SOPHIA COLLEGE
(AUTONOMOUS)
Affiliated to the University of Mumbai
Syllabi for Semesters III and IV
Programme: B. A.
Course: English
(Choice-Based Credit System with effect from the year 2020-21)
UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI

SOPHIA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

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

Paper II: HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE I

SEMESTER III

Course Title: History of English Literature I
(FROM THE MEDIEVAL AGE TO THE RENAISSANCE)

SEMESTER IV

Course Title: History of English Literature II
(FROM THE ELIZABETHAN AGE TO THE CAROLINE PERIOD)

Total no. of lectures per semester: 60

No. of credits per semester: 3
Course: History of English Literature I

Semester Three – History of English Literature I (From the Medieval Age to the Renaissance)

Objectives:

- introduce students to medieval and renaissance literatures
- familiarise them with the characteristic features of the major genres of the period
- enable them to critically analyse other representative texts and art of the period

Unit I: Middle English Literature

- Socio-historical and cultural context: Norman conquest, Black Death, Wars of the Roses, scholasticism, translations and the construction of an English national identity
- Literary trends: allegory, legends, romance, ballad

Unit II: Poetry

Geoffrey Chaucer: “General Prologue” to *The Canterbury Tales*

OR

William Langland: *Piers Plowman*

Unit III: Renaissance Literature

- Socio-historical and cultural context: Renaissance, reformation, humanism
- Literary trends: mystery, miracle and morality plays, sonnet

Unit IV: Sonnets and Courtly Love Poetry

Sir Philip Sidney: Sonnet I of *Astrophel and Stella* (“Loving in Truth …”)
Edmund Spenser: Sonnet I of *Amoretti* (“Happy ye leaves …”)
William Shakespeare: Sonnet 18 (“Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day?”)
                       Sonnet 116 (“Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds”)
                       Sonnet 130 (“My Mistress’ Eyes are Nothing Like the Sun”)
Aemilia Lanyer: “To the Lady Elizabeths Grace”
Question paper pattern

Semester End Examination: 75 marks
Semester III: History of English Literature I (From the Medieval Age to the Renaissance)
Duration: 2.5 hours

Q.1 Essay on Unit 1 (1 out of 2) (15 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 all units (2 out of four) (15 marks)

Internal Assessment: 25 marks

Students will be asked to submit assignments on the texts indicated below:

- Margery Kempe: *The Book of Margery Kempe*
- Margaret Cavendish: *The Blazing World*
Course Title: History of English Literature II

Semester Four: History of English Literature II (From the Elizabethan Age to the Caroline Period)

Objectives:

- introduce students to the literature of the Elizabethan, Jacobean and Caroline periods
- familiarise them with the characteristic features of the major genres of the period
- enable them to critically analyse other representative texts of the period

Unit I: Elizabethan Literature

- Socio-historical and cultural context: Spanish Armada, Globe theatre, the Elizabethan court
- Literary trends: pastoral, Elizabethan drama (comedy and tragedy), travelogue

Unit II: Drama

William Shakespeare: *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

OR

William Shakespeare: *Othello*

Unit III: Jacobean and Caroline Literatures

- Socio-historical and cultural context: the Authorised Version of the Bible, English Civil Wars, the development of science, the Cavaliers
- Literary trends: masque, religious poetry, metaphysical poetry

Unit IV: Metaphysical Poetry

John Donne: “The Canonization”
George Herbert: “The Collar”
Andrew Marvell: “To His Coy Mistress”
Question paper pattern

Semester End Examination: 75 marks
Semester IV: History of English Literature II (From the Elizabethan Age to the Caroline Period)
Duration: 2.5 hours

Q.1 Essay on Unit 1 (1 out of 2) (15 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 from all units (2 out of 4) (15 marks)

Internal Assessment: 25 marks

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

- Renaissance visual arts
- a review of the adaptations of Shakespearean plays
- a comparative analysis of Elizabethan plays
- Jacobean revenge tragedy
Recommended readings:


**Online Sources:**

2. “Shakespeare Resources: Online Resources” *Morningside College HJF Learning Centre* [https://morningside.libguides.com/shakespeare/online](https://morningside.libguides.com/shakespeare/online) Accessed 3 Jan 2020
3. “Shakespeare’s stage” *Internet Shakespeare Editions*, [https://internetshakespeare.uvic.ca/m/lifetimes/stage/ Accessed 4 Feb 2020](https://internetshakespeare.uvic.ca/m/lifetimes/stage/)
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SYLLABUS FOR S.Y.B.A. (ENGLISH)

Paper III: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY THEORY AND POPULAR FICTION

