### Course: Skill enhancement (Semester 3 and 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper Number</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Code</td>
<td>HENSE3011T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Title</td>
<td>UNDERSTANDING POETRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Credits</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory/Composite</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of periods assigned</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Faculty member(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course description/objective**
This course has evolved out of class room interactions with students who have been intimidated by the preconception that the study of poetry is an arcane, esoteric discipline that is difficult to decipher or master. The purpose of this course is to deconstruct these notions by suggesting a set of practices and response protocols. Through an exhaustive reading of primary texts taken from a wide range of poetry traditions and forms, the student will be made to recognise and appreciate that poetry is essentially narrative, and like all narratives, it tells stories. This course is an exploration of the narrative strategies of poetry story telling. Beginning with questions of structure and developing through narrators, voices, point of view, to culminate through analysis of rhetoric and style in the business of interpretation and meaning.

**Syllabus**

- How to read a poem
- Writing the summary/ “retelling” the poem
- Understanding Narrative: structure and organisation; ‘plot’; sequence
- Narrator: speaker; voice; point of view
- Representation
- Style: language; diction; tone; irony
- Rhetoric
- Devices: imagery; symbolism
- Elements of verse: stanzas; rhyme; rhythm; free verse; blank verse
- Sound play: alliteration; assonance; consonance; repetition
- Forms
- Rhetoric/figures of speech
- Interpretation
- The tricky business of finding meaning

**Texts**
A handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature: Guerin, Labor, Morgan, Reesman, Willingham
Understanding Poetry: Cleanth Brooks
An Anatomy of Poetry: Marjorie Bolton

**Recommended reading**
Eliot T.S., The Use of Poetry and the Use of Criticism
O’Neill P., Fictions of Discourse: Reading Narrative Theory
Gleich L.S., The Phonetic and Spatial Effects of Discourse in Poetic Narratives: The Case of Keats’s “La Belle Dame sans Merci”
Commuzi L., Lyric Poetry as a Narrative Speech Genre

**Evaluation**
CIA: TEST – (20)
End-Sem: (80)
(1 out of 2 poems for comprehension and analysis)

**PAPER No.:** to be given by COE

**Faculty:** indicate faculty members who will be teaching the paper/modules of the paper

**Course description:** essentially the aim of the course/ a brief description of what the course will impart

**Syllabus:** When laying down syllabus for a paper please indicate:
- Modules; marks per module/section/topic; number of periods allotted to each
- May be submitted as annexure if space in this box is insufficient

**Texts:** texts to be studied in the paper (leave blank if not applicable)

**Reading/Reference:** books that might be listed as required reading/ advised or suggested reading/ etc.

**Evaluation:** End-Sem 80; CIA 20
However if the dept. has decided on alternative modes of assessment for the paper they are to be indicated in the evaluation plan.

**Example:** End-Sem: 40
- CIA: 20
- Presentation: 20 (Module 1)
- Project: 20 (Module 2)

**DSC:** total of 14 papers