



ANDHRA KESARI UNIVERSITY

Programme: B.A. Honours in Special English (Major)

w.e.f. AY 2025-26

Course Structure

Year	Semester	Course	Title of the Course	No. of Hrs /Week	No. of Credits
II	III	5	An Introduction to Augustan Literature (1700–1750)	4	4
		6	An Introduction to Romantic Literature (1798–1837)	4	4
		7	History of English Language	4	4
	IV	8	An Introduction to Victorian Literature (1837-1900)	4	4
		9	An Introduction to Modern Literature (1900–1940)	4	4
		10	Glimpses of world literature	4	4

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SEMESTER-III

COURSE 5: AN INTRODUCTION TO AUGUSTAN LITERATURE (1700–1750)

Theory: 4hrs/week

Credits: 4

Course Objectives

- Introduce students to the historical, cultural, and literary background of the Augustan Age.
- Familiarise learners with major writers, genres, and themes of the period.
- Develop a critical understanding of Augustan prose, poetry, drama, and literary criticism.
- Enable students to appreciate the satirical and moral tone of Augustan literature.
- Equip learners to relate literary texts to contemporary political and social developments.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain the salient features and socio-political influences of the Augustan Age.
- Identify and interpret key literary devices used in Augustan poetry and prose.
- Analyse selected texts for their satirical content and philosophical depth.
- Develop academic presentations and discussions based on the readings.
- Recognise the legacy and transition towards neoclassical and modern sensibilities.

Unit I

- Characteristics of Augustan Literature
- Major Themes: Rationalism, Novel, Criticism, Political Commentary
- Writers: Jonathan Swift, Alexander Pope, Joseph Addison, Samuel Johnson
- Literary Genres: Mock Epic, Heroic Couplet, Satire, Periodical Essay,

Unit II

- Alexander Pope: The Rape of the Lock (Canto I)

Unit III

- Jonathan Swift: A Modest Proposal
- Joseph Addison: Sir Roger at Church (from The Spectator)

Unit IV

- Daniel Defoe: Robinson Crusoe



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Unit V

Alexander Pope: Essay on Criticism (Selected Lines)

Suggested Classroom Activities

- Timeline Chart: Augustan Literary Events
- Group Discussion: Comparison of Elizabethan and Augustan theatre
- Recitation of Heroic Couplets
- Analysis of Satirical Techniques in Pope's poetry
- Role Play: Jonathan Swift's A Modest Proposal in modern context
- Debate: Satire as a tool for social reform
- Group enactment of selected scenes
- Critical Appreciation: Dissecting Pope's poetic theories
- Quiz: Key literary terms and critics from the period

References

Print Sources

Daiches, David. A Critical History of English Literature. Allied Publishers.

Abrams, M.H. A Glossary of Literary Terms. Cengage Learning.

Ian Jack. Augustan Satire: Intention and Idiom in English Poetry, 1660–1750.
Clarendon Press.

Paul Baines, Julian Ferraro, and Pat Rogers. The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of
Eighteenth-Century Writers and Writing. Wiley

Online Resources:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

<https://www.gutenberg.org/>

<https://literariness.org/>

<https://lithub.com/>



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SEMESTER-III

COURSE 6: AN INTRODUCTION TO ROMANTIC LITERATURE (1798–1837)

Theory: 4 hrs/week

Credits: 4

Course Objectives:

- Relate the features of the Romantic period.
- Understand the aspects of literary genres, forms and terms of the period.
- Analyze the characteristics of poetry, prose, fiction and literary criticism.
- Have a detailed understanding of the literary texts with the progression of age.
- Critically appreciate the literary texts of the period.

Learning Outcomes:

- Relate the features of the Romantic period.
- Understand the aspects of literary genres, forms and terms of the period.
- Analyze the characteristics of poetry, prose, fiction and literary criticism.
- Have a detailed understanding of the literary texts with the progression of age.
- Critically appreciate the literary texts of the period.

Unit I

- History of Romantic Literature – Characteristics, Major themes & writers
- Literary Genres – Ode, Lyric, Hyperbole, Pastoral Elegy, Imagery, Symbolism, Point of View

Unit II

- Poetry – William Wordsworth: The Solitary Reaper
- John Keats: Ode on a Grecian Urn

Unit III

- Fiction – Jane Austen: Pride and Prejudice

Unit IV

- Prose – Charles Lamb: Dream Children: A Reverie



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Unit V

- Literary Criticism – Samuel Taylor Coleridge: Biographia Literaria

Suggested Classroom Activities:

- Making the students prepare mind maps based on the plot of the novel.
- Students are to prepare biographies of the prescribed authors.
- To prepare charts of authors with different literary genres.
- Group discussion on characteristics of the literary period.
- Seminar presentations on the literary texts prescribed.

