

Programme Offered	B.A Honours in English Literature
Programme Outcome	<p>1. A comprehensive knowledge of History of British Literature and intensive knowledge of Literary works of British writers 2. Acquaintance with American Literature 3. Understanding of Indian Writing in English 4. Insightful reading of Popular Literature 5. Knowledge of literary theory and genres/types 6. Knowledge of classical European and Modern European literature 7. Intensive and extensive study of specialized categories like post-colonial literature, partition literature& autobiographies.</p>
Semester 1	
CC1	<p>History of English Literature</p> <p>Group A-Students learn about the chronological development & progress of literary forms from poetry to prose. Social & political movements culminating in French Revolution and its expression in poetry and prose. This is followed by man vs society conflict in novels and writings, which correspond to the changes in thought process initiated by works like Origin of Species and Das Capital. Modern novelists and dramatists explored the conflict within man and expressed this in works revealing the mental universe of the protagonists.</p> <p>Group B- Philology focuses on the diachronic study of English language along with some grammatical postulation.</p>

<p>CC2</p>	<p>European Classical Literature</p> <p>Group A: Students are introduced to the social and cultural environment in which these texts were written and made aware of the topical significance of the texts.</p> <p>Group B:</p> <p>Homer, The Iliad (Books I&II) translated by E.V Rieu- Students are introduced to the chief characters and the action about to take place. War, leadership, heroism and the power of the Gods to intervene in human affairs constitute the first two books. Learners come to know of the Trojan War and the rage of Achilles.</p> <p>Sophocles, Oedipus, the King- Towering over entire Greek Tragedy, this is the most timeless drama or tragedy of destiny. The play serves the modern man as a base for psychoanalytic theory. Students not only learn about Greek theatre but attain profound realization of the persistent contrast between the supreme will of fate and the vain attempts of mankind to escape the tragedy that threatens them.</p> <p>Group C:</p> <p>Ovid, selections from Metamorphosis-‘Bacchus’ (Book II)- Students learn about Roman</p>
	<p>Literature, through Ovid’s narrative poetry Metamorphosis. However, in the entire chronicle of the history of the world from its creation to the deification of Julius Caesar, the syllabus deals with book III only. Divine revenge is the primary concern in book III and the transformation that is involved.</p> <p>Plautus, Pot of Gold: A comic play by the Roman playwright Titus Maccius Plautus, revolves around a pot of gold which the miserly protagonist, Euclio, guards zealously. The play is satirical of greed and avarice , that brings anxiety. Apart from a moral lesson, the play depicts slave labour and an economy dependant on the exploitation of slaves.</p> <p>In the course of study of classical European literature, students also become familiar with the genres of Tragedy, Comedy and Epic. Study of these texts along with their cultural backgrounds provides an insight into the unfamiliar world of Greco-Roman literature.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Horace- Satires, I: iv- In this Satire, students are introduced to the theoretical significance of this genre, through Horace’s own views and purpose of satire.</p>

<p>Semester 2</p> <p>CC3</p>	<p>Indian Writing in English</p> <p>Poetry: Six poets from pre-Independence to post-Independence, provides the learners with exposure to Indian poetry in English, from dealing with a nation in the making, to a nation in introspection.</p> <p>Rajmohan’s Wife: The first Indian novel written by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee enables students of English Literature to situate it in the genealogy of the novel, a genre, that was shaped in India amidst the contradictory demands of colonial education and traditional methods of story- telling.</p> <p>Bravely Fought the Queen: A theatrical writing or drama by Mahesh Dattani, set in Bangalore around 1980’s or 1990’s, centered around an Indian family, highlighting issues of claustrophobic female world, hidden homosexuality and uneasy truths that are commonly swept under the carpet.</p> <p>This paper adequately enlightens students on works by Indian writers, on themes and content that is Indian, in a language that was the language of the colonizer. English has been adapted and adopted to suit the cultural and social concerns of India, through narrative devices that bear a blended influence of traditional Indian techniques and Western genres.</p>
<p>CC4</p>	<p>British Poetry and Drama</p> <p>Poetry- The syllabus in this section corresponds to the History of English Literature syllabus learnt in the previous semester in CC1, Group A. The five poets correspond to Medieval, Renaissance, Elizabethan, Cavalier and Puritan poetry.</p> <p>Drama- (Students have to study two plays)</p> <p>Christopher Marlowe’s Edward II or Shakespeare’s Macbeth- Students are free to choose either one of these two tragedies.</p> <p>Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night or As You Like it – Either one of these comedies must be attempted.</p>

Semester 3

American Literature

Poetry- Five major early American poets (Robert Frost, Walt Whitman, Sylvia Plath, Langston Hughes and Edgar Allen Poe) introduce students to American Literature.

