Saurashtra University
Rajkot

Board of Studies in English
Draft Syllabus
M. Phil

In effect from 2016 onwards
M. Phil. English

Every M.Phil. student will submit a dissertation of approximately 100 pages and it will carry 200 marks. The M.Phil. dissertation would be evaluated out of 150 marks. After the evaluation of the dissertation by the external referee, the faculty of the Department will conduct a viva voce examination of 50 marks. It would be conducted jointly by all the faculty of the Department and an average of the marks given by each faculty would be considered the marks for viva would be his or her performance in dissertation paper. The student will be trained by the guide for all the aspects of facing an open defense, including the fundamental mannerism of an open viva.

Course title: CCT 01 - Research Methodology

Course (Paper) Unique Code   CORE 1601070103010100

Objectives:

1. To acquaint the students with the fundamentals and mechanics of literary research.
2. To make them aware of the operations of human thought and analysis, interpretation, generalizations and evaluation of these thoughts with reference to the texts.
3. To train them for research papers, research proposals and thesis.
4. To develop research skills in the students

Course Content:

Unit 1:
  a) Nature, aim and stages of literary research & the spirit of scholarship.
  b) The Major Areas of Literary Research (authorship, source study, interpretation, survey etc)

Unit 2:
  a) The style of research writing and the thesis lay-out.
  b) Preparing Research Proposal and writing Research Paper

Unit 3:
  a) Using library and other Sources for Research
  b) Using MLA/APA Style-sheet

Unit 4:
  a) Developing tools for research (questionnaire, survey, data collection and analysis)
  b) Literary Research and other Media (Painting, films, music etc.)

Recommended Reading :
5. *MLA Stylesheet*, 7th Edition
Title of the course: CCT-2: Theories of Evaluation
Course (Paper) Unique Code CORE 1601070103010200

Objectives:
This course attempts to acquaint learners with critical theories that tend to evaluate fundamental cornerstones of human society and its condition from a relatively contemporary perspective. All the essays considered here have been published after 1975. The course also balances men and women theoreticians at an equal ratio achieving thereby a modicum of inclusivity. The course thus attempts to facilitate an exposure to the latest literary-critical thought that might inspire learners towards research in contemporary theoretical trends. The course is divided into the following units:

Course content:

Unit 1: The Modern and the Postmodern
   a) Jürgen Habermas: “Modernity – An Incomplete Project”
   b) Jean-Francois Lyotard: “Defining the Postmodern”

Unit 2: Race and Gender
   a) Hélène Cixous: “The Laugh of the Medusa”
   b) bell hooks: “Postmodern Blackness”

Unit 3: Cultural Studies
   a) Raymond Williams: “Resources for a Journey of Hope”
   b) Stuart Hall: “Cultural Studies and its Theoretical Legacies”

Unit 4: The Humanities, Literature and Value
   a) Barbara H. Smith: “Contingencies of Value”
   b) Martha C. Nussbaum: “The Narrative Imagination”

Title of the course: ECT-1 (A) Application of Indian Approaches to Literature

Course (Paper) Unique Code  ELECTIVE-1  1601070203020103

Objectives:

1. This Course proposes to teach learners how to apply Indian critical approaches to specific texts.
2. The Course thus endeavours to form a link between the learners’ activities in their Masters programme to study texts and critical theories in isolation. Training learners how to apply a critical approach to a text is in a way preparing them to become better readers and researchers.
3. In the process, the Course aims at enhancing the enjoyment of both reading texts and knowing critical theories.

Course content:

Component I: Applying Indian Theories to Specific Texts
1. Applying Rasa to William Shakespeare’s Hamlet
2. Applying Alamkara to John Milton’s Paradise Lost Book II
3. Applying Dhwani to George Orwell’s Animal Farm
4. Applying Vakrokti to Thomas Gray’s Elegy written in Country Churchyard

Prescribed Reading in addition to the texts specified above:
Title of the course: ECT-1 (B) Applying Western Theories to Specific Texts

Course (Paper) Unique Code ELECTIVE-1 1601070203020102

Objectives:

1. This Course proposes to teach learners how to apply Western Theories to specific texts.
2. The Course thus endeavours to form a link between the learners’ activities in their Masters programme to study texts and critical theories in isolation. Training learners how to apply a critical approach to a text is in a way preparing them to become better readers and researchers.
3. In the process, the Course aims at enhancing the enjoyment of both reading texts and knowing critical theories.

Course content:

1. Psychoanalytic Criticism applied to Eminem’s lyric ‘Cleanin’ Out My Closet’ and Sylvia Plath’s poem ‘Daddy’.
2. Ethical Criticism applied to the Harry Potter series of novels by J.K. Rowling (the first novel is to be considered).
3. Cultural Studies applied to a real event much covered by the media (Princess Diana’s death).
4. Cyberphilosophy applied to the movie The Matrix.

Recommended Reading:

1. All the above western approaches and their application to the afore-mentioned texts / discourses can be studied from texts: CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL TEXTS AND CRITICAL APPROACHES by Peter Childs (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2006).
Title of the course: ECT 01 (C) – Cultural Studies

Course (Paper) Unique Code  ELECTIVE-1  1601070203020101

Objectives:

1. To provide learners with the theoretical understanding of the concept of ‘culture’ and its emergence as an independent academic discipline.
2. To examine the works of the key thinkers in this discipline.
3. To examine the various schools in this discipline.
4. To examine its links / overlap with literary studies.
5. To evaluate its salient features and anticipate the emerging areas in the twenty-first century.

Course content:

Units: Each of the following to have half a credit:

a) Conceptual clarity: etymology of the word ‘culture’

b) History: Studies on Culture – 18th & 19th c. thinkers and works (French, German and English)

c) 20th c rise of Cultural Studies as a Discipline: Frankfurt School

d) 20th c rise of Cultural Studies as a Discipline: Birmingham Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies

e) 20th c rise of Cultural Studies as a Discipline: American School

f) Critical Theories & Cultural Studies: Marxist & Poststructural thinking, Influences from discourses on race, ethnicity, gender, nationality...

g) Popular & Mass Culture: Films, Television, Pop Songs, Advertisement...

h) Literature & Cultural Studies: Comparative aspects of literary & cultural theories

Recommended Reading:

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