References:

- Daiches, David. 1979. A Critical History of English Literature. Bombay: Allied Publishers.
- Grierson, H.J.C. 2014. A History of English Poetry. CUP.
- Daiches, David. 2014 ed. History of English Literature. (4 Volumes). CUP.
- Eagleton, Terry. 2007. How to Read a Poem. Oxford: Blackwell
- T. S. Eliot. 1921. Poetry and Prose: The Chap Book. Poetry Book shop London.
- M.S. Naagarajan. 2006. English Literary Criticism & Theory.
- Barry, Peter. 2010. Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary Theory and Cultural Theory, Manchester University Press, Manchester.
- M. H. Abrams. 2015. Glossary of Literary Terms. Cengage Learning.



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SEMESTER-III
COURSE 7 : HISTORY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Theory: 4hrs/week

Credits: 4

Course Objectives

- To introduce students to the origin and evolution of the English language.
- To familiarise students with the socio-political and linguistic influences on the development of English.
- To help learners understand the structural changes across different periods of English.
- To enable appreciation of the English language's adaptability and global spread.

Learning Outcomes

- Trace the history and evolution of English from Old English to Modern English.
- Understand the major phonological, morphological, and syntactic changes across time.
- Identify key events and figures that influenced the English language.
- Appreciate the impact of colonisation, printing, and globalisation on English.

Unit I

- Origin of English – Indo-European Family of Languages
- Characteristics of Old English
- Influence of Latin and Norse Invasions

Unit II

- Norman Conquest and its linguistic impact
- Features of Middle English
- Geoffrey Chaucer and Standardisation beginnings

Unit III

- Renaissance and the Rebirth of Learning
- The Printing Press – William Caxton



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Influence of Shakespeare and the Bible

Unit IV

Major sound changes – The Great Vowel Shift

Vocabulary enrichment through exploration and borrowing

Rise of dictionaries – Dr. Johnson's Dictionary

Unit V

Colonial Expansion and English around the world

Varieties of English – American, Indian and African.

English as a global language – Pros and Cons

Suggested Classroom Activities

Language family tree mapping

Discussion on influence of Norse vocabulary

Pronunciation comparison: Old vs. Middle English

Chaucer reading – simplified versions

Printing press timeline activity

Shakespeare word coinage activity

Charting the Great Vowel Shift

Word origin tracing activity (etymology)

Debate on English as a global language

Presentation on varieties of English (with examples)

References

Offline Resources

C.L. Wrenn – A History of the English Language

Otto Jespersen – Growth and Structure of the English Language

Albert C. Baugh & Thomas Cable – A History of the English Language

Online Resources

NPTEL / SWAYAM courses on History of English Language

YouTube: History of English series by Open Learn, BBC Learning English

The British Library – History of English Resources



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SEMESTER-IV

COURSE 8 : AN INTRODUCTION TO VICTORIAN LITERATURE (1837-1900)

Theory 4hrs/week

Credits: 4

Objectives:

- Identify the influences of the Victorian society on its literary period.
- Understand the aspects of literary genres, forms and terms of the period.
- Analyze the characteristics of poetry, drama, fiction and literary criticism.
- Have a detailed understanding of the literary texts with the progression of age.
- Critically appreciate the literary texts of the period.

Unit- I

- History of Victorian Literature--- Characteristics, Major themes & writers
- Literary Genres--- Gothic Novel, Melodrama, Historical Novel, Sentimental Novel, Regional Novel, Flat Character, Round Character, Dramatic Monologue

Unit- II

- Poetry--- Robert Browning: My Last Duchess
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning: Patience Taught by Nature

Unit- III

- Drama--- Oscar Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest

Unit- IV

- Fiction--- Charles Dickens: David Copperfield

Unit- V

- Literary Criticism--- Mathew Arnold: Function of Criticism, Touchstone Method

Suggested Classroom Activities:



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- Making the students prepare mind maps based on the plot of the novel.
- Students are to prepare biographies of the prescribed authors.
- To prepare charts of authors with different literary genres
- Group discussion on characteristics of the literary period
- Seminar presentations on the literary texts prescribed.
- Enacting notable scenes/acts of the drama prescribed.