Novel- ***The Old Man and the Sea***- The short 1951 novel by American author Ernest Hemingway, is about an aging and experienced fisherman , Santiago, who struggles for eighty four days on sea. With Cuban and Spanish influences evident in the novel , it widens the readers’ horizon to literature and culture of other parts of the world.

Short stories-Three short stories by three eminent writers (Edgar Allen Poe, F.Scott Fitzgerald & William Faulkner) introduce to major prose writers and give exposure to a variety of social and personal reality.

Drama- ***Death of a Salesman*** by Arthur Miller- A depiction of the superficiality of the American Dream through the tragic fate of the main character Willy Loman.

CC6

Popular Literature

Through the Looking Glass: Through the game of chess, Lewis Carroll suggests his readers that a greater force guides an individual through life and that all events are pre-ordained. Students are acquainted with Deterministic concept where free will is an illusion.

The Murder of Roger Ackroyd-Detective fiction by Agatha Christie, where the famous Hercule Poirot investigates the murder using evidence and knowledge of human behavior to reveal the blackmailer-killer, whose identity shocks everyone, especially the reader.

Abol Tabol- A collection of Children’s Poems by Sukumar Ray, literally translating as ‘The Weird and the Absurd’ , introduce students to a fantasy world that is a skillfully hidden satire on the state of society and administration in 20th century colonial India.

Tintin in Tibet- The twentieth volume of ***The Adventure of Tintin*** comic series by Belgian cartoonist, Herge. This is about Tintin’s expedition in the Himalayas to rescue his friend Chang, who has survived a plane crash and is now guarded by a Yeti. The book is about friendship and misunderstanding of the Yeti, who has been protective towards Chang.

CC7

[British Poetry & Drama -17th-18th century](#)

Paradise Lost –Book I- Through this 17th century poem by John Milton, students learn about the Biblical story of the Fall of Man; the temptation of Adam and Eve by Satan and their expulsion from the garden of Eden . However, book I, is only concerned with Satan and his band of Angels and their Fall from heaven and creation of Hell, thereafter.

The Rape of the Lock-Canto I-III- A high burlesque mock-heroic narrative poem by Alexander Pope is based on an actual incident of nonconsensual personal invasion by an aristocratic Catholic Lord of a Lady’s lock of hair.

The Duchess of Malfi- Set in Roman Catholic Italy, this play by John Webster, portrays the corruption and sin in Italian aristocracy. Through a gory tale of dark humour and revenge, students are exposed to the depth of degeneracy of the brothers towards their sister for their greed and sexual depravity.

The Rover-Set in carnival time at Naples in 1656, this play by Aphra Behn takes its audience back to the world of Royalist continental exile. Interwoven with the theme of Cavaliers in exile is the attempt of the heroines to exert some control over their destiny. Students shall learn about religion and politics as well as feminist thought in this text.

SKILL
ENHANCEMENT
COURSE

SEC-A1- [Translation Studies](#)

The necessity of translating texts to Indian languages and other foreign languages, the changes in context and meaning when translating from one language to another, difference between literal and free translation and the significance of transcreation will be covered in this option of Skill Enhancement Course.

OR

SEC-A2- [Business Communication](#)

Everything relevant for professional work – writing reports, letters, curriculum vitae, writing meeting minutes and e-correspondence are dealt with in this paper. Students gain knowledge of the areas in which they need to chisel their skills for gaining competence.

