



**Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani**  
Hyderabad Campus

**FIRST SEMESTER 2021-2022**

Course Handout Part II

Date: 20-08-2021

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. : HSS F335  
Course Title : Literary Criticism  
Instructor-in-Charge : Shilpaa Anand

**Scope and Objectives of the Course:** The course introduces the student to various trends in critical analysis and critical thought from the Classical period to the modern context. The student will identify and distinguish shifts in literary criticism and analyze a text based on the different critical approaches. The course will enable the student to describe and explain various aspects of a specific critical approach in relation to the historical context in which it emerged.

The main objectives of the course are to:

- introduce students to theory and practice of literary criticism;
- enable students to analyze a literary text using different critical approaches;
- enable students to describe and explain the historical context and conceptual basis of different critical approaches

**Textbooks:**

1. Barry, Peter. 2018. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

**Reference Books:**

1. Habib, M. A. R. 2005. *A History of Literary Criticism: From Plato to the Present*. Malden, MA: Blackwell.
2. Waugh, Patricia. 2006. *Literary Theory and Criticism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
3. Klarer, Mario. 2013. *An Introduction to Literary Studies*. London: Routledge.



**Course Plan:**

Lecture No.	Learning objectives	Topics to be covered	Chapter in the Text Book
1-4	Describe literary criticism and identify different aspects of a literary text	Key concepts: LITERATURE; LITERARY CRITICISM	Additional material will be made available
5-8	Identify and describe classical Greek notions of poetry and its influences on literary criticism	MIMESIS: Plato and Aristotle	TB: Chapter 1; Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2
9-13	Identify and distinguish between different trends in criticism between the 17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries	LITERATURE AND THE EUROPEAN ENLIGHTENMENT: literature, nationhood, 'rights' debates: Dryden, Johnson and Wollstonecraft	Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2
14-16	Discuss the main ideas that emerged during the period of Romanticism	Theories of IMAGINATION: Wordsworth and Coleridge	Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2
17-19	Describe and discuss the shifts in late 19 <sup>th</sup> century and early 20 <sup>th</sup> century criticism	LITERATURE AND MORALITY: Mathew Arnold and his influences	TB: Chapter 1; Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2
20-24	Describe and distinguish Marxist and psychoanalytic approaches to literature	MATERIAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF LITERARY PRODUCTION	Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2 and RB 3
25-28	Identify different literary aspects of a text and use the <i>close-reading</i> method to discuss a literary text	TEXTUAL ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE: poetry and short fiction; T.S.Eliot and his influence on British and American critics	Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2 and RB 3
29-32	Comprehend structuralist and poststructuralist approaches to	Theories of the 'AUTHOR' and the 'READER': Barthes and Foucault	TB: Chapter 3; Select portions from



	studying literature		RB 1 and RB 2 and RB 3
33-37	Discuss feminist criticism, Black feminist criticism, postcolonialism and queer theory	CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE: gender, region, race, caste, sexuality	Chapter 6 Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2 and RB 3
38-40	Describe late 20 <sup>th</sup> century approaches to studying 'literature'	LITERATURE, CINEMA AND POPULAR CULTURE	Select portions from RB 1 and RB 2 and RB 3
41		Course Overview and Revision	

#### Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration (Minutes)	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
Assignments		30	TBA	Open Book
Mid-Semester Examination	90	30	18/10/2021 3.30 - 5.00PM	Open Book
Comprehensive Examination	120	40	13/12 FN	Open Book

**Chamber Consultation Hour:** To be announced in class and on CMS

**Notices:** Notices concerning the course will be displayed on CMS or other online teaching platform as notified.

**Make-up Policy:** Make-up exams and make-up assignments will be granted due to medical reasons if students have prior clearance from institute authorities and if students have informed the instructor beforehand. If a student has an extraordinary situation that does not allow him/her to appear/ for the examination/submit an assignment, the student is responsible for intimating the matter to the instructor at the earliest.

#### 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.

**Shilpaa Anand**  
**INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE**

