



FIRST SEMESTER 2023-2024

Course Handout-Part II

Date: 11-08-2023

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

Course No. : HSS F336
Course Title : Modern Fiction
Instructor-in-Charge : Prof T Vijay Kumar

Scope and Objective of the Course: This course traces the evolution of the idea of the modern and offers an overview of modern fiction. The forms and formations of modernism, its contents and discontents will be explored through a reading of canonical fictional texts in conjunction with theoretical non-fiction. While the primary focus will be on selected fictional texts, the course will also investigate the very idea of the modern and reflect on multiple and alternative modernities. The overall objective of the course is to expose students to the polyphony in modern literary texts and to train them to read the word and the world critically.

Textbook:

1. Butler, Christopher. *Modernism: A Very Short Introduction*. OUP UK, 2010.

Reference books

1. Bradbury, Malcolm and James McFarlane. *Modernism: A Guide to European Literature 1890-1930*. Penguin Books, 1991.
2. Brooker, Peter et al. *The Oxford Handbook of Modernisms*. OUP, 2016.
3. Kapur, Geeta. *When Was Modernism: Essays on Contemporary Cultural Practice in India*. Tulika Books, 2020.
4. Latham, Sean and Gayle Rogers. *Modernism: Evolution of an Idea*. Bloomsbury Academic India, 2019.
5. Mayaram, Shail, ed. *Modernity, Its Pathologies and Reenchantments*. Orient BlackSwan, 2020.

NOTE: Text and reference books listed above will be supplemented, if and when needed, with other resources in the classroom. Students are expected to be familiar with the additional reading material as well.

Course Plan:

Lecture No.	Learning objectives	Topics to be covered	Chapter in the Text Book
1-6 Unit I	Introduction to the elements of fiction	Course overview; Story, plot, characters, theme, setting, point of view, narrative technique	Class notes
7-17 Unit II	Introduction to literary modernism	Texts and contexts of modernism; Joseph Conrad, "An Outpost of Progress", Virginia Woolf, "The Mark on the Wall", Virginia Woolf,	TB-1 and 2; The texts



		“Modern Fiction”	
18	Recap of Units I & II		
19-29 Unit III	Introduction to the modes of modern fiction	Content and forms of modernism; Nikolai Gogol, “The Nose”, Franz Kafka, <i>The Metamorphosis</i> , Leszek Kolakowski, “Modernity on Endless Trial”	TB-3; The texts
30-39 Unit IV	Introduction to alter-native modernities	Ideas and ideologies of modernism; Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, “Sultana's Dream”, Sadat Hasan Manto, “Toba Tek Singh”, MK Gandhi, “Civilization”, “What is True Civilization”, “Machinery” (from <i>Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule</i>)	TB-4; The texts
40	Recap of Units I-IV		

Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration	Weight (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
Assignment 1 & 2	TBA	15 & 15	TBA	Open Book
Mid-semester Test	90 Minutes	30	11/10 - 4.00 - 5.30PM	Closed Book
Comprehensive Examination	3 hours	40	13/12 AN	Closed Book

Chamber Consultation Hour: In K-128; Thursday—11:30-12:30.

Notices: If any, will be posted on CMS.

Make-up Policy: Assignments will not be repeated. Make-up for other assessment components will be allowed only in genuine cases and on the basis of verifiable, documentary proof.

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.

T Vijay Kumar
INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE

