



Department of English
Faculty of Humanities and Languages
Jamia Millia Islamia
New Delhi 110025

**Syllabus for Ph.D. Course Work
(w.e.f. July 2011)**

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(Approved by the Board of Studies on May 4, 2011)

All the students provisionally admitted to Ph. D. Programme shall have to pursue course work. However, such students who have successfully completed a regular M.Phil. programme of two years duration, will be exempted from course work while pursuing Ph.D. programme, provided that such students were admitted to M.Phil. programme through an entrance examination and have also studied a course on "Research Methodology" while pursuing the M.Phil. programme.

The duration of the course work for Ph.D. in English will be two semesters. There will be 4 papers of 100 marks each, and an annotated bibliography (50 marks) covering at least 10 books, OR at least 20 research papers in the relevant field, published in reputed/ refereed journals.

Semester I:

Two compulsory courses, "Research Methodology" and "Literary Theory and Non-Western Poetics".

Semester II:

Any two optional courses to be chosen from Courses 1 to 20.

Annotated Bibliography

Semester I: Compulsory Courses

Course 1: Research Methodology

This paper trains students in the formal aspects of research. It will include an introduction to research methods, selection and phrasing of topics, collection and ordering of material, and creating a structured form. Students will learn about library tools, reference works, and the Internet, and the crucial ways in which the electronic age has changed the way in which we perceive reading and writing.

Course 2: Literary Theory and Non-Western Poetics

This paper introduces students to different theoretical positions on literary and cultural studies. Students will be exposed to major contemporary theories. They will also learn about Non-Western poetics.

Semester II: Optional Courses

Any two of the following:

Course 3: Renaissance Studies

This course aims at examining major issues and themes of Renaissance literature. Students will be required to study the works of writers of the period, their reception in their own age, as well as their treatment by twentieth-century critical theorists.

Course 4: Shakespeare

The course will be devoted to an intensive study of Shakespeare's works, with an emphasis on their treatment with regard to sources and tradition. The course is designed to explore the relationship between the imaginative achievement of his writings and the theatrical, literary, social, and intellectual world in which the works were produced.

Course 5: Colonial Discourse Theory

This course will examine the critical theories needed for the study of postcolonial literature. Issues for study include the claims of Western criticism to universalism, the question of cultural difference in literary texts, as well as nationalism and hybridity.

Course 6: Australian Literature/ Canadian Literature/ African Writings in English

In the past few decades, there has been a significant emergence of literature in English other than those of Britain and the United States. This course will examine the questions of tradition and modernity in Australian Literature/ Canadian Literature/ African Writings in English, and familiarize students with relevant critical insights. Only one of the

courses, the literature of Canada or Australia or Africa, shall be offered at one time.

Course 7: English in India

This course will focus on issues such a historical background of English in India, the institutionalisation of English Studies, the problems of teaching English language and literature, and the debates around the canon and canonical texts.

Course 8: Indian Writing in English

The course will familiarize students with the growth of Indian writing in English in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and the critical tools required for its analysis. The course may be structured in terms of genre, period, or theme.

Course 9: Indian Literatures in English Translation

This course will be devoted to the study of literatures written in various Indian languages.

Only such texts will be selected for study as have been translated into English. The study may be made on the basis of genre, period, or theme.

Course 10: Theory and Practice of Translation

This course will introduce students to some of the dominant issues concerning what is now defined as Translation Studies. It will trace the development of Translation as an art and Translation Studies as a discipline in Europe and India. It would also examine how translation has become a major concern in the postcolonial world and how it is being addressed in India today. As a part of the course students will be expected to translate textual materials from one of the major Indian languages into English. The choice of texts and languages will depend on the resource persons offering the course.

Course 11: Texts of Modernism

This course will introduce students to the various aspects of the movement called Modernism. It will examine different texts of the movement, preferably from diverse genres and different European languages.

Course 12: Semiotics

This course introduces the student to semiotics as a model for understanding the notion of representation in the construction of meaning, by positioning the concept of "meaning" within an historical, cultural and social context.

Course 13: After Theory

With the premise that 'theory' has undergone major shifts in recent years to come to terms with urgent cultural and political questions, this course offers an overview of theory's new directions. Emerging debates in theory will be studied, and formulations by contemporary theoreticians such as Agamben, Zizek, Badiou, Vattimo, Virilio, Butler, and Benhabib. While speculating on the fate of theory, the course will illustrate how current diversity in the domain encourages conversations among divergent strands. The course will go on to assess contemporary theory's emergence as a challenge to received knowledge, its ever-expanding political ambitions, and the resulting oscillation between dogma, irrelevance, and new possibilities.

