

**School of Undergraduate Studies**

**Ambedkar University Delhi**

**Course Outline**

**Time Slot-**\_\_\_\_\_

**Course Code:** SUS1EN252

**Title:** Voices of Dissent: Bhakti Poetry

**Type of Course:** Discipline (English)

**Cohort for which it is compulsory:** BA Honours English

**Cohort for which it is elective:** All other Majors

**No of Credits:** 4

**Semester and Year Offered:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester (Winter Semester 2018)

**Course Coordinator and Team:** Dr Usha Mudiganti, Professor. Gopalji Pradhan, Dr. Mrityunjay Tripathi and Dr. Vaibhav

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

**Pre-requisites:** The student needs to be able to read, write and comprehend Hindi and English

**Aim:** This course will be transacted in English and Hindi. The course will introduce students to the bhakti tradition through poetry which spans centuries and will include poems from north to south and east to west. The term bhakti is used in its narrowest sense in today's world where religion has come to play an all important part in personal and public life. The course will lead the student to understand that bhakti is also about questioning and dissent as much as it is about faith, love and ecstasy. In this course, poetic renderings of social transformations across centuries will be read while foregrounding the idea that bhakti literature is the source of modern literature in India. The course will look at different forms of bhakti and analyse the features on gender and caste lines. The course will highlight both the personal and political aspects of bhakti.

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

1. Introduction: The bhakti traditions; major influences of the Bhakti traditions, debates in Hindi literature on bhakti traditions, language and literary creation in the Bhakti tradition, caste and bhakti in India and gender in the bhakti traditions.
2. Bhakti in South India: Selections from the Alvar poets, selected poems of Akkamahadevi,
3. Bhakti in Eastern India: Selections from Jaydev's Geet Govind,

4. Bhakti in North India: Selections from the poems of Surdas, Kabir, Jaisi, Tulsi, Nanak and Lal Ded
5. Bhakti in Western India: Selected poems of Tukaram, Janabai, Chokhamela, Mirabai
6. Influence of Bhakti: Sufi and bhakti; the folk traditions and bhakti; modern renderings of bhakti

#### References:

1. Dwivedi. Hazari Prasad. Hindi Sahitya ki Bhumika. New Delhi: Rajkamal Prakashan, 2008.
2. Dharwadker, Vinay. Ed. *The Collected Essays of Ramanujam*. Delhi: OUP, 2004.
3. Ramanujam, A. K. *Speaking of Shiva*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2000.
4. Sharma, Ram Vilas. Bhartiya Sanskriti aur Hindi Pradesh. New Delhi: Kitab Ghar, 2010.
5. Schelling, Andrew. Ed. *The Oxford Anthology of Bhakti Literature*. Delhi: OUP, 2011.

#### Assessment Details with weights:

- |                        |                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Class test          | 20% (end August)                   |
| 2. Mid semester        | 20% (end September/ early October) |
| 3. Group Presentations | 30% (Throughout October)           |
| 4. End semester        | 40% (as per AUD academic calendar) |

#### Reading List:

##### ***Indicative Reading List***

**Some poems from the following anthologies will be taken up for class discussions and a few others will be independently studied by students for their class presentations.**

Chitre, Dilip. *Says Tuka: Selected Poems of Tukaram*. Mumbai: Poetrywala: 1991.

Print.

Lal Ded Ranjit Hoskote. *I, Lalla: The Poems of Lal Ded*. New Delhi: Penguin

Books, 2013. Print.

Nammalvar. *Hymns for the Drowning*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2005. Print.

Ramanujan, A.K. Ed. and Trans. *Poems of Love and War*. New Delhi: OUP, 2006.

Print.

---. Trans. *Speaking of Shiva*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2000. Print.

Shivaprakash, H. S. Trans. *I Keep Vigil of Rudra: The Vachanas*. Gurgaon: Penguin, 2010.

Print.

Subramaniam, Arundhati. *Eating God: A Book of Bhakti Poetry*. New Delhi:

Penguin Books, 2014. Print.

Schelling, Andrew. Ed. *The Oxford Anthology of Bhakti Literature*. USA: OUP,

2011. Print. (Selections)

Tharu, Susie and Lalita, K. eds. *Women Writing in India. Volume 1. 600 B.C to the Early Twentieth Century*. New Delhi: OUP, 2012.

मनमोहन सिंह- सुंदर गुटका, गुरुनानक बानी, रणधीर प्रकाशन, हरिद्वार, 2009.

महीप सिंह- आदिग्रंथ में संग्रहीत संत कवि, भारतीय ज्ञानपीठ, दिल्ली, 2003

महीप सिंह- आदिग्रंथ, सांस्कृतिक और सामाजिक अध्ययन, राजपाल एंड सन्स, दिल्ली, 2009

विद्यापति- डाक्टर शिवप्रसाद सिंह, विद्यापति, लोकभारती प्रकाशन, इलाहाबाद, 2008

आचार्य हजारीप्रसाद द्विवेदी, कबीर, राजकमल प्रकाशन, दिल्ली, 2006

मध्यकालीन काव्य, लोकभारती प्रकाशन, 2010

गोस्वामी तुलसीदास, आचार्य रामचंद्र शुक्ल, प्रकाशन संस्थान, दिल्ली, 2004

सूरदास, आचार्य रामचंद्र शुक्ल, प्रकाशन संस्थान, दिल्ली