

## **COURSE OUTCOME/PROGRAMME OUTCOME:**

### **COURSE OUTCOMES**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

##### **CORE COURSES (14 COURSES)**

**COURSE CODE: 10100**

**COURSE 1: INDIAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE (CORE)**

**CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** The objective of this course is to initiate the students into the world of ancient Indian classical literature, especially, Sanskrit literature. It also seeks to apprise the students of the rich cultural and literary heritage of ancient India as well as medieval Assam through the appreciation of the literary masterpieces like 'The Mahabharata', 'Abhijnana Shakuntalam', 'Mrcchakatika', 'Parijata Harana', etc. It enables the students to imbibe artistic and aesthetic sensibilities and develop imaginative and creative faculties by following the great literary geniuses like Veda Vyasa, Kalidasa, Sudraka and Srimanta Sankardeva.

**EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME:** After completing the course, the students shall be in a position to appreciate the rich cultural and literary heritage of ancient India as well as medieval Assam. Moreover, it is expected that the students shall develop artistic and aesthetic sensibilities as well as imaginative and creative faculties.

**COURSE CODE: 10200**

**COURSE 2: EUROPEAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE (CORE)**

**CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course aims at initiating the students to the rich ensemble of ancient European classical literature. Through the immortal classics like 'The Iliad', 'Antigone', and the like, the students get to appreciate the ancient European poets and playwrights like Homer, Sophocles, Plautus, Horace, Ovid, etc. It enables the students to comprehend and appreciate the different genres of literature like epics, tragic and comic plays, satires, etc.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: After completing the course, the students are expected to enrich their knowledge and broaden their horizon regarding the vast purview of literature. It is also expected that the students learn to analyse the great classics of ancient European literature through a comparison and contrast with the classics of ancient Indian literature.

COURSE CODE: 20100

COURSE 3: INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH (CORE)

CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course refers to the body of work by writers in India who write in English and whose native language could be one of the languages of India. It also encompasses the works of the members of the Indian Diaspora as well as postcolonial literature. This course aims to introduce the students to Indian Writing in English from the colonial to the postcolonial period. It also seeks to introduce the students to the issues like identity, race, gender, language, home, dislocation, etc, to understand the diversity of Indian culture and tradition across spatiality.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that the students shall become familiar with the writings of the Indian writers in English and better appreciate the difference between ancient Indian classical literature and modern Indian literature. It shall also help the students to grasp the ethos of Indian social, cultural and political history across the colonial and postcolonial period.

COURSE CODE: 20200

COURSE 4: BRITISH POETRY AND DRAMA: 14th to 17th CENTURIES (CORE)

CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The objective of this course is to acquaint the learners with British poetry and drama from Chaucer to Shakespeare. The texts prescribed relate to the Age of Chaucer, Pre-Elizabethan and Elizabethan periods. Shakespeare figures predominantly in this course, with a tragedy, comedy and two sonnets prescribed. Marlow's play encapsulates the spirit of

the Renaissance, thereby placing the Elizabethan period in a proper perspective.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that after completing the course the students shall be able to comprehend and appreciate the literary tradition of England through the medieval and Renaissance, up to the Elizabethan period. The works of Chaucer, Spenser, Marlow and Shakespeare shall open a diverse world of people and society before the students.

COURSE CODE: 30100

COURSE 5: AMERICAN LITERATURE (CORE)

CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course aims to introduce the students to American literature, a relatively new addition. It is a literature steeped in the reactionary philosophy of its Puritan forbears, and has a strong individualistic spirit running through it. The reality or illusion of the Great American Dream, the transcendentalist movement, the history of slavery in the South, the great economic depression, etc, forms important contexts to American history and literature.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that after completing the course the students shall be able to appreciate the beauty and diversity of American literature by stepping into this new world. New concepts like transcendentalism, racism, slavery, etc, are also expected to be learned by the students.

COURSE CODE: 30200  
COURSE 6: POPULAR LITERATURE (CORE)  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Popular literature includes those writings intended for the masses and those that find favour with large audiences. It can be distinguished from artistic literature in that it is designed primarily to entertain (brittania.com). The objective of this course is to acquaint the students with popular literature, such as crime thriller, graphic fiction, children's literature and so forth, generally regarded by purists to be 'low-brow' and meant for easy mass consumption. However, it would be wrong to assume such a position insofar as the lines of distinction between what is literary and what is popular tends to be blurred.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that after completing the course the students shall be able to taste the variety of flavours in literature and distinguish between different literary genres like crime thriller, graphic fiction, children's literature, etc.

