesh K**



8. **Beyond the Glass Ceiling: Forty Women Whose Ideas Shape the Modern World-Sian Griffithsm**
9. **Subhas Bose and His Ideas-J.S.Bright**
10. **Nehru, A Political Bibliography-Michael Brecher**
11. **The Golden Treasury of Indo-Anglian Poetry-V.K.Gokak(Ed)**
12. **Women Writing in India-Susie Tharu and K.Lalita**
13. **Perspectives on Indian Writing in English – M. K. Naik**

Paper – VIII: Ancient & Modern European Classics in Translation

Module – I: Background of Epic & Drama

- Unit 1 : Homer – Iliad
- Unit 2 : Vergillius Maro – The Aeneid
- Unit 3 : Aeschylus – Agamemnon
- Unit 4 : Sophocles – Oedipus Rex
- Unit 5 : Euripides – Medea

Module – II: Background

- Unit 1 : Seneca – Thyestes
- Unit 2 : Dante – Inferno
- Unit 3 : Ovid – Amores

Modules – III:

- Unit 1 : Dostoevsky – Crime and Punishment
- Unit 2 : Flaubert – Madame Bovary
- Unit 3 : Thomas Mann – Death in Venice
- Unit 4 : Kafka – The Castle

Modules – IV:



- Unit 1 : Baudelaire – The Poet’s Beatrice; The Ideal (Poems translated into English by Francis Scarfe)
- Unit 2 : Boris Pasternak – Hamlet, Winter Night
- Unit 3 : Ibsen – A Doll’s House
- Unit 4 : Brecht’s – Life of Galileo

Books Recommended:

- 1. Virgil, The Aeneid, Translated into English verse by Robert Fitzgerald. Penguin, 1985**
- 2. From Virgil to Milton-C.M.Bowra**
- 3. The Cambridge Companion to Virgil-Charles Martindale(ed)**
- 4. Greek Tragedy, A Literary Study-H.D.F Kitto**
- 5. The Literature of Ancient Greece-Gilbert Murray**
- 6. The Will of Zeus- Stringfellow Barr**
- 7. Charles Baudelaire:A Lyric Poet in the Era of High Capitalism-Walter Benjamin**
- 8. Drama from Ibsen to Eliot-Raymond Williams**
- 9. Brecht: A Choice of Evils-Martin Esslin**
- 10. The Art of Bertolt Brecht-W.Weideli**