

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

in

ENGLISH

SYLLABUS

(From July 2018)



SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES
Gandhigram Rural Institute
(Deemed to be University)
(Re-Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade - III Cycle)
Gandhigram - 624 302 Tamil Nadu

THE INSTITUTE:

Gandhigram was born in 1947. A team of dedicated disciples and contemporaries of Gandhiji, Dr. T. S. Soundram and Dr. G. Ramachandran, developed Gandhigram, the home of many rural development programmes. The Gandhigram Rural Institute (GRI) was founded in 1956. Started in a small way, it was conferred the status of a Deemed University in 1976. Today the University is a big educational complex comprising eight Schools, offering in all about sixty one different programmes. It awards Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees and also Diplomas and Certificates through its eight academic Schools: Tamil and Indian Languages; English and Foreign Languages; Health Sciences and Rural Development; Social Sciences; Management Studies; Sciences; Computer Science and Technologies; and Agriculture and Animal Sciences. The Institute was re-accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC in 2016 (Third Cycle). It is now a centrally funded university under the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India.

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES:

The School of English and Foreign Languages is as old as the Institute and offers a Master's Programme in English and Communicative Studies. The Faculty also offers a full-time MPhil programme in English and full- and part-time PhD programmes in English. Apart from these programmes, Certificate Courses in French and English are being conducted by the School. It has been a pioneer in introducing innovative programmes, especially in the field of Communicative and Cultural Studies. It ran a Master's Programme in Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies, a UGC Innovative Programme, from 2005-10. It has so far produced 59 PhDs and more than 150 MPHils. The members of the Faculty serve on various Boards of Studies and other bodies of higher learning in different universities throughout the country. Among the faculty, there are two Fulbright scholars and two Erasmus Mundus (EMINTE) international visiting scholars. The School brings out *Gandhigram Literary Review* (ISSN: 2278-8190), a peer-reviewed journal.

MPhil English is a research programme offered under the Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) in two semesters. In the first semester, there are three papers and the objective is to initiate the students into the philosophy and mechanics of research and instill in them a robust research culture, ground them in theory, and help them gain a better understanding of postcolonial literatures. The second semester is devoted to dissertation-writing where the students will write an original dissertation on a topic of their choice and will present three seminars in their area of specialization and research topic. There is also an elective paper in the second semester where the students have to choose “Women’s Writing” or “Contemporary Indian English Literature” or “Indigenous Literatures”.

The MPhil English programme prepares the students for teaching positions in colleges and universities. The programme also serves as a secure gateway to doctoral research programme which is offered in the School itself.

M.Phil. ENGLISH
(FROM JULY 2018)

Sem.	Category	Course Code	Title of the Course	No. of Credits	No. of Hours	CFA %	ESE %	Total Marks
I	Core Courses	18ENGM0101	Rhetoric and Research Methodology	4	4	50	50	100
		18ENGM0102	Modern Literary Theory	4	4	50	50	100
		18ENGM0103	Postcolonial Literatures	4	4	50	50	100
Total				12	12	150	150	300
II	Core Courses	18ENGM0201	Women's Writing OR	4	4	50	50	100
		18ENGM0202	Contemporary Indian English Literature OR					
		18ENGM0203	Indigenous Literatures					
		18ENGM0204	Dissertation	12	-	75+75+50	200	
Total				16	4			300
Grand Total				28				600

Note: Dissertation is evaluated by the research supervisor (75 marks) and the external examiner (75 marks) independently. The Viva (50 marks) is conducted jointly by the research supervisor and the external expert.

18ENGM0101: RHETORIC AND RESEARCH METHDOLOGY

Objectives:

- To train the students in the philosophy and mechanics of research; and
- To make them familiar with the principles of rhetoric.

Syllabus:

UNIT - I:

What is Research? – Types of Research – Quantitative and Qualitative and other types – Research Area – Survey of Literature – Working Bibliography – Research Gap – Identification of Research Problem – Formulation of Thesis Statement – Working Outline – Drafting – Final Draft – Computer in Research in English

UNIT - II:

Mechanics of Research and Documentation – Suitable Language and Style – Abbreviations – Quotations – Ellipses – Parenthesis – Tables – Appendices – Different Kinds of Bibliography – Works Cited

UNIT - III:

Modes of Writing – Expository – Argumentative – Persuasive – Meditative – Polemical – Dramatic

UNIT - IV:

Literary Devices – Alliteration – Allusion – Analogy – Anthropomorphism – Bathos – Caricature – Conceit – Deixis – Imagery – Hyperbole – Imagery – Metaphor – Metonymy – Oxymoron – Paradox – Parody – Pathetic Fallacy – Pathos – Personification – Prolepsis – Simile – Synecdoche – Zeugma

UNIT - V:

Practical Criticism of a passage from

- (a) Prose
- (c) Drama

- (b) Poetry
- (d) Fiction

Reference:

Brooks and Warren. *Rhetoric*, 1979.

Chicago Manual of Style, 14th ed, 1993.

Corbett, ed. *Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student*, 1999.