COURSE CODE: 30300  
COURSE 7: BRITISH POETRY AND DRAMA: 17th AND 18th CENTURIES (CORE)  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: English literature of the 17th and the 18th century was dominated by epoch-making political events, such as the Puritan Interregnum and the Restoration. These events were responsible for ushering in changes in the thought-processes of poets like Milton and Pope, dramatists like Webster and Behn, and so forth. From the romantic excesses of the Elizabethan literature to the literature marked by restraint and order, the students would be in a position to experience a whole gamut of feelings that define a period and contradistinguishing it from another.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that after completing the course the students shall be able to appreciate nuances of English poetry through the depth of thought and expression of Milton and the critical insight and urbane satire of Pope, and the sardonic humour presented through the plays of Webster and Behn.

COURSE CODE: 40100

COURSE 8: BRITISH LITERATURE: 18th CENTURY (CORE)

CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course aims to further enhance and continue study of the vast array of literature produced during the 18th century. Since this period is also referred to as the Age of Enlightenment, reason, judgement and commonsense became the locus from which human's actions and cognition issued forth. New modes of creative expressions and experiments were attempted by writers like Swift and Sterne, among others. Irony and satire became the major tools to depict society's ills.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: After completing the course the students are expected to learn different modes of expression in literature and develop critical thinking through the appreciation of satire as a genre.

COURSE CODE: 40200  
COURSE 9: BRITISH ROMANTIC LITERATURE (CORE)  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The literature of the Romantic period is considered to be the most affective in terms of the ways in which it was able to connect with people across class lines. Product of the revolutionary zeal precipitated by two great revolutions – the French Revolution and the American War of Independence – the highly imaginative, rhetorical, emotive, visionary, metaphysical, epic, sensuous aspects of the works, especially poetry, gave tremendous heft to this literature celebrating Nature in all its beauty, majesty and terror. The Gothic Novel became a dominant genre, which attempted to debunk the structure of rationality by emphasising on the reality of the supernatural.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: After completing the course the students are expected to appreciate the creative force and the spontaneous beauty of British Romantic literature and feel the intensity of the power of emotion, imagination, the supernatural and spirituality.

COURSE CODE: 40300  
COURSE 10: BRITISH LITERATURE: 19th CENTURY (CORE)  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The 19th century is emblematic of a certain spiritual crisis that set in due to the powerful impact of scientific ideology. Utilitarian values exhorting personal aggrandisement at the cost of social responsibility became the practice of daily lives of the people. Such an attitude finds ample illustration in the works of the 19th century novelists and poets. This period, especially after 1837 is termed as 'Victorian' literature – a term that evokes notions of propriety, prudishness, censorship, among others, that was in sharp relief against the spirit of the erstwhile Romantic period. The period is also marked by ground-breaking theories propounded by Darwin, Marx and Freud,

which impacted the thought processes of the people to such a remarkable extent that its effects are felt up to the present. Therefore, a reading of the literature of this period provides a fascinating experience for the students.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: After completing the course the students are expected to get familiar with the 19th century British literature and learn about the fallout of the Industrial Revolution in Europe as well as, the regressive and repressive social norms associated with the Victorian period. However, it will also open the door to the newer kind of experimental poetry' like the 'Dramatic Monologue' popularised by the poets like Browning and Tennyson.

COURSE CODE: 50100

COURSE 11: WOMEN'S WRITING (CORE)

CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Unarguably the truest fact about human society is domination of women by men. Patriarchy believes in the superiority of men over women in all walks of life. Therefore, women were denied agency to air their views publicly or in writings. The fact that women had to resort to male pseudonyms in order to find readership is merely one instance to prove how patriarchal ideology has a stranglehold over the society at large. Hence, privileging women's writing is a way by means of which the thought, anxieties, fears, desires, emotions of the 'second sex' can be addressed. The objective of this course is to introduce the students to women's writing, and in doing so, attempting to underline the manner in which power operates to silence women from articulating their views.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: After completing the course the students are expected to be in a position to understand the position of women in society over the years, become aware of and be sensitive to the key issues relating to their basic human rights, needs, feelings, emotions, desires, problems, etc. It will sensitise the students to the issues concerning women and enable them to give such issues equal priority.

COURSE CODE: 50200

COURSE 12: BRITISH LITERATURE: THE EARLY 20th CENTURY (CORE)

CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The early 20th century British literature was characterised by experimentations on the level of both form and content. The imperialistic World War I impacted the minds of the people across Europe to such an extent that they began to suffer from various neurotic symptoms. Capitalism with its dehumanized processes and practices produced alienated, disenfranchised subjects, triggering a philosophical shift that was encapsulated in symbolism, existentialism, cubism, Dadaism, expressionism, and nihilism. These philosophies found ample space in Modernism in literature, and this particular course attempts to chart these philosophical trajectories through early 20th century texts, particularly, novels and poetry.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: After completing the course the students are expected to learn and appreciate the concepts like Modernism, symbolism, psychoanalysis, Oedipus Complex, the stream of consciousness narrative, etc. It will also enable them to appreciate the works of the modern greats like Conrad, Lawrence, Woolf, Eliot, Yeats, etc.

