# TEMPLATE FOR INDIVIDUAL CO-ORDINATORS

### MA SYLLABUS

## TITLE OF THE PAPER

SEMESTER	4
PAPER NO	15 (Part A)
PAPER TITLE	African-American Literature
PAPER CODE	MENG4403
THEORY/ PRACTICAL	Theory
NO OF CREDITS	03
COURSE OBJECTIVES	The course aims to offer the students an exposure to the creative and critical responses to the issues of race and gender in the white dominant American society. The variety of excerpts and texts offer to explore the relation between identity and quest for freedom that provided the sub-text for the larger debate over the African-American's position in a white dominant culture. The course attempts to trace the intriguing stages in African-American cultural history involving multiple forms of resistance and strategies of survival against marginalization and alienation. The scope and inclusiveness of the course would enable students to come to an understanding of concepts related to identity, race, gender roles and self-fashioning and would help them trace the tropes and literary practices that define this unique tradition.
LEARNING OUTCOME/S	The course aims to familiarise the students with African-American cultural history through the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade, plantation experience, slavery, racial marginalization, Harlem Renaissance and emergence of black writers. The texts attempt to offer an exposer to diverse themes explored by the male and female black writers on racial issues, gender-power relations, identity crisis and identity formation.
SYLLABUS	Module I: Literature, Slavery, Freedom and Reconstruction
	Excerpts From:

Olaudah Equiano-The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano

Sojourner Truth- Ain't I a Woman?

Harriet Jacobs- Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Booker T. Washington- Up From Slavery

W.E.B.Dubois- The Souls of Black Folk

Langston Hughes-The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain

Frederick Douglass- My Bondage and My Freedom Alain Locke- The New Negro

Maya Angelou- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

### **Module II: African-American Poetry**

Claude Mckay- Harlem Shadows, If we must die, America.

Langston Hughes- Mother to Son, The Negro Speaks of Rivers, I too

Gwendolyn Brooks- A Song in the Front Yard, the mother

Maya Angelou- Still I Rise, On Aging, Woman work Rita Dove- Parsley, Receiving the Stigmata

Module III: Fiction - From Harlem Renaissance,

Realism, Naturalism and Modernism

Richard Wright- *Black Boy / Native Son* 

Ralph Ellison- *Invisible Man* 

James Baldwin- Go Tell it on the Mountain /Giovanni 's Room

Zora Neale Hurston- Their Eyes were Watching God

Nella Larsen- Quicksand

Toni Morrison- Sula/ Tar Baby

Octavia Butler- Wild Seed / Kindred

#### **READING LIST**

Martin Bulmer and John Solomos. Racism. Oxford:

Oxford University Press,1999

Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Nellie Y. Mckay eds. *The Norton Anthology of African-American Literature*. New York: Norton, 1997

Henry Louis Gates, Jr, Reading Black Reading Feminist: A Critical Anthology.U.S.A.:Meridian,1983

George Frederickson *The Black Image in the White Mind: The debate on Afro- American Character 1817-1841*. New York, Harper and Row, 1971.

SEMINARS/	Talk by External Experts
PRESENTATIONS	
EVALUATION	CIA: 20 marks
	End Semester examination paper format: Total 60 (20x3)
	Modules 1, 3 & $4-1$ out of 3 Questions

CEMECTED	T.
SEMESTER	4
PAPER NO	15 (Part B)
PAPER TITLE	Gender And Literature
PAPER CODE	MENG4403
THEORY/ PRACTICAL	Theory
NO OF CREDITS	03
COURSE OBJECTIVES	The course aims to theorize the conceptual notions associated with gender constructs within specific historical, cultural, critical and literary contexts. It attempts to trace the trajectory of literary productions through diverse angles of gender interpretation. The texts suitably illustrate the interventionist criticality that has been an integral part of the politics of gender since its inception. The range and variety of literary works correspond to the shifting movements in gender studies taking into account the heterogeneous forms of oppression that individuals are subjected to in their struggle for equal rights and privileges. The gender perspective inherent in every work integrates historical ,political, philosophical and cultural approaches underscoring the complexity of desire ,identity, victimhood and agency.
LEARNING OUTCOME/S	The course aims to familiarise the students with the basic tenets of gender with reference to different schools of criticism. The theoretical texts offer a critical perspective on diverse issues related to gender and literature.
SYLLABUS	Module I:  Mary Wollstonecraft- A Vindication of the Rights of Women  John Stuart Mill- On the Subjection of Women Simone de Beauvoir- The Second Sex Kate Millett- Sexual Politics

	Juliet Mitchell- Psychoanalysis and Feminism
	Elaine Showalter- Speaking of Gender
	Ellen Moers- Literary Women
	Judith Butler- <i>Gender Trouble</i>
	Alice Walker-In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens
	Module II:
	Jane Austen- <i>Emma</i>
	Charlotte Bronte- <i>Shirley</i>
	Thomas Hardy- The Return of the Native /Jude The
	Obscure
	G.B.Shaw- Candida
	Virginia Woolf- <i>Orlando</i>
	Charlotte Perkins Gilman- <i>The Yellow Wallpaper</i>
	Buchi Emecheta- Second Class Citizen
	Doris Lessing - The Grass is Singing
	Jamaica Kincaid- A Small Place
	Jeanette Winterson- <i>Oranges are not the only fruit</i>
	Arundhati Roy- <i>The God of Small Things</i>
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	Manju Kapur- Difficult Daughters
READING LIST	Ellen Rooney ed. The Cambridge Companion to Feminist
	Literary Theory. Cambridge: Cambridge University
	Press,2006
	Uma Narayan. Dislocating Cultures: Identities, Traditions
	and Third World Feminism. New York: Routledge,1997
	Diana Fus (ed) <i>Inside/ Lesbian Theories</i> , <i>Gay Theories</i> .
	New York and London:Routledge,1991
	Sandra .M.Gilbert and Susan Gubar .No Man's Land: The
	Place of the Woman Writer in the Twentieth Century. New
	Haven : Yale University Press, 1988
	Marilyn Frye <i>The Politics of Reality: Essays in Feminist</i>
	Theory. Trumansburg, New York; Crossing Press, 1983.
SEMINARS/	Talk by External Experts
PRESENTATIONS	Tun of Dateinal Dapeito
EVALUATION	CIA: 20 marks (As part of both sections A and B)
	End Semester examination paper format : Total 20
	Modules 2 – 1 out of 3 Questions