



Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani
Hyderabad Campus

SECOND SEMESTER 2019-2020

Course Handout Part II

Date: 20-11-2019

In addition to Part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : GS F242
Course Title : Cultural Studies
Instructor-in-Charge : Anhiti Patnaik

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to Cultural Studies as a field and practice, the different approaches and their relation to Critical Theory and Literary Criticism. Students learn the basic tenets of Marxism, Feminism, Psychoanalysis, Structuralism, Media and Communication Studies, Film Studies, and Art History/Criticism. Students will also examine the societal impact, business relevance, and effects of myriad practices, institutions, beliefs and varied social structures in contemporary India.

Course Objectives:

1. Learn different theoretical approaches to Cultural Studies.
2. Analyze contemporary literary, visual, and cultural texts using these approaches.
3. Define key terms and concepts of Critical Theory.
4. Produce original interdisciplinary research through discourse analysis.

Text Book:

Easthope, Anthony, and Kate McGowan. *A Critical and Cultural Theory Reader: 2nd Ed.* Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2004

Reference Book:

Barker, Chris. *The SAGE Dictionary of Cultural Studies.* London and New Delhi: SAGE Publications, 2004



Course Plan:

Lecture	Learning Objectives	Topics	Chapter Section
1-3	Defining Cultural Studies as Field and Practice	Introduction to key concepts and thinkers, problems, methodology	Reference Book
4-9	Examine the major tenets and theories of Structuralism	Readings by Ferdinand de Saussure and Roland Barthes	Pg. 5-14
10-16	Examine the major tenets and theories of Marxism	Readings by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, and Louis Althusser	Pg. 37-50
17-24	Examine the major trends and theories of Psychoanalysis	Readings by Sigmund Freud, and Michel Foucault	Pg. 77-80, 102-107
25-29	Examine the major trends and theories of Feminism	Readings by Simone de Beauvoir, and Rajeswari Sunder Rajan,	Pg. 51-54, 184-190
30-33	Examine the major trends and theories of Media and Communication Studies	Reading by Jean Baudrillard and Laura Mulvey	Pg. 218-20

Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
Quiz on CMS	60 mins	10	22/2/2020	OB
Group Project	60 mins	20	17/4/2020 12 am	OB
Mid Term	90 mins	30	2/3/2020 11 am	CB
Comprehensive Exam	3 hrs	40	TBA July	CB

Chamber Consultation Hour: Wednesdays 3:00-4:00 pm

Notices: Will be updated on CMS.

Make-up Policy: Make-up for an evaluation component will be allowed only in genuine cases with prior permission from the instructor, to be requested at least a week in advance. There will be no last-minute make-up examinations or late submissions. The decision of the instructor will be final.

Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy: Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable. Plagiarism cases will lead to a grade of 0 with no negotiation.



INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE

