

**15AVP501****AMRITA VALUES PROGRAMME****1 0 0 1**

Amrita University's Amrita Values Programme (AVP) is a new initiative to give exposure to students about richness and beauty of Indian way of life. India is a country where history, culture, art, aesthetics, cuisine and nature exhibit more diversity than nearly anywhere else in the world.

Amrita Values Programmes emphasize on making students familiar with the rich tapestry of Indian life, culture, arts, science and heritage which has historically drawn people from all over the world.

Post-graduate students shall have to register for any one of the following courses, second semester, which may be offered by the respective school.

### **Courses offered under the framework of Amrita Values Programme**

#### **Art of Living through Amma**

Amma's messages can be put to action in our life through pragmatism and attuning of our thought process in a positive and creative manner. Every single word Amma speaks and the guidance received in on matters which we consider as trivial are rich in content and touches the very inner being of our personality. Life gets enriched by Amma's guidance and She teaches us the art of exemplary life skills where we become witness to all the happenings around us still keeping the balance of the mind.

#### **Insights from the Ramayana**

Historical significance of Ramayana, the first Epic in the world – Influence of Ramayana on Indian values and culture – Storyline of Ramayana – Study of leading characters in Ramayana – Influence of Ramayana outside India – Misinterpretation of Ramayana by Colonial powers and its impact on Indian life - Relevance of Ramayana for modern times.

#### **Insights from the Mahabharata**

Historical significance of Mahabharata, the largest Epic in the world – Influence of Mahabharata on Indian values and culture – Storyline of Mahabharata – Study of leading characters in Mahabharata – Kurukshetra War and its significance – Importance of Dharma in society – Message of the Bhagavad Gita - Relevance of Mahabharata for modern times.

#### **Insights from the Upanishads**

Introduction: Sruti versus Smrti - Overview of the four Vedas and the ten Principal Upanishads - The central problems of the Upanishads – Ultimate reality – the nature of Atman - the different modes of consciousness - Sanatana Dharma and its uniqueness - The Upanishads and Indian Culture – Relevance of Upanishads for modern times – A few Upanishad Personalities: Nachiketas, Satyakama Jabala, Aruni, Shvetaketu.

#### **Insights from Bhagavad Gita**

Introduction to Bhagavad Gita – Brief storyline of Mahabharata - Context of Kurukshetra War – The anguish of Arjuna – Counsel by Sri. Krishna – Key teachings of the Bhagavad Gita – Karma Yoga, Jnana Yoga and Bhakti Yoga - Theory of Karma and Reincarnation – Concept of Dharma – Idea of the Self and Realisation of the Self – Qualities of a Realised person - Concept of Avatar - Relevance of Mahabharata for modern times.

#### **Swami Vivekananda and his Message**

Brief Sketch of Swami Vivekananda's Life – Meeting with Guru – Disciplining of Narendra - Travel across India - Inspiring Life incidents – Address at the Parliament of Religions – Travel in United States and Europe – Return and reception India – Message to Indians about our duties to the nation.

#### **Great Spiritual Teachers of India**

Sri Rama, Sri Krishna, Sri Buddha, Adi Shankaracharya, Sri Ramanujacharya, Sri Madhvacharya, Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Swami Vivekananda, Sri Ramana Maharshi, Mata Amritanandamayi Devi

#### **Indian Arts and Literature:**

The aim of this course is to present the rich literature and culture of Ancient India and help students appreciate their deep influence on Indian Life - Vedic culture, primary source of Indian Culture – Brief introduction and appreciation of a few of the art forms of India - Arts, Music, Dance, Theatre, Paintings, Sculpture and architecture – the wonder language, Sanskrit and ancient Indian Literature

#### **Importance of Yoga and Meditation in Life:**

The objective of the course is to provide practical training in YOGA ASANAS with a sound theoretical base and theory classes on selected verses of Patanjali's Yoga Sutra and Ashtanga Yoga. The coverage also includes the effect of yoga on integrated personality development.

#### **Appreciation of Kerala's Mural Art Forms:**

A mural is any piece of artwork painted or applied directly on a wall, ceiling or other large permanent surface. In the contemporary scenario Mural painting is not restricted to the permanent structures and are being done even on canvas. A distinguishing characteristic of mural painting is that the architectural elements of the given space are harmoniously incorporated into the picture. Kerala mural paintings are the frescos depicting mythology and legends, which are drawn on the walls of temples and churches in South India, principally in Kerala. Ancient temples, churches and places in Kerala, South India, display an abounding tradition of mural paintings mostly dating back between the 9th to 12th

centuries CE when this form of art enjoyed Royal patronage. Learning Mural painting through the theory and practice workshop is the objective of this course.

### Practicing Organic Farming

Life and nature are closely linked through the healthy practices of society for maintaining sustainability. When modern technological knowhow on microorganisms is applied in farming using the traditional practices we can avoid damage to the environment. The course will train the youth on modern practices of organic farming. Amma says "we have to return this land to the coming generations without allowing even the slightest damage to happen to it". Putting this philosophy to practice will bring about an awakening and enthusiasm in all to strive for good health and to restore the harmony in nature"

### Ancient Indian Science and Technology

Science and technology in ancient and medieval India covered all the major branches of human knowledge and activities, including mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, medical science and surgery, fine arts, mechanical, civil engineering, architecture, shipbuilding and navigation. Ancient India was a land of sages, saints and seers as well as a land of scholars and scientists. The course give an awareness on India's contribution to science and technology.

15ELL701

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

4 0 0 4

**Objectives:** To introduce scholars to the philosophy and mechanics of research; to train scholars in the use of language, style and discourses suitable for thesis-writing; to expose scholars to theories of literature, and help them acquire both a theoretical thrust and hands-on experience in writing research proposals before they embark on the execution of the thesis proper.

#### Unit 1 Introduction to Research

The Meaning, Definition and Objectives of Research - Research in Language and Literature. (Types of Literary Research, Different approaches to Research)

#### Unit 2 Research Process

Materials and Tools of Research (Primary and Secondary sources, Library and Electronic sources) - Collection and organization of materials - Research format - Compiling a bibliography - Writing drafts - Plagiarism check.

#### Unit 3 The Mechanics of Research Writing

The use of Quotations – Parenthetical Documentation - The Format (Presentation) of a Thesis - From the First Draft to the Final Copy - The Mechanics of Thesis Writing.

#### Unit 4 Language, Style and Types of Discourses

Diction - The Style suitable for a Literary Thesis – Narration – Argumentation – Exposition – Description.

#### Unit 5 Theory of Literature

Extrinsic and Intrinsic Approaches (Wellek & Warren) - Modern Literary Theory (Lodge, David) - Theory of Comparative Literature (Weisstein, Ulrich).

#### REFERENCES:

1. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers - Sixth edition* – Joseph Gibaldi
2. *Thesis and Assignment Writing* - Anderson
3. *Thesis Writing (Prentice Hall)* - Iverson
4. *Thesis Writing* - C.J. Parsons
5. *Modern Rhetoric* - Brooks and Warren.
6. Wellek, Rene and Warren, Austin. *Theory of Literature*
7. Lodge, David. *Modes of Modern Writing*
8. Weisstein, Ulrich. *Comparative Literature and Literary Theory*
9. Kothari. C. R. *Research Methodology - Methods and Techniques.*
10. M. P. Sinha. *Research Methods, Atlantic Publishers: New Delhi.*
11. Paul Oliver. *Writing your Thesis. New Delhi.*

15ELL702

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND THEORY

4 0 0 4

**Objectives:** To acquaint with the latest literary theories

#### Unit 1 Introduction

1. Liberal Humanism - Literary theory from Aristotle to F. R. Levis
2. Transition of Liberal Humanism to Theory

#### Unit 2 Structuralism, Post-Structuralism, Deconstruction

1. Ferdinand de Saussure - The Object of Study
2. Jacques Derrida - Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Science
3. Paul de Man - Semiology and Rhetoric

#### Unit 3 Feminism Psychoanalysis, Marxism, Post Colonialism

1. Jacques Lacan - Seminar on the Purloined Letter
2. Elaine Showalter - Towards the Feminist Poetics
3. Edmund Wilson - Marxism and Literature

## 4. Homi Bhaba - The Other Question

**Unit 4 New Historics, Reader Response, Narratology**

1. Cleanth Brooks - The Primacy of the Reader
2. Stanley Fish - Is there a Text in this class?
3. Gerald Gennete - Structuralism and Literary Criticism

**Unit 5 Literature**

1. Amitav Ghosh - In an Antique Land
2. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - Half of a yellow sun
3. Mahesh Dhattani - Tara

**REFERENCE BOOKS**

Loomba, A. (2005). *Colonialism / Post Colonialism*. London: Newyork: Routledge.  
 Sethuraman V. S. *Contemporary Criticism: An Anthology*. Chennai: Macmillan India Ltd. 1989.  
 Lodge, David. *20th Century Literary Critics: A Reader*. Newyork: Longman, 1972.  
 Nigal Wood. *Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. New Delhi: Pearson Education, 2008.

**15ELL731****ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING****4 0 0 4**

**Objective:** To enable students to develop the analytical skills required in Second Language Learning; to familiarize students with the empirical and conceptual issues that arise in the study of Language.

**Unit 1 Introduction and Major Trends**

ELT: an introduction (History, Place, Position, Problems, Prospects and Future)  
 Approaches, Methods and Techniques in English Language Teaching.  
 First and Second Language Acquisition.

