

School of Undergraduate Studies
Ambedkar University Delhi
Course Outline

School:	Undergraduate Studies
Programme with title:	BA (Honours)
Semester to which offered:	Semester VI
Course Title:	Introduction to Literary Theory (ILT)
Credits:	4 Credits
Course Code (new):	SUSIEN256
Course Code (old):	
Type of Course:	Compulsory No Cohort BA (H) All disciplines
	Elective Yes BA English (H)

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

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

Course Coordinator and instructor:	Amit Singh
Email of course coordinator:	amit@aud.ac.in
Pre-requisites:	None

Aim: This course will introduce students to some of the key critical and theoretical ideas which have been seminal in the study of literary and cultural texts. It will expose students to some of the most influential thoughts and ideologies of the contemporary world and enable them to analyse, critique and situate literature within a larger context.

Indicative Reading List:

Culler, Jonathan. "What is Theory?" *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: OUP, 2000 (1997).1-17.

Freud, Sigmund, from "The Material and Sources of Dream", *The Interpretations of Dreams*, *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*, 919-23.

Lacan, "The Mirror Stage as Formative of the Function of the I as Revealed in Psychoanalytic Experience", *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*, 1285-1290.

Antonio Gramsci. 'The Formation of the Intellectuals' and 'Hegemony (Civil Society) and Separation of Powers,' *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*,

Louis Althusser, From 'Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses,' *Cultural theory and Popular Culture: A Reader* ed. John Storey, NY: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1994 (151-162)

Woolf, Virginia, *A Room of One's Own* (*Norton Anthology*, 1021-24)

Showalter, Elaine, "Towards a Feminist Poetics."

Saussure, Ferdinand de, from *Course in General Linguistics* (*Norton Anthology*, 960-977)

Barthes, Roland, from *Mythologies*

Derrida, Jacques, "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Science"

Barthes, Roland, "The Death of the Author" (*Norton Anthology*, 1466-70)

Assessment Details with weights:

Class Discussion & Participation: 10% (throughout the semester)

Class Presentation: 20%

Mid-semester exam: 30%

Written assignment: 10%

End-semester exam: 30%

Further Reference:

Williams, Raymond. "Marxism & Literature"

Rivkin, Julie and Michael Ryan, ed. *Literary Theory: An Anthology*

Culler, Jonathan. *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction*

Eagleton, Terry. *Literary Theory: An Introduction*

Selden, Raman and Peter Widdowson. *A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory*

Note: In addition there may be some additional readings for in class discussions that will be handed over to students during the course. All the readings will be available at the university Xerox shop.