

**SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)**

**Department of English**

**MA English**

**Course Plan**

**2015 – 16**

**Semester III**

## **Core Course: American Literature**

### **Course Objectives:**

To acquaint students an introduction to the most important branch of English Literature of the non-British tradition. Also to provide an overview of the processes and texts that led to the evolution of American Literature as an independent branch or school of literature.

### **Course Description:**

The course, covers the entire period from the time of early settlers, through the westward movement to the contemporary period. American Literature is integrally connected with the experience of a people struggling to establish themselves as a nation.

### **Reference Texts:**

Historical Background – Colonization – European Heritage

Robert E Spiller           - The Cycle of American Literature

F O Matthiessen           - The American Renaissance

Marcus Cunliffe           - The Literature of the United States

Paul C Conkins            - Puritans and Pragmatists

Sessions	Topic	Method	Remarks
3	General Introduction –American History	Power Point presentation	
3	Origin and development of American Literature	Lecture	
3	Architects of Culture: Edwards, Franklin, Jefferson – Robert E Spiller	Lecture	
3	The Unused Past: Theorists in American Literature and the Problem of Exclusivity – Russel J Reising	Lecture	
3	The Early Nineteenth Century Cultural scene Chapter 10f Criticism in America (3-13) – John Paul Pritchard	Seminar Discussion	
3	Edgur Allen Poe: “Raven”	Lecture	
3	Walt Whitman: “There was a Child Went Forth”	Lecture	
3	Emily Dickinson: “I Felt a Funeral in My Brain”, “Tell all the Truth but Tell it Slant”	Lecture	
3	Robert Frost: “Birches”	Lecture	
3	Discussion		
3	<b>Internal Assessment Test -1</b>	Discussion and distribution of answer scripts	
3	Wallece Stevens: “ The Emperor of Ice Cream”	Lecture	
3	Yahuda Amichai: “Try to Remember some Details” David Berman “ Self Portrait at 28”	Lecture	
3	Imamu Amiri Baraka : “Ka Ba”	Lecture	

3	Marge Tindal: "Cherokee Rose"	Lecture	
3	Arthur Miller: Death of a Sales Man	Lecture	
3	Edward Albee: Who is Afraid of Virginia Woolf?	Lecture	
3	Tennessee Williams: A Street Car Named Desire	Lecture	
3	Nathaniel Hawthorne: Young Goodman Brown (short story) Hermann Melville: Bartleby the Scrivener (short story)	Lecture and Seminar Presentation	
3	Ernest Hemingway: The Old Man and the Sea William Faulkner : Bear (Short story)	Lecture and Seminar Presentation	
3	John Steinbeck: Grapes of Wrath	Lecture and Seminar Presentation	
3	R W Emerson : "American Scholar"	Lecture	
3	Thoreau : Walden (Chapter 3 and4)	Lecture	
1	Internal Assessment 2	Discussion and distribution of answer scripts	
10	Seminar presentations	Seminar presentation by students	
10	Revision		
Total = 90 Sessions			

**MA English Semester 3 -Course Plan**  
**Course Title: Cultural Studies**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

**At the end of the course the student should be able to:**

- Identify key concepts in literary theory with special focus on Cultural Studies
- Understand analytical techniques and interpretive strategies employed in Cultural Studies.
- Estimate the intellectual contributions of individual theoreticians.
- Apply interdisciplinary approaches to the praxis of Cultural Studies.
- Evaluate value judgements in cultural practices with special focus on literary representations.
- Conduct original critical readings of cultural practices, texts, ethnographic literary trends.
- Critique select cultural practices and the ideological undercurrents present in them.

Sessions	Topic	Method	Remarks
3	Introduction to Cultural Studies	Lecture, discussion	
3	Raymond Williams' Culture is Ordinary part 1	Lecture, discussion	
3	Raymond Williams' Culture is Ordinary part 2	Lecture, discussion	
3	Stuart Hall- Cultural Studies Two Paradigms	Lecture, discussion	
3	Stuart Hall- Cultural Studies Two Paradigms	Lecture , discussion	
3	Simon During- Value	Lecture , discussion	
3	A Comparative Analysis of Williams, Hall and During	Lecture , discussion	
3	Theodore Adorno- Culture Industry Reconsidered	Lecture , discussion	
3	Theodore Adorno- Culture Industry Reconsidered- Section 2	Lecture	
3	Test paper		
3	John Storey- What is Popular Culture	Lecture, discussion, practical analyses	
3	Analysis of contemporary culture	Practice , discussion, review	
3	Richard Hoggart- Superstition	Seminar	
3	Roland Barthes –Toys Part one	Lecture	
3	Roland Barthes –Toys Part two	Lecture, learner oriented analysis	
3	Jean Baudrillard- The Gulf war will not Take Place –Part one	Lecture, discussion	
3	Bhaskar Mukhopadhyay Cultural Studies and Politics in India Today Part one	Lecture, discussion, debate	

3	Bhaskar Mukhopadhyay Cultural Studies and Politics in India Today Part two	Lecture, discussion	
3	Ashis Nandy- Indian Popular Cinema part one	Lecture, discussion	
3	Ashis Nandy- Indian Popular Cinema part Two	Lecture, discussion, practical criticism	
3	Gayatry Chakravorty Spivak- The New Subaltern- A Silent Interview	Seminar	
3	Udayakumar -Autobiography as a way of Writing History	Lecture	
3	Udayakumar -Autobiography as a way of Writing History part 2	Lecture, discussion	
3	V. C. Harris- Engendering Popular Cinema in Malayalam	Lecture, discussion	
3	V. C. Harris- Engendering Popular Cinema in Malayalam part 2	Lecture, discussion	
3	The Missing Male: The Female Figures of Ravi Varma	Seminar	
3	A Comparative Study of the prescribed Texts	Discussion	
1	Test paper		
3	The prospects of Cultural Studies	Discussion	
5	Revision		
Total = 90 Sessions			

#### Assignments:

- The Relevance of Cultural Studies in the Modern Contexts
- Comparative analysis of the Prescribed Texts
- Critique of Specific Cultural Constructs, Texts or Practices

<b>GENDER STUDIES</b>				
<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Course Teacher</b>	<b>Remarks/Reference</b>
3	Gilbert and Gubar: The Parables of the Cave	lecture, Discussion, PPT - presentation	Joseph Varghese	The idea of Cave from different perspective- East, West, Feminist- Video presentation on subjugation on women
3	Judith Butler: Gender the Circular Ruins of the Contemporary Debate	Lecture, Discussion, PPT - presentation	Joseph Varghese	
3	Muriel Rukeyser: "The Poem as Mask: Orpheus"	Poem Reading, Discussion	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Maya Angelou: "Phenomenal Woman"	Poem Reading, Discussion	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Kate Millet: Sexual Politics	lecture, Discussion, PPT - presentation	Joseph Varghese	Video presentation on sexual politics
3	Adrienne Rich: "Twenty One Love Poems" Poem I	Lecture, Discussion	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Adrienne Rich: "Twenty One Love Poems" Poem II	Lecture, Discussion	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Charlotte Bronte: <i>Jane Eyre</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Charlotte Bronte: <i>Jane Eyre</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Charlotte Bronte: <i>Jane Eyre</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Kamala Das: "Dance of the Eunuchs"	Discussion on Confessional Poetry, themes and techniques of the poem	Bijo N Mathew	