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 8th ed, 2017.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 2001.

18ENGM0102: MODERN LITERARY THEORY

Objectives:

- To help the students acquaint themselves with the major concepts and theories in modern literary criticism and theory; and
- To hone their analytical skills which will help them to study and appreciate literary texts in a better manner.

Syllabus:

UNIT - I: Formalism, Linguistics, Semiology and Structuralism

Victor Shklovsky	: “Art as Technique”
Ferdinand de Saussure	: “The Object of Study” & “Nature of the Linguistic Sign”
Gerard Genette	: “Structuralism and Literary Criticism”

UNIT - II: Post-structuralism and Deconstruction

Jacques Derrida	: “Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences”
Michel Foucault	: “What is an Author?”
M.H. Abrams	: “The Deconstructive Angel”

UNIT-III: Psychoanalysis, Reader-Response Theory & Hermeneutics

Jacques Lacan	: “The Insistence of the Letter in the Unconscious”
Wolfgang Iser	: “The Reading Process: A Phenomenological Approach”
E.D. Hirsch, Jr.	: “Three Dimensions of Hermeneutics”

UNIT - IV: Marxism, Feminist Criticism and New Historicism

Edmund Wilson	: “Marxism and Literature”
Elaine Showalter	: “Feminist Criticism in the Wilderness”
Stephen Greenblatt	: “The Circulation of Social Energy”

UNIT - V: Postcolonialism, Postmodernism and Cultural Studies

Edward Said	: “Crisis” (Selection from <i>Orientalism</i>)
Terry Eagleton	: “Capitalism, Modernism and Postmodernism”
Stuart Hall	: “Cultural Identity and Diaspora”

References:

- Barry. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*, 1995.
- Dorairaj. *Interventions: Essays in Philosophy and Literary Theory*, 2006.
- Lazarus, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Postcolonial Literary Studies*, 2004.
- Leitch, et al. *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*, 2002.
- Lodge and Wood, eds. *Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader*, 2003.
- Rice and Waugh, eds. *Modern Literary Theory: A Reader*, 1992.
- Sethuraman, VS. *Contemporary Criticism: An Anthology*, 1989.
- Sim, ed. *The Routledge Companion to Postmodernism*, 2001.
- Waugh, ed. *Literary Theory and Criticism: An Oxford Guide*, 2006.

18ENGM0103: POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURES

Objectives:

- To enable the students critique Eurocentrism; and
- To get acquainted with literatures from various postcolonial nations

Syllabus:

UNIT - I:

Gabriel Okara	: “The Mystic Drum” & “Were I to Choose”
P.K. Page	: “Adolescence” & “First Neighbours”
Shaw Neelson	: “To Be a Blue Flower” & “The Bard and the Lizard”
Judith Wright	: “Woman to Man” & “Clock and Heart”
John Pepper Clark	: “The Casualties” & “Night Rain”

UNIT - II:

Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong’o	: <i>Decolonizing the Mind</i>
Homi Bhabha	: “The Other Question”

UNIT - III:

Chinua Achebe	: <i>A Man of the People</i>
Adichie	: <i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i>
Jeannette Armstrong	: <i>Whispering in the Shadows</i>

UNIT - IV:

Patrick White	: <i>Voss</i>
Shyam Selvadurai	: <i>A Funny Boy</i>
Salman Rushdie	: <i>The Moor’s Last Sigh</i>

UNIT - V:

Wole Soyinka	: <i>A Dance of the Forests</i>
Tomson Highway	: <i>The Rez Sisters</i>
Mahesh Dattani	: <i>On a Muggy Night in Mumbai</i>

References:

- Ashcroft, et al. *The Empire Writes Back*, 1995.
---. ed. *The Postcolonial Studies: A Reader*, 2000.
Begum, ed. *Canadian Literature: Perspectives*, 1994.
Berer, ed. *Introduction to African Literature*, 1980.
Boehmer. *Colonial and Postcolonial Literature: Migrant Metaphors*, 1995.
Dhawan and Kerr, eds. *Australian Literature Today*, 1993.
King. *West Indian Literature*, 1979.
Loomba. *Colonialism and Postcolonialism*, 1988.
Narasimaiah. *The Colonised and the Coloniser*, 2001.
Said. *Orientalism*, 1976.
Thieme, ed. *The Arnold Anthology of Postcolonial Literatures in English*, 2000.

18ENGM0201: WOMEN'S WRITING

Objectives:

- To introduce the students to works written by women writers with a view to conscientizing them to patriarchal injunctions, gender subordination and marginalization of women; and
- To enable them to undertake a re-reading and reevaluation of literary works.