COURSE CODE: 50110

DSE 1: MODERN INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Salman Rushdie had stirred the hornet's nest by claiming that writings in English from India were infinitely superior to that of 'vernacular' literatures existing in all regional Indian languages. This notion was vehemently opposed by many writers and intellectuals, with the likes of Amit Chaudhuri writing sustained critique against Rushdie's position. A cursory reading of translated works of Indian writing across regions would prove how significant has been the contributions of author's writings in the various regional languages. The English translations of such works pave the way for the

students to understand and appreciate regional literature across the length and breadth of the country.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that after completing the course the students shall be able to unearth the literary treasures latent in Indian regional languages and taste the variety of flavours dished out by the talented indigenous writers. Moreover, it will make them aware of the socio-political and cultural scenario of India during the colonial and postcolonial era.

COURSE CODE: 50130  
DSE 3: LITERARY CRITICISM  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The course presents an overview of major trends in literary criticism from the Romantic period to the present. The critical trajectory comprises of Romantic theory of poetry propounded by Wordsworth and Coleridge, modernist poetics of Woolf and Eliot, New Criticism of Richards and Cleanth Brooks, and an introduction to recent trends in criticism, particularly feminist criticism (by Maggie Humm).

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: Criticism enables one to understand, appreciate and critique literary texts by inculcating the values of what good or bad literature tends to be. It is hoped that the students will be in a position to understand the texts in terms of the contexts, which could be purely aesthetic, historical, textual or political. They will be able to read texts by adopting the ideologies of the different reading processes.

COURSE CODE: 60100  
COURSE 13: MODER EUROPEAN DRAMA (CORE)  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The 20th century marked the revival of drama after it was forced to shut down during the Puritan Interregnum. Even though the revival started during the Restoration period, it subsequently lost ground during the Romantic and the Victorian period. It was with the onset of the 20th century that drama made a magnificent return. It was in Europe, particularly, the plays of the Norwegian Playwright Henrik Ibsen, The German Playwright Bertolt Brecht, the French playwright Samuel Beckett and the Romanian playwright Eugene Ionesco that drama became an important vehicle for representing the political, social, individual, economic conditions the post-war Europe, with all its attendant ills and trauma. This course intends to read the plays by placing the epochal events of the period as the backdrop.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that after completing the course the students shall be able to understand various experimentations and intricacies associated with Modern Drama and try to relate and absorb the social message inherent in it.

COURSE CODE: 60200  
COURSE 14: POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURES (CORE)  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The objective of this course is to familiarise the students to postcolonial studies in a globalised world in which more than three-quarters of the people living in the world today have had their lives shaped by the experience of colonialism. The main focus of the course is on literary texts and literary analysis. The literary works chosen are English language texts from the erstwhile colonised countries including the countries subsumed under the rubric 'the Commonwealth'. The course seeks to deploy postcolonial theory to engage critically with texts within a postcolonial framework. It aims to focus on

such issues as language, identity, point of view, displacement, colonisation, decolonisation, nationalism, globalization, diaspora, gender, race, sexuality, patriarchy, ethnicity, genocide, regionalism, and so forth.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: It is expected that after completing the course the students shall be able to get familiarised with broad spectrum of post colonialism and the literature associated with it. It will also enable them to understand the different terms and concepts analogous to postcolonial literatures.

COURSE CODE: 60110  
DSE 5: LITERARY THEORY  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course aims at initiating the students to a field of great academic demand at present known as Literary Theory. It involves reading texts by deploying discourses. These discourses have political, social, economic, gendered, cultural values, and when one reads literature through such discursive lenses, interpretation of texts tend to be multiple and heterogeneous. This course is expected to acquaint the students with four relevant discourses or theories, vis., Marxism, Feminism, Post Structuralism, and Postcolonial Studies.

EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME: After the end of the course the students are expected to be in a position to know some of the significant texts of discourses revolving around class, gender, power, language, race, identity and so forth. They will be able to relate their reading of literature through such theories, which would in turn facilitate their interpretative strategies.



COURSE CODE: 60130  
DSE 7: PARTITION LITERATURE  
CREDIT ASSIGNED: 6 CREDITS

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** The Partition was perhaps the most horrific event of the 20th century subcontinent's history. Countless people across the borders of the newly divided nations (India and Pakistan) lost their lives, were rendered homeless and rootless while mass exodus and migration of people across the borders took place. Moreover, crimes against humanity like genocide, molestation, extortion, and the like, became rampant during this horrific phase in the subcontinent's history. Hence, it is important to understand the backgrounds and reason for the partition, and also to consider its effects on the lives of the people involved. Therefore, the objective of this course is to read literature that captures the essence of the times. There will also be film screenings since cinema also helps capture both the horrors and the repercussions of these events.

**EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOME:** After the culmination of the course the students will be in a position to comprehend the magnitude of the tragedy of partition and realise how the trauma associated with it impinges on the victim's daily lives and activities even in the present. The course will attempt to highlight before the students the historical fact transmuted by imagination tends to prove the validity of literature in representing the truth of the human condition.