3	Charlotte Bronte: Jane Eyre	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	-
3	Charlotte Bronte: Jane Eyre	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Margaret Atwood: "Sekhmet: The Lion-headed Goddess of War"	Poem Reading, Discussion	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Carol Ann Duffy: "Ann Hathaway"	Poem Reading, Discussion	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Jeanette Winterson: <i>Oranges are not the Only Fruit</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Jeanette Winterson: <i>Oranges are not the Only Fruit</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Jeanette Winterson: <i>Oranges are not the Only Fruit</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Charlotte Keatley: <i>My Mother Said I Should Not</i>	Discussion on the themes and techniques of the play	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Michael Cunnigham: <i>The Hours</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Michael Cunnigham: <i>The Hours</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	David Henry Hwang: <i>M Butterfly</i>	Play Reading Session, Discussion	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Michael Cunnigham: <i>The Hours</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Manjula Padmanabhan: <i>Lights Out</i>	Discussion on the play: Themes, motifs, characterization, techniques	Bijo N Mathew	
3	Azar Nafisi: <i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i>	Presentations, Discussion on Presentations	Students	



3	Ann Snitow: <i>Gender Diary</i>	Presentations, Discussion on Presentations	Students	
3	Meena Alexander: <i>Fault Lines</i>	Lecture, PPT, Discussion	Shijo Varghese	
3	Alice Munro: <i>Lives of Girls and Women</i>	Seminar by Students	Fr. Sabu Thomas	
3	Simone de Beauvoir: <i>Memoirs of a Dutiful Daughter</i>	Lecture, Discussion	Shijo Varghese	
3	Maya Angelou: <i>I Know why the caged bird sings</i>	Lecture, Discussion	Shijo Varghese	
3	Virginia Woolf: <i>A Room of One's Own</i>	Seminar by Students and discussion	Shijo Varghese	
1	Evaluation and Feedback			
Total = 90 Sessions				

## **MODES OF FICTION**

**Objectives:** The main objective of this course is to familiarise the student with the various modes of narrative fiction attempted across centuries, continents and languages. It is expected that the pupil will be introduced to the various schools, influences and narrative devices that shaped narrative fiction in its present form

**Course Description:** The course includes a reading of some of the major theoretical interpretations of the narrative, alongside a thorough reading of some of the most significant and path breaking works of creative literature. Narrative fiction had its origins in the folk story telling tradition, even as in the present form the novel in all its varied aspects to this day remains the most popular and widely read literary form, thanks perhaps to the use of the medium of prose, the medium of everyday conversation. This apparently simplistic explanation need not deter us from taking note of the more complex and ideological issues relating to form and the political import of the extraordinary flexibility the novel shows at the thematic level. In other words the course should teach the student why Lennard Davis described novel as a compulsory addiction. The course offers a sampling of short fiction; the folk story-telling tradition; and Asian, African, Latin American, European, British, and American fiction. One module comprises exclusively of fiction authored by women writers

Sessions	Topic	Method	Remarks/Reference
3	Introduction to different modes of fictions	Introductory Lecture	
3	Terry Eagleton: "What is a Novel?" (from The English Novel: An Introduction)	Discussion	
3	John Barth: "Literature of Exhaustion"	Lecture	
3	Milan Kundera: "The Depreciated Legacy of Cervantes" (Part 1 of The Art of the Novel)	Discussion	
3	Milan Kundera: "The Depreciated Legacy of Cervantes" (Part 1 of The Art of the Novel)	Lecture	
3	Muriel Spark: The House of the Famous Poet	Short Story Discussion	
3	Cynthia Ozick: Shawl	Performance	
3	From Arabian Nights: The Goldsmith and the Cashmere Singing-Girl	Analysis	
3	From Arabian Nights: The Goldsmith and the Cashmere Singing-Girl	Lecture	
3	Washington Irving: Rip Van Winkle	Lecture	
3	Franz Kafka: The Country Doctor	Analysis of the story	

