



BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, Pilani
Pilani Campus
AUGS/ AGSR Division

SECOND SEMESTER 2020-21
COURSE HANDOUT

Date: 16.01.2021

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 : GS F322
Course Title : CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE AND CINEMA
Instructor-in-Charge : KUMAR SANKAR BHATTACHARYA

1. Course Description: Creativity and Aesthetics; Overview of Approaches to Literature, Interpretation of Selected Works; Cinema; Understanding Drama: Theme, Character, Plot, Form; Understanding Fiction: Setting, Point of View, Plot and Character; Understanding Short Fiction and Novel: Meaning and Message, Style and Coherence; Understanding Comics; Understanding Cinema: Relationship of Form and Meaning, Image Construction, Shots, Scenes, Sequences, Mise-en-Scene, Codes, Frames, Signs, Syntax; Sound: Diegetic & Non-diegetic Sound, Silence; Linear and Non-linear Narrative Structure.

2. Scope and Objective of the Course: The course attempts to inculcate in students a critical insight required to interpret a work of literature or cinema. To enable the students to imbibe such perception and critical judgment, the subtle nuances of such works will be taught extensively. Students will also be introduced to different forms, terminologies and trends prevalent in such artistic ventures to enable them to place a work of art in proper context.

3. Text Book:

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

4. Reference Books:

R-1 Cuddon, J.A. A Dictionary of Literary Terms, New Delhi: Indian Book Company, 1977.

R-2 Barry, Peter. Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory, Manchester: Manchester University Publication, 4th Ed. 2017.



5. Course Plan:

Module No.	Lecture Session	Reference	Learning Outcomes
1-4	Function, Process and Trends in Various Art Forms; Contextual Framework for Literature and Cinema	Reading Material	Understanding the basic concepts of narration and background of works of art. Preliminary knowledge building.
5-8	Short Fiction: Meaning, Message, Style, Coherence, Theme, Symbolism, Imagery	Text – I Ch 4,7,8; Primary texts to be provided	Identifying a short story with its salient features and interpreting it.
9-11	Critical approaches to literature: Sociological, Psychological, Post-Structuralist and Postcolonial Approaches	R-1, R-2 and other reference materials given in the class	Understanding and applying various theories to analyze works of art.
12-15	Introduction to Drama: Theme, Dialogues, Character, Plot and Language	Text – I Ch 19,20,21,22	Ability to understand the genre and its salient features.
16-20	Individual Work of Drama	To be provided	Analyzing the work of art through myriad perspectives.
21-24	Comics	To be provided	Understanding comics as a medium of dissemination of ideas; identifying and analyzing such works of art as children's literature.
25-28	Cinema as an Art Form: Historical Overview; Basic Concepts of Film Medium, Relationship of Structure, Meaning, Feeling, Image Construction; Film Aesthetics: Form, Mise-en-scene, Image, Tone, Magnitude, Colour, Contrast, Continuity; Language and Grammar of Cinema: Codes, Frames, Montage, Sound, Silence, Different Shots, Signs, Syntax.	To be provided	Identifying cinema as an art form; understanding its various components and how they tell the "story"; ability to analyze films based on the acquired knowledge; examples will be discussed and demonstrated in the class.
29-33	Individual Films	To be announced in class	Analyzing "not-so-mainstream" movies and identifying their story-telling technique; applying the critical acumen discussed in modules 25-28.



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34-40	Important Aspects of a Novel: Setting, Point of view, Tone, Style, Meaning, Structure, etc.	Text- I Ch 1,2,3,4,5,6	Understanding the genre; how it differs from other forms of fiction; characteristic features; analyzing a piece of work
41-42	Summing up	—	

6. Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of component (Close Book/ Open Book)
Mid-Semester Examination	90 Mins.	35	As per the timetable	OB
Comprehensive Examination	2 Hours	40	As per the timetable	OB
Assignment/Short Quiz	-	25	To be announced in class	CB

7. Online Consultation Hour: 5 pm to 6 pm, Tuesday (modus operandi would be discussed in detail in the class).

8. Notices: Notices concerning this course will be put up in Google Classroom.

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

10. Note (if any):

KUMAR SANKAR BHATTACHARYA
Instructor-in-charge
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