

NEP ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SEMESTER 3 Course: Skill enhancement (Understanding Poetry)

Semester	3
COURSE	SKILL ENHANCEMENT
Paper Code	S2EN230311T
Paper Title	UNDERSTANDING POETRY
No. of Credits	3
Theory/Composite	THEORY
Minimum no of preparatory hours per week a student has to devote	4
Number of Modules	3
Syllabus	Module I: Poetry Appreciation How to read a poem Writing the summary/ “retelling” the poem Writing the substance of a poem Understanding Narrative: structure and organisation; ‘plot’; sequence Narrator: speaker; voice; point of view Representation Style: language; diction; tone; irony Devices: imagery; symbolism Elements of verse: stanzas; rhyme; rhythm; free verse; blank verse Sound play: alliteration; assonance; consonance; repetition Forms Interpretation Module II: Rhetoric Module III: Prosody
LEARNING OUTCOMES	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.
Texts	<i>A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature:</i> Guerin, Labor, Morgan, Reesman, Willingham <i>Understanding Poetry:</i> Cleanth Brooks <i>An Anatomy of Poetry:</i> Marjorie Bolton
Recommended reading	Eliot T.S., <i>The Use of Poetry and the Use of Criticism</i> O’Neill P., <i>Fictions of Discourse: Reading Narrative Theory</i> Gleich L.S., <i>The Phonetic and Spatial Effects of Discourse in Poetic Narratives: The Case of Keats’s “La Belle Dame sans Merci”</i> Commuzi L., <i>Lyric Poetry as a Narrative Speech Genre</i> Mary Oliver. <i>A Poetry Handbook</i>
Evaluation	CIA: Modules II & III 10 marks 5 marks for Attendance
Paper Structure for Theory Semester Examination	End-Semester: 35 marks. 1 ½ hrs Substance Writing: 15 Verse comprehension: 20

