

Ambedkar University Delhi

Course Outline

Monsoon Semester (January-May 2018)

School:	Undergraduate Studies			
Programme with title:	BA (Honours)			
Semester to which offered: (I/ III/ V)	IV semester			
Course Title:	Realism and the Novel			
Credits:	4 Credits			
Course Code (new):	SUS1EN254			
Course Code (old):	M01			
Type of Course	Elective	yes	Cohort	All BA (H) programmes

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 Team: Kopal Ahlawat (KP), Sanju Thomas (KG)

Email of course coordinator: kopal@aud.ac.in, sanju@aud.ac.in

Pre-requisites: None

Aim: Fiction, by definition, is a removal from reality. The aim of many major writers of fiction, though, was to mimic the real. In their endeavours to replicate the real, writers rejected the heroic and the aristocratic to embrace the gritty social reality of their times. The focus was on the ordinary person and the ordinary situation. At its best, the realist novel was to be like life itself. However, Realism's claim that it can mime the complexity of life has been contested. Roland Barthes, for instance, states that Realism only offers a "reality effect".

This course aims to conduct a detailed study of four realist novels to explore notions of time, chronology, consensus, points of view and the narrator, along with other important devices used by the realist writer, to learn the ways in which these contribute in simulating reality in fiction.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules:

1. Austen, Jane. *Emma*. (1816).
2. Dickens, Charles. *Hard Times*. (1854).
3. Hardy, Thomas. *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*. (1891).
4. James, Henry. *Daisy Miller*. (1878).

A supplementary reading list of critical material and a longer list of novels for class presentation will be given on the first day of class.

Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
1	Class test	End August	15%
2	Mid Semester Exam	End September/ early October	20%
3	Presentation	End October/ early November	30%
4	End Semester Exam	As per AUD Academic Calendar	30%
5	Class Participation	Throughout the semester	5%