<p>SEMESTER 4</p> <p>CC8</p>	<p>18th Century British Literature</p> <p>London- A neoclassical poem by Samuel Johnson, written in the year 1738, is based on a satire by Juvenal’s Third satire, expressed by the character of Thales as he decides to leave London for Wales.</p> <p>Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard-Poem by Thomas Gray, written in the neoclassical period, shows attempts to break away from the thralldom of classicism to the freedom of romanticism.</p> <p>The Way of the World- A Restoration comedy of manners in five acts by William Congreve, focusing on covert intrigues and clandestine affairs by the gay and carefree aristocracy.</p> <p>Robinson Crusoe- The life about an impulsive, defiant wanderer surviving on a desolate Island, for twenty years is an interesting adventure story with undertones of colonial expansion.</p> <p>‘Sir Roger at Home’& ‘Sir Roger at Church’- Essays, through which Joseph Addison commends virtues that facilitate the well-being of society.</p>
<p>CC9</p>	<p>British Romantic Literature</p> <p>Poetry: Nine poems of five major Romantic poets provide a comprehensive understanding of Romantic poetry to the students.</p> <p>‘Dream Children’ & ‘The Superannuated Man’-Two personal essays by Chales Lamb, is a unique lesson in camouflaging pathos through humour.</p> <p>Frankenstein- A Gothic novel by Mary Shelley, that may also be considered as science fiction has multiple layers of meaning and can be read as a feminist text, dangers of unbridled revolutionary enthusiasm, the origin of monstrosity & the responsibility of the creator for his creation etc.</p>
<p>CC10</p>	<p>19th Century British Literature</p> <p>Poetry- Four poems by four poets introduce students to the varied spirit of the Victorian age- quest for knowledge and adventure, indomitable desire for subordination, contrary demands of feminism and religion and the conflict between tradition and modernity.</p> <p>Pride and PrejudiceORJane Eyre- Students have to read one of these texts based in rural England for their course.</p>

<p>SKILL ENHANCEMENT COURSE</p> <p>SEMESTER 5</p> <p>CC11</p>	<p>Oliver TwistORThe Mayor of Casterbridge- Again students have an option of studying any one of the given novels. While Oliver Twist is about the 'condition of England question' and based in urban industrial England; Hardy's The Mayor of Casterbridge is set in rural England, slowly moving from a feudal social set up to a more democratic one.</p> <p>SEC- B1- Creative Writing</p> <p>This course enlightens students about the importance of creative writing in the development of personality and creativity. They gain insight to the actual process in creative writing like poetry and short story. The publishing process and different modes like books, articles in newspapers, articles in magazines, periodicals and social media and their impact thereof are also taught in this course.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>SEC-B2- Academic Writing</p> <p>Essential aspects of writing like Critical Appreciation, Summary or Substance writing with a critical note and Essay writing, that are usually part of syllabus from middle school is given a further polish in this course. Referencing and citing sources are also included in this course.</p> <p>WOMEN'S WRITING</p> <p>Poetry- Poems by three different female poets from three different locations expose students to women's poetry of different kinds.</p> <p>Alice Walker-The Colour Purple- The novel by an African-American female novelist on the plight, torture, sexual abuse and discrimination of a young girl at the hands of her father and her husband and her later growth and independence is an inspiring lesson</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Emily Bronte- Wuthering Heights-The only novel by Emily Bronte about love and passion and betrayal set in rural England is also about rage and the consequences of class prejudice and property laws that are unjust towards women.</p> <p>Mahasweta Devi- Draupadi- A subaltern presentation of the mythical character of Draupadi that highlights discrimination and suffering of marginalized women in a new way.</p>
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CC12

Katherine Mansfield –‘Bliss’-This short story by Katherine Mansfield is concerned with the theme of marriage and domestic life of women, which implies keeping up appearances and refraining from self-expression.

Mary Wollstonecraft- **A Vindication of the Rights of Women** (Chapters I&II)- An attack on the double standards of society and a manifesto for women’s rights, where she believes that women deserve the same rights as men and treating them as mere companions or ornaments undercuts the moral foundation of society.

Rassundari Devi- **Amar Jiban**- The struggles of a middleclass wife with intellectual ambitions provides a new perspective on family and marriage.

Early 20th Century British Literature

Poetry- Three major Modern poets-T.S Eliot, W.B Yeats and Spring Offensive- depict the loss of meaning and faith and discomfort in changing world through their poetry.

Heart of Darkness- This novella by Joseph Conrad problematised notions of European civilization and religious morality, while pointing to the gruesome exploitation of land and people in the Congo. The novel is also a reassessment of the self as a unified sensibility. Students undergo a process of disillusionment of accepted notions of morality and civilization.