3	Jorge Luis Borges: The Garden of Forking Paths	Seminar Presentation	
3	Jorge Luis Borges: The Garden of Forking Paths	Discussions	
3	Stephen Crane: The Open Boat	Role Play	
3	Stephen Crane: The Open Boat	Lecture	
3	Salman Rushdie: East, West (Short Story Collection)	Seminar Presentation	
3	Fyodor Dostoyevsky: The Possessed (The Devils/ Demons)	Discussion	
3	Fyodor Dostoyevsky: The Possessed (The Devils/ Demons)	Performance	
3	William Faulkner: The Sound and the Fury	Discussions	
3	William Faulkner: The Sound and the Fury	Lecture	
3	Ralph Ellison: The Invisible Man	Discussion	
3	Ralph Ellison: The Invisible Man	Seminar	
3	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: Purple Hibiscus	Seminar	
3	Kazuo Ishiguro: Remains of the Day	Film Screening (Power Point)	
3	Miguel Cervantes: Don Quixote	Group discussion, Lecture	
3	Milan Kundera: The Unbearable Lightness of Being	Group Discussions	
3	Italo Calvino: If on a Winter's Night a Traveller	Seminar Presentation	

3	Isabel Allende: Daughter of Fortune	lecture	
3	Zora Neale Hurston: Their Eyes Were Watching God	Analysis	
3	Evaluations of the Course	Group Discussions	
3	Evaluations of the Assignments Submitted		
3	Evaluations of the Assignments submitted		
Total = 90 Sessions			

### TEXTS AND PERFORMANCE - COURSE PLAN

Sessions	Topic	Method	Course Teacher	Remarks/Reference
5	Raymond Williams, "Argument: Text and Performance" By Michael Huxley, Noel Witts eds. The Twentieth-century Performance Reader	Power Point Presentation based Lecture followed by Reading and Discussion	Aravind R Nair	
5	Richard Schechner: "Rasaesthetics" The Drama Review 45, 3 (T171), Fall 2001.	Power Point Presentation based Lecture followed by Reading and Discussion	Aravind R Nair	
5	Lizbeth Goodman: "Feminisms and Theatres: Cannon Fodder and Cultural Change"	Power Point Presentation based Lecture followed by Reading and Discussion	Aravind R Nair	
5	Sophocles: <i>The Trojan Women</i>	Introduction to Classical Greek Theatre. Discussion on the play: Themes, motives, characterization, techniques	Aravind R Nair	
5	Sudraka : <i>The Little Clay Cart</i>	Introduction to Indian Theatre. Discussion on the play: Themes,	Aravind R Nair	

		motives, characterization, techniques		
5	Eugene O'Neill: Emperor Jones	Power Point Presentation based Lecture. Discussion on the play: Themes, motives, characterization, techniques	Aravind R Nair	
5	Martin Crimp: Attempts on her Life	Discussion and Lectures	Aravind R Nair	
5	Bertolt Brecht: <i>Mother Courage and her Children</i>	Class Presentations	Student presentation	
5	IAT - 1 Seminar Paper	Discussion on the papers presented	Aravind R Nair	-
5	Howard Brenton: Hitler Dances	Discussion on the play: Themes, motives, characterization, techniques	Aravind R Nair	
5	Women's Theatre Group (WTG) & Elaine Feinstein: Lear's Daughters	Discussion on the play: Themes, motives, characterization, techniques	Aravind R Nair	
5	Mahasweta Devi/Usha Ganguli: Rudali: From Fiction to Performance (Seagull)	Power Point presentation and Discussion on the play	Aravind R Nair	
5	Rustom Bharucha: "Pebet: A Performance Text"	Class Presentations	Student presentation	
5	Robert Scholes et. al. (ed): "The Elements of Film" Elements of Literature	Lecture and discussion	Aravind R Nair	
5	Andrew Dix: "Films and Ideology" (Ch 8 of Beginning Film Studies 226-68)	Power Point Presentation based Lecture followed by Reading and Discussion	Aravind R Nair	
5	Orson Welles: <i>Citizen Kane</i>	Movie Screening followed by discussion of themes and plot	Aravind R Nair	

5		Lecture and discussion	Student presentation	
	Girish Karnad: <i>Utsav</i>			
5		Movie Screening followed by discussion of themes and plot	Aravind R Nair	
	Shaji N. Karun: <i>Vaanaprastham</i>			
10	Revision	Class discussion, Course evaluation		
Total = 90 Sessions				