



BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, Pilani
Pilani Campus

INSTRUCTION DIVISION
FIRST SEMESTER 2018-2019
Course Handout (Part II)

Date: 02/08/2018

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 Number	HSS F338
Course Title	Comparative Indian Literature
Instructor In-Charge	KUMAR SANKAR BHATTACHARYA

Course Description

India as a plural country; Concept of unity in diversity through Fiction; Interpretation of Selected Works in English and in translation; Understanding Fiction: Setting, Point of View, Plot and Character, Meaning and Message, Style and Coherence; Use of social, political, religious and ethnic perspectives to interpret literature; identity formation; concept of majority and minority; literature of the marginalized

1. Scope and Objective of the Course

India is, in a true sense, an example of unity in diversity. This fact gets reflected in every aspects of Indian life. In this course we will probe into the Indian variety through the lens of literary works. As we read, analyze, critique literary works from various regions and culture, we go further into the nature and formation of social, political and economic identities of the citizens. In the course of this class, students would be encouraged, guided and facilitated to bring in their personal knowledge and experience to connect to the works that we study. This exercise will help them to have a wholesome understanding of the "rainbow-like" plurality of India that our fore-fathers had promised during the time of independence.

2. Text Book

T-1 Alter, Stephen, and Wimal Dissanayake, eds. The Penguin Book of Modern Indian Short Stories. New Delhi: Penguin, 2001.

T-2 Chaudhuri, Amit, ed. The Picador Book of Modern Indian Literature. London: Picador, 2001.

Reference Books

R-1 Muller, M. Gilbert and John A. Williams, T The McGraw-Hill Introduction to Literature, 2nd Ed., New York: McGraw Hill Inc., 1995.



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3. Course Plan

Lecture Number	Learning Objectives	Topics to be Covered	Reference to chapter/section/book	Learning Outcome
Lecture No.	Learning Objectives	Topics to be covered	Reference to Chapter/Section/Book	Learning Outcome
1-2	General Introduction: Introduction to modern India: Unity in Diversity	Introduction to Indian society and culture	Reading Material, Class Discussion	Building preliminary knowledge about India and the works through background study in terms of history, geography and culture.
3-4	Characteristic Features of Contemporary Literature in India	An Overview of Contemporary Literature	T-1 and T-2	
5-6	Comparative Literature	An Overview of what we mean broadly by Comparative Literature	Reading Material, Class Discussion	Connecting literature from different genre, location and time period; interpreting works based on interdisciplinary approaches.
7	Background study of literary forms	Understanding literary works	R-1: Ch 1,2,3,4,5,6 And reading materials	Understanding various aspects of fiction and other genre through discussion of forms and technique
8	Features of Literary Works: Meaning, Message, Style, Coherence, Theme, Symbolism, Imagery	Understanding literary works	R-1: Ch 4,7,8 And reading materials	
9	Library Visit: How to write a research paper	Understanding research and incorporation of sources	Library Work	How to do research beyond Google in an academic set-up.
10-16	Works from Eastern India including North-East	Reading and analyzing works from Eastern India	T-1 and T-2	Understanding representative works from different regions of India; connecting them by exploring underlying commonness; deriving anthropological and cultural meanings from the works; locating the unique concept of unity in diversity
17-23	Works from Southern India	Reading and analyzing works from South India	T-1 and T-2	
24-30	Works from Western India	Reading and analyzing works from West India	T-1 and T-2	
31-37	Works from Northern India	Reading and analyzing works from North India	T-1 and T-2	
38-40	Comparative analysis of the texts already read	Comparative analysis	T-1 and T-2	Understanding India through comparative analysis of the works.
41-43	Summing up			



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4. Evaluation Scheme

Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Remarks
Test / Midsem	90 minutes	25	-	CB
Class Assignment	-	10	-to be announced-	OB
Term Paper (5-6 pages)		25	-to be announced-	OB
Comprehensive	3 hours	35	11/12 FN	OB
Class Participation	-	5	-	-

5. Expected Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to

1. demonstrate a comparative understanding of Indian literatures and literary traditions within the context of world literature through close readings of primary texts in translation and originally in English
2. situate texts within their cultural and historical contexts with the aid of secondary scholarship
3. exhibit methodological proficiency to formulate research problems and write research papers

6. Chamber Consultation Hour: To be announced in class

7. Notice: Notices concerning this course will be put up in Nalanda.

8. Plagiarism will be highly penalized.

9. Make-up Policy: Make up will be granted only in genuine cases.

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