

**Ambedkar University Delhi**

**Course Outline**

**Winter Semester (January to May 2018)**

**Tuesdays 11 AM to 1 PM and Fridays 1.45 PM to 3.45 PM**

**Room No. 404**

**School:** School of Letters

**Programme with title:** MA English

**Semester to which offered:** II and IV

**Course Title:** Literatures of Childhood

**Credits:** 4 Credits

**Course Code (new):** SOL2EN301

**Course Code (old):** SLS2EN301

**Type of Course:**

Compulsory

Elective Yes

**For SUS only (Mark an X for as many as appropriate):**

1. Foundation (Compulsory)
2. Foundation (Elective)
3. Discipline (Compulsory)
4. Discipline (Elective)
5. Elective

**Course Coordinator and Team:** Usha Mudiganti

**Email of course coordinator:** usha@aud.ac.in

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Aim:** This course examines the notion of childhood through its representations in Anglo-American and Indian literatures. It engages with the evolution of childhood into its contemporary forms in these cultures. The course aims at drawing the student into a critical examination of the ‘construct’ of childhood and its cultural implications. The point of departure for this course is the belief that the construction of childhood is significantly influenced by the dominant ideas of the period and is informed by the specificities of the culture within which it is being formed.

**Brief description of modules/ Main modules:**

The main texts considered include those written *about* children as well as those written *for* them. These texts are supplemented by studies of childhood conducted in the social, legal and psychological domains.

*Great Expectations*. Charles Dickens

*The Secret Garden*. Frances Hodgson Burnett

*Kim*. Rudyard Kipling

“Cry of the Children”. Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

“Pied Piper of Hamelin”. Robert Browning.

“Rules and Regulations”. Lewis Carroll.

“The Rocking Horse Winner”. D H Lawrence.

“My Oedipus Complex”. Frank O’ Connor.

“The Two Concepts of Childhood”. Philippe Aries.

“Infantile Sexuality”. Sigmund Freud.

There will be a few essays for supplementary reading in the reader

**Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:**

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
1	Assignment	Late August	20
2	Mid-Term	Late September	30
3	Paper Presentation	Late October	20
4	End Term	Late November	30

