

MULTIDISCIPLINARY PAPER

Semester	ONE
Paper Code	M1EN230111T
Paper Title	INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL AND COMPARATIVE STUDIES (MULTIDISCIPLINARY)
No. of Credits	3
Course description/objective	<p>The purpose of this course is to introduce the study of literature within the context of a multidisciplinary approach. It opens up the possibility of 'reading' literature from a wide array of vantage points. The course will introduce the subject as not just texts to be studied in an aesthetic vacuum but also as cultural products that are produced in constant engagement with a wide variety of discursive fields at any given historical moment.</p> <p>Students will first be initiated into the art of reading, learning the tools with which they can begin to decipher the various meaning making mechanisms at work in a text. This approach will then be broadened and modified to incorporate a more multidisciplinary method. Building on the introduction to reading, the course will look at disciplines that are closely connected to the study of literature and those that seem at odds with it. The course aims to demonstrate how understanding and exploring different disciplines in a connected way can significantly enhance the study of a core subject.</p>
Course outcome	The course will allow the student to develop a more inclusive and flexible attitude towards literature. It will also foster a critical appreciation of the multidisciplinary nature of academic study.
Syllabus	<p>MODULE I: HOW TO READ A TEXT</p> <p>1. Introduction to Poetry: (6) Elements and Forms of Poetry Texts for discussion: Sidney: "Loving in truth" or Edna St. Vincent Millay: Sonnet 29 Keats: "La Belle Dame Sans Merci" Dickinson: "Because I Could Not Stop for Death" Auden: "Funeral Blues" <i>(The selection of texts is to be determined by the course instructor)</i></p> <p>2. Introduction to Fiction: (6) Elements of Fiction Texts for discussion: Short stories: Roald Dahl: "The Landlady" Kate Chopin: "The Story of an Hour" James Thurber: "The Catbird Seat" Frank O'Connor: "First Confession" Shirley Jackson: "The Lottery" <i>(The selection of texts is to be determined by the course instructor)</i></p> <p>MODULE II: LITERATURE AND CULTURAL STUDIES</p> <p>1. Literature and History (4) William Shakespeare: <i>Richard III</i> (excerpts of description of protagonist in the context of the Tudor historical myth) Carol Ann Duffy: "Selling Manhattan"</p> <p>2. Literature and Political Science (4) Rudyard Kipling: 'The White Man's Burden', excerpts from 'Kim' Cold War and the spy genre</p> <p>3. Literature and Sociology (4) Thomas Wyatt: "Warfare I cannot wage"/ "Whoso list to hunt" (Gender) Raymond Carver: "They're Not Your Husband" The comic book/ graphic novel as a legitimate social document (excerpts to be chosen by the instructor).</p> <p>MODULE III: LITERATURE AND OTHER ARTS/SCIENCE</p> <p>1. Literature and Art (4) Keats: "To Autumn" or Auden: "Musée des Beaux Arts"</p> <p>2. Literature and Cinema (4) Use of cinematic techniques in literature: T.S. Eliot: "Preludes" or Simon Armitage: "Zoom"</p> <p>3. Literature and Science (4) The impact of scientific discourses on literature Newton's optics and light and colour in 18th century poetry Galileo, telescopes and the English Imagination (Selection of texts to be chosen by the instructor) Donne: "A Valediction Forbidding Mourning" Wordsworth: "The Rainbow" Poe: "The Masque of the Red Death"</p>
Reading/Reference Lists	To be announced by the course instructor
Evaluation	Internal Assessment + Attendance: 15 marks End Semester Examination: 35 marks Module I: 10x1= 10 (One out of two) 5x1=5 (One out of two) Module II: 10x1=10 (One out of two) Module III: 10X1= 10 (One out of two)

