



SOPHIA COLLEGE

(AUTONOMOUS)

Affiliated to the University of Mumbai

Syllabi for Semesters I and II

Programme : B. A.

Course: English

(Choice-Based Credit System with effect from the year 2020-21)

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI

SOPHIA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

SYLLABUS FOR F.Y.B.A. (ENGLISH)

Paper I: INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

SEMESTER I

Course Title: Introduction to Literature
(CHILDREN'S LITERATURE)

SEMESTER II

Course Title: Introduction to Literature
(CLASSICAL LITERATURE)

Total no. of lectures per semester: 60

No. of credits per year: 3

Course: Introduction to Literature

Semester One: Introduction to Literature – (CHILDREN’S LITERATURE)

Objectives:

This course is designed to

- introduce students to children’s literature.
- familiarise them with the characteristic features of the major genres of children’s literature.
- cultivate critical thinking in students by enabling them to interpret texts through theoretical concepts like class, caste, gender and race.

Unit 1: Introduction to Children’s Literature (theoretical concepts, historical overview, socio-cultural perspectives)

Selections from Peter Hunt’s *Understanding Children’s Literature*

- “Essentials: What is Children’s Literature? What is Childhood?”
- “The Impossibility of Innocence: Ideology, Politics, and Children’s Literature”
- “From Sex-Role Stereotyping to Subjectivity: Feminist Criticism”
- “Reading the Unconscious: Psychoanalytic Criticism”

Selections from Marina Warner’s *Once Upon a Time: A Short History of Fairy Tale*

Unit 2: Poetry

Edward Lear: “The Owl and the Pussy-Cat”
“The Pobble Who Has No Toes”

Sukumar Ray: “A Marriage is Announced”
“An Invitation”
“Hotch-Potch”
“Super-Beast”
“The Hand of Fate”
“The Pursuit of Science”
“The Encyclopedia”

Unit 3: Fables and Fairy Tales

Grimm’s Fairy Tales: “Little Red Cap” and its retellings by Roald Dahl, Angela Carter and Carol Ann Duffy

The *Panchatantra*: “Estrangement of Friends”

Selections from *Hitopadesh*

Unit 4: Graphic Narratives

Amar Chitra Katha: Brave Women of India: “Rani of Jhansi”

Question paper pattern:

Semester End Examination: (75 marks)

Semester II: Introduction to Literature

Duration: 2.5 hours Marks: 75

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|-----|---------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Q.1 | Essay on Unit 1 | | |
| | or | | |
| | Two short notes on Unit 1 | | (20 marks) |
| Q.2 | Essay on Unit 2 | (1 out of 2) | (15 marks) |
| Q.3 | Essay on Unit 3 | (1 out of 2) | (15 marks) |
| Q.4 | Essay on Unit 4 | (1 out of 2) | (15 marks) |
| Q.5 | Short notes on Units 2, 3 and 4 | (1 out of 3) | (10 marks) |

Internal Assessment: (25 marks)

Students will be asked to submit assignments on the areas of their choice from the options indicated below. Students may pursue

- a thematic analysis of texts prescribed in the list.
- a comparative analysis of two or more texts from the list.
- an analysis of visual adaptations of the texts from the list.
- an analysis of literary adaptations of the texts prescribed in the list.

List of areas/texts:

- Tales of Tenali Raman and Akbar-Birbal
- Detective fiction for children- *The Famous Five* series, *The Secret Seven* series, *Nancy Drew Series*, *The Hardy Boys* series
- Tales from A.K. Ramanujan's *Folktales from India*
- Lewis Carroll: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*
- Lewis Carroll: *Through the Looking Glass*
- Rudyard Kipling: *The Jungle Book*
- L. Frank Baum: *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*
- Johanna Spyri: *Heidi*

Semester Two: Introduction to Literature – (CLASSICAL LITERATURE)

Objectives:

This course is designed to

- introduce students to classical literature.
- familiarise them with the characteristic features of the major genres of the period.
- enable them to critically analyse other classical literary traditions.
- cultivate critical thinking in students by enabling them to interpret texts through theoretical concepts like class, caste, gender and race.

Unit 1: Introduction to Classical Literature

- What is Classical Literature?
- Genres of Classical Literature: Epic, Classical Drama and Poetry

Unit 2: Epic

- Selections from The *Iliad*
- Selections from The *Mahabharata*

Unit 3: Classical Drama

Euripides: *Medea*

Unit 4: Poetry and Narrative

Selections from Sappho's fragments: 1, 17, 30, 94, 96

Selections from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*:
Book 1: "Prologue", "The Creation", "Daphne"
Book 3: "Teiresias", "Narcissus and Echo", "Tereus, Procne and Philomela"
Book 8: "Daedalus and Icarus"
Book 10: "Pygmalion"

Unit 5: Revisions and Re-tellings

Nina Paley: *Sita Sings the Blues*

Background Readings

- Selections from Plato's *The Republic*
- Selections from Aristotle's *Poetics*
- Longinus's *On the Sublime*

Question paper pattern:

Semester End Examination: 75 marks

Semester II: Introduction to Literature

Duration: 2.5 hours Marks: 75

- Q.1 Essay on Unit 1
or
Two short notes on Unit 1 (15 marks)
- Q.2 Essay on Unit 2
or
Two short notes on Unit 2 (20 marks)
- Q.3 Essay on Unit 3
or
Two short notes on Unit 3 (20 marks)
- Q.4 Essay on Unit 4 or Unit 5
or
Two short notes on Unit 4 and/or Unit 5 (20 marks)

Internal Assessment: 25 marks

Students will be asked to submit assignments on the areas of their choice from the options indicated below. They may pursue:

- a thematic analysis of texts prescribed in the list
- a comparative analysis of two or more texts from the list

A list of areas/texts:

- Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni: *The Palace of Illusions*
- Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni: *The Forest of Enchantments*
- Mahasweta Devi: *After Kurukshetra : Three Stories* (“The Five Women”, “Kunti and Nishadin”, “Souvali”) from and
- Mahasweta Devi: “Draupadi”
- Iravati Karve: *Yuganta*

Recommended readings:

1. Abrams, M.H. *Glossary of Literary Terms*. India, Macmillan Publishers, 2000.
2. Allan, Arlene., Ian C. Storey. *A Guide to Ancient Greek Drama*. Blackwell Publishing, 2005.
3. Ashliham D.L., Rackham Arthur, and Stade George. *Aesop's Fables*. New York: Barnes and Nobles Classics, 2003.
4. Auger, Peter. *The Anthem Glossary of Literary Terms and Theory*, India, Anthem Press, 2011.
5. Bennett, Andrew and Nicholas Royle. *Introduction to Literature Criticism and Theory*. Great Britain: Pearson Education Limited, 2004.
6. Bharata., Ghosh Manmohan, Natyashastra, Calcutta: Granthalaya. 1967.
7. Bloom, Harold. *Interpretations: Sophocles' Oedipus Rex*. Yale: Chelsea House Publishers, 2007.
8. Bloom, Harold. *Interpretations: Homer's Iliad*. Yale: Chelsea House Publishers, 2006.
9. Cavanagh, Dermot Alan Gillis, Michelle Keown, James Loxley and Randall Stevenson (Ed). *The Edinburgh Introduction to Studying Literature*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010.
10. Chakrabarti, Piyas. *Anthem Dictionary of Literary Terms and Theory*. Delhi: Anthem Press, 2006.
11. Devi, Mahasweta, Katyayal, Anjum. *After Kurukshetra*. Seagull Books Private Limited, 2005.
12. Edmond Gore and Alexander Holmes. *What is Poetry?* England, Nabu Press, 2010.
13. Enoch, Wesley. *Black Medea*. Currency Press, 2006.
14. Fowler, Roger. (Ed.). *A Dictionary of Modern Critical Terms*. (Rev. Ed.) London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1987.
15. Gibson Arthur. *What is Literature*, Peter Lang Pub Inc, 2007.
16. Homer., E V. Rieu, P V. Jones, and D. C. H. Rieu. *The Iliad*. London: Penguin Books, 2003.
17. Hunt, Peter. *Understanding Children's Literature*. London and New York: Routledge, 2002.
18. Longinus., William Smith. *Dionysius Longinus on the Sublime*. Dublin: S. Powell, 1740.
19. Mc Cloud, Scott. *Understanding Comics: The Invisible Art*. Ney York: Harper Perennial, 1994.
20. Nikolajeva, Maria. *Aspects and Issues in the History of Children's Literature*. Westport, Connecticut and London: Greenwood Press, 1995.
21. Ovid., Mary M. Innes. *The Metamorphoses of Ovid*. Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England: Penguin Books, 1968.
22. Pai, Anant. *Brave Women of India*. Amar Chitra Katha.
23. Plato., Henry D. P. Lee. *The Republic*. Translated with an Introduction by Desmond Lee. 2nd Ed. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1974.
24. Plato., Christopher Gill. *The Symposium*. London: 1999.
25. Ramanujan, A.K. *Folktales from India: A Selection of Oral Tales from Twenty-two Languages*, Paw Prints, 2008.
26. Ray, Sukumar. Chaudhuri, Sukanta. *The Select Nonsense of Sukumar Ray*. Oxford University Press, 1997.
27. Sappho., Jim Powell. *The Poetry of Sappho*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. Print.
28. Sarma, Visnu., Chandra Rajan. *The Panchatantra*. India: Penguin Books, 1993.
29. Sophocles., Robert Fagles, and Bernard Knox. *The Three Theban Plays*. Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England; New York, N.Y.: Penguin Books, 1984.
30. Sophocles., Luci Berkowitz, and Theodore F. Brunner. *Oedipus Tyrannus: A New Translation. Passages from Ancient Authors. Religion and Psychology: Some Studies*. New York: Norton, 1970.

31. Tatar, Maria. *The Classic Fairy Tales*. New York and London: W.W. Norton and Company, 1998.
32. Turco, Lewis. *The Book of Literary Terms*, UK, University Press of New England, 1999.
33. Widdowson, Peter. *The Palgrave Guide to English Literature and its Contexts 1500-2000*, Hampshire: Palgrave, Macmillan, 2004.