References:

- Daiches, David. 1979. A Critical History of English Literature. Bombay: Allied Publishers.
- Grierson, H.J.C. 2014. A History of English Poetry. CUP.
- Daiches, David. 2014 ed. History of English Literature. (4 Volumes). CUP.
- Eagleton, Terry. 2007. How to Read a Poem. Oxford: Blackwell.
- M.S. Naagarajan. 2006. English Literary Criticism & Theory.
- Barry, Peter. 2010. Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary Theory and Cultural Theory,
Manchester University Press, Manchester.
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SEMESTER-IV

COURSE 9 : AN INTRODUCTION TO MODERN LITERATURE (1900–1940)

Theory: 4hrs/week

Credits: 4

Course Objectives:

- Identify the features of Modern literature.
- Understand the aspects of literary genres, forms and terms of the period.
- Analyze the characteristics of poetry, drama, fiction and literary criticism.
- Have a detailed understanding of the literary texts with the progression of age.
- Critically appreciate the literary texts of the period.

Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the major themes and features of Modern literature.
- Interpret and analyze key literary texts from 1900–1940 with reference to their context.
- Compare and contrast different literary genres including poetry, drama, fiction and criticism.
- Apply critical thinking skills to examine the use of style, language, and structure in literary works.
- Develop coherent arguments and presentations on Modern literary texts and authors.

Unit – I

History of Modern Literature – Characteristics,
Major themes & writers
Literary Genres – Absurd Drama, Existentialism, Stream of Consciousness, Naturalism, Realism,
Surrealism

Unit – II

Poetry – W.B. Yeats: Sailing to Byzantium
T.S. Eliot: Journey of the Magi

Unit – III

Drama – Samuel Beckett: Waiting for Godot



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Unit – IV

Fiction – D.H. Lawrence: The Rainbow

Unit – V

Literary Criticism – T.S. Eliot: Traditional and Individual Talent

Suggested Classroom Activities

Making the students prepare mind maps based on the plot of the novel.

Students are to prepare biographies of the prescribed authors.

To prepare charts of authors with different literary genres.

Group discussion on characteristics of the literary period.

Seminar presentations on the literary texts prescribed.

Enacting notable scenes/acts of the drama prescribed.

References

Daiches, David. 1979. A Critical History of English Literature. Bombay: Allied Publishers.

Grierson, H.J.C. 2014. A History of English Poetry. CUP.

Daiches, David. 2014 ed. History of English Literature. (4 Volumes). CUP.

Eagleton, Terry. 2007. How to Read a Poem. Oxford: Blackwell.

M.S. Naagarajan. 2006. English Literary Criticism & Theory.

Barry, Peter. 2010. Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary Theory and Cultural Theory, Manchester University Press, Manchester.

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SEMESTER-IV
COURSE 10: GLIMPSES OF WORLD LITERATURE

Theory: 4hrs/week

Credits: 4

Course Objectives:

- Learn the salient features of world literatures.
- Analyze the sense and sensibilities across the globe
- Understand the influence of various –isms on literary texts.
- Interpret the meaning of a literary text by reading between the lines.
- Identify cultural influences on Modern English literature.

Learning Outcomes:

- Learn the salient features of world literatures.
- Analyze the sense and sensibilities across the globe
- Understand the influence of various –isms on literary texts.
- Interpret the meaning of a literary text by reading between the lines
- Identify cultural influences on Modern English literature.

Unit – I

Poetry —Gabriel Okara: Once Upon a Time; Maya Angelou: Caged Bird

Unit – II

Drama — Girish Karnad: Nagamandala

Unit – III

Fiction — Fyodor Dostoevsky: Crime and Punishment

Unit – IV



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Short Story — O. Henry: The Last Leaf; Tillie Olsen: I Stand Here Ironing

Unit - V

Literary Criticism — I. A. Richards: Four Kinds of Meaning

Suggested Classroom Activities

- Making the students prepare mind maps based on the plot of the novel.
- Students are to prepare biographies of the prescribed authors.
- To prepare charts of authors with different literary genres.
- Group discussion on characteristics of the literary period.
- Seminar presentations on the literary texts prescribed.

References

- Daiches, David. 1979. A Critical History of English Literature. Bombay: Allied Publishers.
- Grierson, H.J.C. 2014. A History of English Poetry. CUP.
- Daiches, David. 2014 ed. History of English Literature. (4 Volumes). CUP.
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