

# St. Joseph's College of Commerce

(Autonomous)

#163, Brigade Road, Bangalore - 560025



## Department of English

Syllabus Document for the Academic Year 2023-2024

B.Com/BBA/B.A./B.Sc - Additional English

# Additional English - Semester II

## Introduction

After a brief and introductory exposure of the students in the first semester to the wider nuances of the cultural turn in the literary studies, the second semester text specifically offers the students with articulations of resistance to the various socio-cultural and political processes which have been influential in their marginalisation. Starting from the discourse of caste, sub-nationalism and the question of asylum-seeking and granting/denial of citizenship, this text is an attempt to explore the perception of the students about issues concerning exploitation of humankind through cultural hegemony, national/regional dichotomy and the state-operated mechanism of ethnic cleansing. For this, the text is spread across a few distinctive genres- poetry, short stories and a film text.

## Course Objectives

- To acquaint students with the idea of ethnicity, heterogeneity, debates on nationality of the sub-nations and marginalised
- To compare the idea of “nationalism” before and after independence
- To understand the complexities of breaking gender barriers
- To examine the metaphors of power and politics

## Course Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- To demonstrate the ability to look at regional consciousness in juxtaposition to the idea of nation
- To be aware and promote gender inclusivity
- To differentiate and challenge the nuances of power hierarchy in Indian context.

## Module 1: Regional Consciousness

15 hours

1. The Wolf’s Postscript to Little Red Riding Hood - Agha Shahid Ali
2. Blood of Others - Tamsula Ao
3. Selected poems from “Waking is Another Dream: Poems on the Genocide in Eelam” – Cheran, Ravikumar

## Suggested Topics:

- a) Caste identity and the narrative of the nation
- b) Religious conversion in different parts of India
- c) Tribal identity
- d) Transnationalism
- e) Dynamics of political persecution

## References:

- Ashcroft, Bill, Griffiths, Gareth, and Tiffin, Helen. *The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post Colonial Literatures*. London: Routledge, 1989. Print.
- --- (eds.) *The Post-colonial Studies Reader*. London: Routledge: 1995. Print.
- Bhabha, Homi K. (ed.) *Nation and Narration*. New York: Routledge: 1990. Print.
- Iliah, Kancha. *Buffalo Nationalism: A Critique of Spiritual Freedom*. Bhatkal & Sen. 2004

## Module 2: Breaking Barriers

15 hours

1. Memories in March (Film text)
2. Lihaaf – Ismat Chughtai
3. Being Transgender: the hurt and the pain-Poetry by Pauline Smith
4. Transgender Bill- 2019

## Suggested Topics:

- a) Gender, trauma and melancholia
- b) Negotiating spaces with the sense of belongingness
- c) Gender and breaking barriers

## References:

- 1.A Tribute to Rituparno Ghosh, the film maker who Humanised same-sex relationships
2. Nanette by Hannah Gadsby
3. Douglas by Hannah Gadsby

## Module 3: Metaphors of Politics and Power

15 hours

1. Bayen –Mahasweta Devi

## Suggested Topics:

- a) Gender and subjectivity
- b) Superstitions and excommunication of women

## References:

- Foucault, M. (1980a) *Prison Talk // Foucault M. Power/Knowledge. Selected Interviews and Other Writings. 1972-1977*. New York: Pantheon Books: Bhatia, Nandi. "A Historiography of Modern Indian Theatre," in *Modern Indian Theatre: A Reader*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press. 2011.
- Sen, Nandini. *Mahasweta Devi: Critical Perspectives*. Pencraft International, 2011.
- Nandy, Ashish. *At the Edge of Psychology: Essays in Politics and Culture*. OUP. 1990.