SEMESTER III
Course Title: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY THEORY

SEMESTER IV
Course Title: POPULAR FICTION

Total No. of lectures per semester: 60
No. of credits per year: 3
Course: Introduction to Literary Theory

Semester Three: Introduction to Literary Theory

Objectives:

• to introduce students to the concepts of class, caste, race and gender
• to familiarise them to the ways in which these perspectives can be applied to literary texts
• to enable them to undertake such application independently

Unit 1: Perspectives on Class


2. Raymond Williams: Selections from *Marxism and Literature*


   OR

3. B. Anton Chekhov: “An Upheaval”

4. Bong Joon-ho: *Parasite*

Unit 2: Perspectives on Caste

1. Anupama Rao: “Caste, Gender and Indian Feminism” from *Gender and Caste: Issues in Contemporary Indian Feminism:*


3. A. Bandhumadhav: “The Poisoned Bread”

   OR

3. B. Mahasweta Devi: “Bayen”

Unit 3: Perspectives on Race

1. Frantz Fanon: “The Black Man and Language” from Black Skin, White Masks
2. Trinh T. Minh-ha: “Commitment from the Mirror-Writing Box” from Woman, Native, Other: Writing Postcoloniality and Feminism
3. A. Alan Paton: Cry, the Beloved Country
   OR
3. B. Trinh T. Minh-ha: Forgetting Vietnam
4. Wole Soyinka: “Telephone Conversation”

Unit 4: Perspectives on Gender

1. Chandra Talpade Mohanty: “‘Under Western Eyes’ Revisited: Feminist Solidarity through Anticapitalist Struggles”
2. Ruth Vanita: “Thinking Beyond Gender In India”
   OR
4. Imtiaz Dharker: “Purdah I”, “Minority”
Question paper pattern:

Semester End Examination: 75 marks
Semester III: Introduction to Literary Theory
Duration: 2.5 hours

Q.1 Essay on Unit 1 (1 out of 2) (15 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 from all units (2 out of 4) (15 marks)

Internal Assessment: 25 marks
Students will be asked to submit assignments on any one of the following texts:

- Anubhav Sinha: *Article 15*
- Gina Prince-Bythewood: *The Secret Life of Bees*
- Alankrita Shrivastava: *Lipstick Under My Burkha*
- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: *Americanah*
Recommended readings:

4. Benhabib, Seyla and Judith Butler, Nancy Fraser. *Feminist Contentions: A Philosophical Exchange*
Semester Four: Popular Fiction

Objectives:

• to introduce students to the history and the development of popular fiction
• to familiarise them with the different categories of popular fiction
• to enable them to undertake a thematic and semiotic analysis of popular fiction

Unit 1: Science Fiction

History and development of the form: Selections from Adam Roberts’s *The History of Science Fiction*

Isaac Asimov: “First Law”
OR
Octavia Butler: “Bloodchild”
OR
Anil Menon: “Love in a Hot Climate”

Unit 2: Detective Fiction

History and development of the form: Selections from *The Cambridge Companion to Crime Fiction*

Sharadindu Bandyopadhyay: “Picture Imperfect”
OR
Kenneth Branagh: *Murder on the Orient Express*
OR
Gillian Flynn: *Gone Girl*

Unit 3: Fantasy

History and development of the form: Selections from *The Cambridge Companion to Fantasy Literature*

Lewis Carroll: *Alice in Wonderland*
OR
Neil Gaiman: *Coraline*
OR
Ursula Le Guin: “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas.”
Unit 3: Romance

History and development of the form: Selections from Tania Modleski’s *Loving With a Vengeance: Mass-Produced Fantasies for Women*

Ruchi Vasudeva: *You Can’t Fight A Royal Attraction* OR
Chetan Bhagat: *2 States: The Story of My Marriage* OR
Adam Shankman: *A Walk to Remember*
Question paper pattern:

Semester End Examination: (75 marks)
Semester IV: Popular Fiction
Duration: 2.5 hours

Q.1 Essay on Unit 1 (1 out of 2) (15 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 all units (2 out of 4) (15 marks)

Internal Assessment (25 marks)

Students will be asked to submit assignments analysing any one of the popular fictions from the following list.

1. Vampire fiction
2. Female Gothic
3. Feluda stories
4. Selections from the works of Agatha Christie
5. Chick-lit
6. Historical fiction
7. Harlequin Romances
8. Selections from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes stories
Recommended readings:

17. Puri, Jyoti. “Reading Romance Novels in Postcolonial India” (https://www.jstor.org/stable/190481)
22. Stanley, Tarshia L. *Approaches to Teaching the Works of Octavia E. Butler.* MLA. 2019