Course 14: Film and Literature

The correspondences between the medium of film and literature as two distinct aesthetic languages warrant a closer engagement in the 21st century owing to the nature of their exchanges. If cinema's sycophancy to literature was the subject of debates in the early 20th century, literary narration has today undergone fundamental changes owing to the influence

of cinema, digital technology and other allied media. Taking cognizance of the linguistic and cultural aspects of film and literary language, this course traces the evolution of sign systems and the nature of signification, auteur/author debates central to film and literary criticism, and the strategies that may be adopted to 'read' a film/literary text.

Course 15: Texts of Popular Culture

Spread over four units, this course examines the theory and practice of popular culture studies. The first unit is an introduction to popular culture studies; subsequent units explore the politics of popular/mass culture, postulations by key theoreticians of popular culture studies, and methods of reading important forms of popular culture such as popular literature (Romance, Thrillers, Children's Literature etc.), popular visual culture (Films, TV etc.), popular activities (Sports, Shopping, Social Networking etc.). The course will focus on the theories of popular culture as well as analyses of texts. The texts chosen in this course may be literary or extra-literary.

Course 16: Texts of Resistance

This course considers resistance as a category of literary representation along with the problematics and poetics of resistance. This will be done through literary texts representing prominent forms of resistance from various sites, languages and genres. The texts will include readings in multiple domains of resistance – such as female/feminist, socio-cultural, ethnic, and political forms of resistance. The theory and socio-cultural histories examined will also include specific reference to the Indian perspective.

Course 17: Writings from the Margins

The objective of this Course is to familiarize students with Indian writings from various marginal groups (in English

translations). Despite their obvious divergences, the selected texts will converge on one important point—the process of writing is consciously turned into a *process of resistance*. The course will also introduce select critical writings that position these narratives within the broader socio-historical context, and identify their literary, aesthetic and ideological concerns.

Course 18: Representations of Women in Twentieth Century Indian Literature

The course studies representations of women in Indian literature(s) as well as self-representation, in various genres — poetry, drama, fiction and life writing. Literature in various Indian languages (in English translation) and texts from Indian English literature will be studied. A framework of comparative literature will be adopted to show the commonalities and differences in texts from different languages and regions of India. The choice of texts will depend on the resource persons offering the course.

Course 19: Children's Literature

This course will examine the domain of children's literature -- books written by children, books written for children, books chosen for children, books chosen by children. The texts chosen for study range from eighteenth-century chapbooks and fairy tales, through seminal nineteenth-century novels, to contemporary examples of fiction illustrating current trends. At the same time, students will consider a selection of related critical material on major themes, issues and debates in the field. Issues include the tension between popular and prestigious literature for children, the relationship between oral, written and visual modes and the relationship of children's literature to conceptions of childhood.

Course 20: Seminar

Conceived as a flexible course, Seminar will offer a platform where teachers may plan courses based on their specific academic interests. The course may be structured in terms of genre, period or theme, or be devoted to the study of a single author or a literary theorist. More than one paper can be offered under the rubric of "Seminar" in the same semester.

The students will make their choices from among the courses offered in the second semester by the Department. The Department will offer a minimum of four optional courses in Semester II.

Evaluation

Students shall be evaluated on the basis of term papers they are required to present and defend in each course and the end-semester examination. Each course will carry 100 marks, comprised of internal assessment of 25 marks and semester end examination of 75 marks. A student having obtained a minimum of 50 percent of marks in aggregate of internal assessment and semester end examination shall be declared to have successfully qualified the course work. A student shall be allowed to write the doctoral thesis only on the successful completion of all the four courses and the annotated bibliography.

General Rules

1. The students shall be required to secure a minimum of 50% marks in each course in order to be eligible for promotion to the next semester
2. The term papers are required to be read and defended during the period of the semester.
3. A student will have to pass at least one of the two courses in the first semester to be eligible for promotion to the second semester. If a student fails in a course in the first semester, he/she can reappear for the semester end examination with the next batch of Semester I students.
4. A student who does not clear the second semester examinations can reappear for it with the next batch of Semester II students.
5. The student cannot reappear at any of the end-semester examinations in order to improve his/ her percentage of marks
6. There shall be no provision for the revaluation of answer scripts.
7. Attendance is compulsory in the first two semesters. The student shall be required to be present in 75% of the lectures and seminars in each course.
8. The maximum time permitted for a student to complete the course work is two years.