

AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI
School of Undergraduate Studies

LIST OF ENGLISH COURSES
WINTER SEMESTER 2012-2013

II Semester

- **EN02: Introduction to Indian and World Literatures (IIWL)**

This course is geared towards adding to the students' understanding of the day-to-day realities they inhabit and the differences that define their lives by introducing them to varied literary trends from across the world. It also seeks to sensitize them to the socio-politico-cultural contexts and geographical and temporal locations that shape literatures of particular regions, ethnicities and societies. Some of the themes covered in the course will be: race, gender, caste, class, sexuality, disability exile, war, marginality, environment, nationalism, diaspora, conflict, orality, dissent, protest, bondage, love, migration and displacement, identity, multiculturalism.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English Proficiency Course 1. All English Majors in Semester II are advised to pick either this course or Literatures of the Renaissance. This course is open to students of all other BA Major programmes.

Course Team: Dr Usha Mudiganti (Co-ordinator, usha@aud.ac.in), Ms Bhoomika Meiling

- **EN19: Literatures of the Renaissance (LiR)**

The Renaissance, as a cultural movement in Europe during the late fourteenth century to early seventeenth century, is the focus of this course. The Renaissance which means "rebirth" is characterised by the revival of Classical learning, Reform in religion, opening up of the New World, and certain events in history, science and technology (for example, the invention of the printing press). These events marked a significant shift in the way human beings thought and engaged with the world around them. This period has, therefore, been cited as the Early Modern Era which indicates a shift from the "Dark Ages". The resultant flux from these transitions reflects in the cultural productions of that time. While on one hand the literatures of the Renaissance showcases a celebration of the times, yet there is an

undercurrent of something darker as well. This course will make students familiar with this period through indicative texts from art and literature of that time.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English Proficiency Course 1. All English Majors in Semester II are advised to pick either this course or Introduction to Indian and World Literatures.

Course Team: Ms Juhi Rituparna (juhi@aud.ac.in)

IV Semester

Students of BA English are advised to register of three of the four courses given below.

- **EN07: Tragedy Down the Ages (TDA)**

Tragedy as a form of drama has managed to survive through centuries. From the time of Bhasa and Greek tragedies to modern times, this genre of drama has undergone various changes. An undergraduate course on tragedy would involve representative texts from the ancient to modern times depicting different situations, leading to the same effect. The course will dwell on the evolution of the concept of tragic hero and the origin of suffering or the tragic flaw. The course will also look into the question of the tragic vision --- does tragedy underline the misery of human existence or the triumph of man in adverse situations? Texts include Urubhanga, Oedipus Rex, Othello, Riders to the Sea and Death of A Salesman.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of EN01 or EN02. Open to all English Majors of Semester IV.

Course Team: Ms Sanju Thomas (sanju@aud.ac.in)

- **EN08: American Literature (AL)**

This course aims to understand the concept of American Renaissance. Along the way it expects the students to form an idea about the foundations of an identity of American literature independent of its European predecessors. It also seeks to sensitize them towards the meaning of democracy and how it has evolved, suffered setbacks and often even been questioned in the nineteenth century in United States of America. Some of the authors whose work will be read in the course are Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Thoreau and Mark Twain.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of EN01 or EN02. Open to all English Majors of Semester IV.

Course Team: Ms Bhoomika Meiling (bhoomika@aud.ac.in)

- **EN09: Postcolonial Literatures (PL)**

As the title "Postcolonial Literatures" suggests this course introduces the students to the literature of the former colonial world – India, Africa, and the Caribbean islands – where the most interesting and innovative literature in English is being produced. Along with critical reading of the literature, post-colonialism will be explored as a historical and cultural phenomenon. Various issues in post-colonial studies like language, diaspora, culture, history, and nation will be explored through theoretical, literary and cultural texts. The course aims to introduce students to prominent post-colonial writers like Chinua Achebe, M.G. Vassanji, R. Parthasarthy, Salman Rushdie, Wole Soyinka, David Dabydeen among others.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of EN01 or EN02. Open to all English Majors of Semester IV.

Course Team: Dr Vikram Singh Thakur (vikram@aud.ac.in)

- **EN10: Introduction to Cultural Studies (ICS)**

The emergence of Cultural Studies as a legitimate area of intellectual inquiry is now well documented and its importance as an emerging and exciting area of study cannot be overestimated. Cultural Studies, loosely defined as ‘the study of the material processes through which culture is constructed’ involves looking at variety of cultural processes and products and coming to terms with the inherent politics of cultural production and dissemination. The course will be engaging with contemporary cultural productions (cinema, performance, photography, music, television, posters, cuisines, travelogues, sports, entertainment etc) from a theoretical vantage point to understand how culture can be read, produced and studied. The course will comprise of a Reader comprising of seminal essays in cultural studies. The course will further look at cultural products within and outside the cultural context in which it is produced. This is a vigorous course and demands both academic and practical assessment situations.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of EN01 or EN02. Open to all English Majors of Semester IV.

Course Team: Mr Sayandeb Chowdhury (sayan@aud.ac.in)