Sons and Lovers- A multilayered novel by D.H Lawrence, autobiographical and psychological , explores the myth of Oedipus and the contradictions of love and hate in man-woman relationship.

Pygmalion-A play by George Bernard Shaw named after the Greek mythological figure, is based on the idea that realism takes over idealism.

DSE A1 or A2

A1- MODERN INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH

Stories- Three short stories –‘The Shroud’, ‘The Quilt’ & ‘Rebati’- by Munshi Prem Chand, Ismat Chughtai & Fakir Mohan Senapati respectively mirror Indian society in its variety and problems.

Poetry- The syllabus includes two poems from Rabindranath Tagore’s Gitanjali-(XXVII &XCVII), G.M Muktibodh’s ‘The Void’ &Amrita Pritam’s ‘I say Unto Waris Shah’.

The Home & the World- A novel by Rabindranath Tagore (translated from Bengali) challenges accepted notions of Nationalism and Swadeshi movement along with the themes of harmony and authoritarianism.

Silence! The Court is in Session- A play by Vijay Tendulkar that centers on an artificial mock trial where one of the characters, a woman, is viciously prosecuted. The play is an interesting critique of middle class people and lays bare the hypocrisy of the educated respectable members of society.

DSE A2- Literary Theory & Criticism

Literary Theory

Three major social thinkers, who have significantly contributed to shaping the mindscape of the world have been included in the syllabus. Antonio Gramsci considers the notion of “intellectuals” as a separate category independent of class as a myth in the essay “The Formation of Intellectuals”. Virginia Woolf notes the importance of having a room of one’s own, space to oneself, very essential for women to live on their own terms and money, exclusively their own to pursue their literary ambitions in the essay “A Room of One’s Own”. Rabindranath Tagore, argues in the essay “Nationalism in India” that India’s problem, like many other countries, was social and not political. He values harmony over narrow Nationalism.

Literary Criticism

William Wordsworth’s ‘Preface’ to the **Lyrical Ballads** outlines his ideas about poetry and the poetic process. Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s **Biographia Literaria** (Chapters xiii & xiv) or Literary Biography is his theory on the process of poetic creativity. T.S Eliot emphasizes that poetry should be impersonal and that there should be a separation of the art from the artist in his essay “Tradition and the Individual Talent.”

The given topics on Literary theory and Literary criticism introduce student to the process of literary creation and critical analysis of literary work.

DSE B1 OR B2

DSE- B1-LITERARY TYPES, RHETORIC & PROSODY

Group A- **Literary Types**

Tragedy- The syllabus includes plays that are Tragedy (**Oedipus the King, Macbeth**) and in this section students learn about the theoretical aspect of Tragedy- Tragic Hero, Catharsis, Heroic Tragedy and Chorus.

Comedy – Different types of comedy- Romantic Comedy, Comedy of Humours, Comedy of Manners, Sentimental comedy are taught in this section. Although students have studied **As You Like It**, a romantic comedy, they need acquaintance with the other types of comedy.