Syllabus:

UNIT - I:

Emily Dickinson	: "Because I could not Stop for Death" & "I taste a liquor never brewed"
Sylvia Plath	: "Daddy" & "The Applicant"
Lakshmi Kannan	: "O, for Shame" & "Mother Ganga"
Audre Lorde	: "Coal"
Imtiaz Dharker	: "Purdah I"

UNIT - II:

Shiva & Mayers	: "Introduction" to <i>Ecofeminism</i>
Alice Walker	: "In Search of our Mother's Garden"
Gilbert and Gubar	: <i>The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Imagination</i>

UNIT - III:

Virginia Woolf	: <i>A Room of One's Own</i>
Maya Angelo	: <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i>
Gita Hariharan	: <i>The Remains of the Feast</i>

UNIT - IV:

Toni Morrison	: <i>The Beloved</i>
P. Sivakami	: <i>The Grip of Change</i>
Jean Rhys	: <i>Wide Sargossa Sea</i>

UNIT - V:

Emily Bronte	: <i>Wuthering Heights</i>
Anita Desai	: <i>Where Shall We Go This Summer?</i>
Margaret Atwood	: <i>Lady Oracle</i>

Reference:

- de Beauvoir. *The Second Sex*, 1941, 1971.
Ellmann. *Thinking about Women*, 1968.
Kaufman, ed. *Gender and Theory*, 1989.
Millett. *Sexual Politics*, 1970.
Moi. *Sexual/Textual Politics: Feminist Literary Theory*, 1985.
Ruthven, KK. *Feminist Literary Studies: An Introduction*, 1990.
Showalter. *A Literature of Their Own*, 1977.

18ENGM0202: CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE

Objectives:

- To introduce the students to recent works in Indian English Literature; and
- To expose them to contemporary configurations of India as depicted in these writings.

Syllabus:

UNIT - I:

Vikram Seth	: “A Style of Loving” & “Ceasing Upon the Midnight”
Manohar Shetty	: “Moving Out” & “Domestic Creatures”
Aga Sahid Ali	: “Cracked Portraits” & “The Season of the Plains”
Imtiaz Dharkar	: “Postcards from God 1”

UNIT - II:

Arundhati Roy	: “The Most Cowardly War in History”
Jagdish Bhagwati	: “India: Retrospect and Prospect”
Amitav Ghosh	: “The Testimony of Grandfather’s Book Case”

UNIT - III:

Girish Karnad	: <i>Broken Images</i>
Manjula Padmanabhan	: <i>Lights Out</i>
Uma Parameshwaran	: <i>Sons must Die</i>

UNIT - IV:

Vickram Chandra	: <i>Sacred Games</i>
Upamanyu Chatterjee	: <i>Way to Go</i>
Manju Kapur	: <i>Home</i>

UNIT - V:

R B Patankar	: “Aesthetics: Some Important Problems”
Aijaz Ahmad	: “Orientalism and After: Ambivalence and Cosmopolitan Location in the Work of Edward Said”
M Hiriyanna	: “The Number of Rasas”

Reference:

- Devy, G. N., ed. *Indian Literary Criticism*, 2004.
- Malhotra, AK, ed. *Oxford Anthology of Twelve Modern Indian Poets*, 1998.
- Naik, M.K. and Narayan. *Indian English Literature 1980-2000*, 2001.
- Singh, ed. *The Harper Collins Book of New Indian Fiction: Contemporary Writing in English*, 2006.

18ENGM0203: INDIGENOUS LITERATURES

Objectives:

- To study select texts of indigenous literatures from around the world that are available in English or translated into English with a view to contextualizing indigenous literatures within their specificities of history and culture; and
- To read texts that deconstruct stereotypes, foreground indigenous epistemology, and project a critical theoretical framework in the process of articulating indigenous voices.

Unit I: Indigenous Issues and Literary Theory

Gerald Vizenor	: “Aesthetics of Survivance”
Bryan Brayboy	: “Towards a Tribal Critical Race Theory in Education”
Emma La Roque	: “Defeathering the Indian”
Thomas King	: “Postcolonial Vs Godzilla” “Introduction to All My Relations”

Unit II: Indian Indigenous Literatures

Anonymous	: “Kunkana Ramayan” (from <i>Painted Words</i>)
Narayan	: <i>Kocharethi</i>
Dakxin Bajrange	: <i>Boodhan: A Play</i>

Unit III: Native North & South American Literatures

Beatrice Culleton	: <i>In Search of April Raintree</i>
Emily Pauline Johnson	: “Cattle Thief”
Louise Erdrich	: <i>Tracks</i>
Jose Maria Arguedas	: <i>Yawar Fiesta</i>

Unit IV: Indigenous Literatures from Australia

Doris Pilkington	: <i>Follow the Rabbit Proof Fence</i>
Sally Morgan	: <i>My Place</i>
Oodgeroo Noonuccal	: “We are Going”
Bruce Pasco	: “Kuller Kullup”

Unit V: Indigenous Literatures from Africa and Europe

Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o	: <i>Weep Not, Child</i>
Ken Saro-Wiwa	: <i>Sozaboy</i>
Gabriel Aresti	: “Let’s Break the Chain”
Johan Turi	: <i>An Account of the Sami</i>

Reference:

- King, Thomas. *The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America*, 2012.
- Womack, Craig S. *Red on Red: Native American Literary Separatism*, 1996.
- Ganesh Devy, ed. *Painted Words: An Anthology of Tribal Literature*, 2002.