

**English Special IV**  
**Literary Criticism**

<b>Semester V</b>	<b>Subject Code: A 51716</b>	<b>Lectures: 60</b>
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**Objectives:**

- To introduce students to major literary critics
- To expose them to various trends and movements in art
- To equip them with appropriate technical terms to aid their analysis and evaluation of art
- To allow a more intimate understanding of the terms by associating them with practical examples
- To foster independent, creative as well as systematic critical thinking in order to have a more rich and in depth appreciation of art

<b>Unit 1: Critical Terms</b>	12
Allusion, Ambiguity, Connotation and Denotation, Bathos, Climax, Simile, Metaphor, Synecdoche, Symbol, Imagery, Conceit, Epithet, Onomatopoeia, Motif, Theme, Wit and humour, Irony, Paradox, Sarcasm, Satire, Genre, Persona, Tone, Voice, Interior monologue and Stream of consciousness, Setting and Local Colour, Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, Absurd, Allegory, Personification, Asides, soliloquies, Dramatic Monologue, Comic Relief, Poetic justice, Anachronism, Anti hero, Round and Flat character	
<b>Unit 2: Literary periods</b>	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renaissance, Restoration, Neo-Classicism/ Augustan Age, Romanticism, Victorian Age, Decadence, Georgian, War poetry, Modernism, Postmodernism</li> </ul>	
<b>Unit 3: Introduction to Literary Criticism</b>	04
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of Literary Criticism: purpose and function</li> <li>• M.H.Abrams: The Mirror and the Lamp- matrices</li> </ul>	
<b>Unit 4: Periods, critics, key terms and texts</b>	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greeks :</li> </ul>	





- Plato, Aristotle: Mimesis, Tragedy, Tragic Hero, Hamartia, Arete, Catharsis  
Text: Harry Potter and the Cursed Child by J.K. Rowling
- Romans:
  - Horace: Instruct & Delight  
Text: The Power of Mercy – Portia's Speech
- Renaissance:
  - Sir Philip Sidney: Superiority of poetry, Response to Stephen Gosson  
Text: "Chimes of Freedom" by Bob Dylan
- Augustans:
  - Dr Johnson: Violation of the Unities  
Text: Harry Potter and the Cursed Child by J.K. Rowling
- Romantics:
  - Wordsworth: Subjects of poetry, Poetic Diction, Definition of Poetry  
Text: Lucy Poem: 'She dwelt among the untrodden ways' by William Wordsworth
- Victorians:
  - Matthew Arnold: Real estimate, Touchstone method  
Text: Opening of Divine Comedy by Dante
- Formalism:
  - Eliot : Objective Correlative, Impersonal theory, Historical sense
  - 'In a Station of the Metro' by Ezra Pound
- New Criticism:
  - Cleanth Brooks : Irony, Paradox
  - Wimsatt & Beardsley : Affective Fallacy, Intentional Fallacy  
Text: "Very Like a Whale" by Ogden Nash

**\*Assignments and library hours – 12 hours**

**Recommended Text Books:**

1. Sampath Prabha and Snober Sataravala, Literary Criticism and Theory: An Introduction. Pune: Compiled by St Mira's College for Girls, 2012.
2. Barry, Peter. Beginning Theory. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1995.

**Reference Books:**

- Abrams, M.H. A Glossary of Literary Terms. Prism: Bangalore; 2004.
- Scot, Wilbur. Five Approaches to Literature. New York: Collier Books, 1962.
- Butcher, S.H. Aristotle's Theory of Poetry and Fine Arts. London: Macmillan, 1898.
- House, Humphry. Aristotle's Poetics: A Course of Eight Lectures.
- Ramaswamy. S and V.S. Sethuraman. The English Critical Tradition: An Anthology of English Literary Criticism Vol. 1 and 2. 1997. Chennai: Macmillan India, 2004.





**English Special IV  
Literary Criticism**

<b>Semester VI</b>	<b>Subject Code: A 61716</b>	<b>Lectures: 60</b>
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**Objectives:**

- To introduce students to major theorists
- To expose them to various trends and movements in art
- To equip them with appropriate technical terms to aid their analysis and evaluation of art
- To allow a more intimate understanding of the terms by associating them with practical examples
- To foster independent, creative as well as systematic critical thinking in order to have a more rich and in depth appreciation of art

<b>Unit 1: Introduction to Theory</b>	<b>08</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mario Klarer's Matrices The difference between Liberal Humanism and Theory</li> </ul>	
<b>Unit 2: Text based criticism</b>	<b>11</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structuralism:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Saussure: Sign, Langue &amp; Parole Application: Advertisements</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Deconstruction:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Derrida: Decentered, Sign, Differance Text: "The Castaway" by Cowper</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Translation             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Walter Benjamin Text: "The Task of the Translator" (assignment)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Unit 3: Reader based criticism</b>	<b>06</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reader response:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stanley Fish: Interpretive Communities</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reception theory:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jauss: Horizons of expectation Text: "The Oval Portrait" by Edgar Allan Poe</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	





<b>Unit 4: Author based criticism</b>	09
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biographical</li> <li>• Psychoanalytical:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Freud-Conscious, pre/sub and unconscious, Id Ego, Complexes, Dreams, slips etc.</li> <li>○ Jung-Collective Unconscious, Archetype, Myth</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Text: "Daddy" by Sylvia Plath</p>	

<b>Unit 5: Context based criticism</b>	14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marxism:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Karl Marx: Bourgeoisie, Proletariat, Base, Superstructure, mode of production, labour, exploitation, alienation, reification</li> <li>○ Althusser: Ideology</li> <li>○ Gramsci: Hegemony</li> </ul> <p>Text: "The Second Bakery Attack" by Haruki Murakami</p> </li> <li>• Feminism:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Virginia Woolf</li> <li>○ Kate Millet</li> <li>○ Elaine Showalter</li> <li>○ Simone de Beauvoir</li> <li>○ Woman as a cultural construct or sign, Stages of women's writing, Gynocriticism</li> </ul> <p>Text: "To His Coy Mistress" by Andrew Marvell</p> </li> <li>• Postcolonial:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Said :Orientalism</li> <li>○ Bill Ashcroft</li> <li>○ Gareth Griffith</li> <li>○ Helen Tiffin:Stages, Hybridity Vs Nativism</li> <li>○ Gayatri C.Spivak &amp; Homi Bhabha- Subaltern &amp; organic intellectual (Gramsci)</li> </ul> <p>Text: "The White Man's Burden" by Rudyard Kipling</p> </li> <li>• New Historicism &amp; Cultural Materialism:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stephen Greenblatt : Subversion Containment, Difference between New Historicism &amp; Cultural Materialism</li> </ul> <p>Text: Measure for Measure analysis by Jonathan Dollimore</p> </li> <li>• Post-modernism             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Baudrillard: Simulacrum, hyperreal</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

**\*Assignments and library hours – 12 hours**

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- Lodge, David and Nigel Woods. Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader. Delhi: Pearson Education Ltd., 2004.
- Bertens, Hans. Literary Theory: The Basics. 2001. New York: Routledge, 2004.
- Klarer, Mario. An Introduction to Literary Studies. London: Routledge, 1999.
- Guerin, William et al. A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Brooks, Cleanth and Robert Penn Warren. Understanding Poetry. New York: University of Missouri, 1939.

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