<p>SEMESTER 6</p> <p>CC13</p>	<p>Short story- Students get a theoretical understanding of the different short stories they have studied in their syllabus.</p> <p>Group B- Rhetoric</p> <p>Rhetorical elements or the different figures of speech help students identify reasons for the persuasive and impressive impact of poetry.</p> <p>Group C- Prosody</p> <p>Students learn about rhythm, stress & intonation of speech and through scansion or division of lines into metrical feet, the rhyme scheme of poems become familiar to the students.</p> <p>DSE- B2- CONTEMPORARY INDIA: WOMEN & EMPOWERMENT</p> <p>In this section of the syllabus, students become familiar with the social construction of gender. History of Women’s Movement in India (pre-independence & post-independence) are taught to give an idea about the contribution of women in India’s Independence. The history of sacrifice, often unacknowledged, is inspiring and encouraging.</p> <p>Knowledge of empowerment of women is incomplete without the study of laws that help prevent Domestic Violence, Female Foeticide and Sexual Harassment.</p> <p>Gender discrimination takes on an even complex form when it comes to Dalit women and the Double Marginalisation they have to encounter.</p> <p>MODERN EUROPEAN DRAMA</p> <p>Henrik Ibsen – Ghosts or A Doll’s House- Students have to attempt either one of the two plays by the Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen. Ghosts deal with the baggage of heredity. A Doll’s House deals with the vulnerable position of women in the domestic space and was a clarion call to all women to transcend the trappings of family and tradition to seek their liberation.</p> <p>Bertolt Brecht- The Good Woman of Szechuan- This play introduces learners to the concept of Epic Theatre and Alienation Effect. Brecht revolutionized theatre by involving the audience in the texture of the play.</p> <p>Samuel Beckett- Waiting for Godot- A unique play that acquaints learners with The Theatre of the Absurd . It deals with the basic existential problems plaguing the people on the periphery.</p>
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<p>CC 14</p>	<p>Postcolonial Literature.</p> <p>Poetry- Four poems of poets of former colonies are to be studied compulsorily- Pablo Neruda from Chile, Derek Walcott from Saint Lucian, David Malouf from Australia and Mamang Dai from India.</p> <p>Chinua Achebe- <i>Things Fall Apart</i>-This debut novel published in 1958 is a story about a culture on the verge of change. The struggle between change and tradition is chronicled through the life of Okonkwo, the leader of the Igbo community.</p> <p>Gabriel Garcia Marquez- <i>Chronicle of a Death Foretold</i>- Novella published in 1981, in a pseudo-journalistic way questions the reliability of person’s memory, which becomes distorted and broken over the passage of time.</p>
<p>DSE-A3</p>	<p>DSE-A3- PARTITION LITERATURE</p>
<p>OR</p>	
<p>DSE-A4</p>	<p><i>The Shadow Lines</i>- A Sahitya Akademi winning novel by Amitav Ghosh challenges the portrayal of nation as unique entity. The lines that demarcate boundaries are more shadowy than real and lines not only appear in maps but also between imagination and reality, past and present & memory and desire.</p> <p>Short stories- Three short stories by Protiva Basu(‘The Marooned’), Manik Bandyopadhyay (‘The Final Solution’) & Sadat Hasan Manto (‘Toba Tek Singh’) are to be studied and analysed by students.</p> <p>Poetry-One poem each by three poets- Sahir Ludhianvi , Birendra Chattopadhyay & Sankha Ghosh – on partition have to be attempted by the students.</p> <p>DSE-A4- MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION</p> <p>In this option students learn about Mass Communication and its significance, its impact on Globalisation and the theoretical understanding of the same. Students shall learn about how to write pamphlets and Posters and also learn about Advertisements and creating advertisements. This option shall equip students with the specific knowledge necessary for pursuing a career in Media and Mass Communication.</p>
<p>DSE B3</p>	<p>DSE-B3- AUTOBIOGRAPHY</p>
<p>OR</p>	
<p>DSE B4</p>	<p>Autobiographies of four eminent personalities engage students into the private lives of these personalities in their childhood. Only specified chapters from theses autobiographies are</p>

included in the syllabus. Rabindranath Tagore's ***My Reminiscences*** (Chapters 1-15) provide a detailed account of Tagore's life as a young boy and his early education along with his brothers in Jorasanko. The tight schedule, the lack of parental indulgence, the truancy in young boys is not only humorous but also a lesson on the methods of child upbringing.

In a similar vein Mahatma Gandhi's ***Autobiography or the Story of My Experiments with Truth*** (Part I, Chapters 1-8) is a candid expression of Mahatma Gandhi's life as a mediocre and shy student, a reluctant and fearful participant in sports, yet having strong convictions about the need for adhering to the truth. Students shall have an idea of the influence of his mother on his principle of fasting.

Binodini Dasi's ***MyStory and Life as an Actress*** is in stark contrast to the above mentioned autobiographies and is a document of the struggles of a young girl from a poverty stricken household to becoming an actress on stage. While the former autobiographies are about men born in privileged families, Bindodini Dasi's story is an account of the difficult lives of women and the abuse they go through.

Nirad C. Chaudhuri's ***The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian*** (Book I) was less an autobiography and more a picture of the society he was born in and grew up. His intention was to tell a story of the struggle of a civilization in a hostile environment.

DSE –B4- **TEXT AND PERFORMANCE**

This option includes history of theatre and traditions of theatre (in India and the West). The historical account of the stages of development of various theatrical forms and the different theatres- Classical. Modern and Contemporary Theatres. Study of theatres would be incomplete without a study of Folk Traditions and the influence of Tagore on theatre is also an essential part of this syllabus.

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