**Unit 2 English Language Teaching in India**

Content of Language Teaching:  
 English as Second Language (ESL) - Acquisition and Causative Factors  
 English for Specific Purpose  
 The Problems of Teaching English

**Unit 3 Language Tests and Tools**

Types of Tests  
 Characteristics of a Good Language Test  
 Purposes and types of Tests  
 Objective and Subjective Test  
 Tools of Evaluation  
 Remedial Teaching

**Unit 4**

Phonetics  
 Phonology and Morphology of English  
 Syntax  
 Semantics and Pragmatics

**Unit 5**

Psychology of Language Processing and Learning (Spoken Word Recognition, Speech Production, Rules and Exceptions: Reading and Morphology).

**SUGGESTED READINGS:**

Smith, N. (1999) *Chomsky: Ideas and Ideals*. Cambridge University Press  
 Raghubir Sahai Gupta, Kapil Kapoor. (1991) *English in India, Issues and Problems*. New Delhi: Academic Foundation  
 Richards J. and Rodgers T. (2002) *Approaches and Methods in Language Teaching*. Cambridge: CUP  
 Thirumala, M. S. (2002) *An Introduction to TESOL*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Language.

**15ELL732****MEDIA, CULTURAL THEORY AND VISUAL SEMIOTICS****4 0 0 4**

**Objectives:** To familiarize students to the various aspects of cultural theory and culture studies; to highlight intertwining of cultural facets and dissemination of media messages; to provide an analytical framework through which communication emanating from various media channels may be studied and understood.

**Unit 1**

What is Cultural Studies? - Theoretical frameworks of Culture and cultural studies: Culture - Popular Culture – Ideology - Culture and Civilization – Early Trends in Cultural Studies - Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies - Raymond Williams: The analysis of culture.

**Unit 2**

Media and audience identity - Media influence and power: Media Effects - Types of Texts - Media Effects theories and Models - Audience demography and distinctions, etc. - Reception/Audience Studies - The Circuit of Culture.

**Unit 3**

Methods / Methodologies in Cultural Studies - Language, Discourse, Identity, etc. – Post-Colonialism and Cultural Studies, Media and Cultural Studies.

**Unit 4**

Semiotics: Signs, Modality and Representation, Paradigm and Syntagm, Denotation, Connotation, Myths, Metaphor, Metonymy, Code.

**Unit 5**

Structuralism: Saussure, assumptions of Arbitrariness, Relational, Systematic – Post-Structuralism: Derrida and Difference, Michel Foucault - Post-modernism: Lyotard, Frederic Jameson, Baudrillard, Subcultures and Post-Modernism, Paul Virilio - Gender and Race – Feminism, Masculinity Studies, Race and Racism, Orientalism, Anti-Racism.

**REFERENCES:**

1. *Understanding Media Culture*, Jostein Gripsrud, Arnold, London
2. *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction*, John Storey, Pearson Longman
3. *A Companion to Cultural Studies*, Edited by Toby Miller, Blackwell
4. *Media and Cultural Studies, Key Works*, Edited by Meenakshi Gigi Durham and Douglas M. Kellner, Blackwell
5. *An Introduction to Cultural Studies*, Pramod K. Nayar, Viva Books

**15ELL733****MODERN INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION****4 0 0 4**

**Objectives:** To familiarize students with the translated works of great writers; to encourage students in translation practice; to motivate students to translate works.

**Unit 1 Translation as an Art and Science**

Problems and issues in translation - language and culture - decoding and recording - problems of equivalence - translation methods – transliterations - transcreations.

**Unit 2 Fiction**

Munshi Premchand - Godaan  
U R Ananda Murthi - Bharathipura  
O V Vijayan – Legends of Khazak.

**Unit 3 Poetry**

Gulam Muhammed Sheikh – Jaisalmer I  
B S Maedhekar – In these Waters of the Ganges  
Mahadevi Verma – Adhikar  
Balamani Amma - The Pen  
Arun Kolatkar – Jejuri

**Unit 4 Drama**

Vijay Tendulkar – Silence! The Court is in Session  
Girish Karnad – Hayavadana

**Unit 5 Short Stories**

Mulk Raj Anand – A Barber's Trade Union  
Anita Desai – A Devoted Son  
Bharati Mukherjee – Nostalgia  
R K Narayan – Another Community  
Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai – A Blind Man's Contentment

**REFERENCE BOOKS**

1. *Deshpande, G.P. Modern Indian Drama Ed; New Delhi: Sahitya Akadami, 2000.*
2. *Christeva, Julia: Desire in Language.*
3. *Frenz, H. The Art of Translation. In Comparative Literature: Method and Perspective. Ed. N P Stallknecht and Horst Frenz. Carbondale: Univ of Illinois Press, 1971.*
4. *Wendy Steiner Ed. Image and Code Michigan Studies in Humanities.*
5. *Kambar Chandrashekar. Modern Indian Plays Ed. Vol. 1 & Vol. 2. New Delhi: National School of Drama, 2000.*
6. *Reddy, K V and R K Dhawan (eds.) Flowering of Indian Drama: Growth and Development. New Delhi: Prestige, 2005.*
7. *S Alta, W, Dissanayake Ed. The Penguin Book of Modern Indian Short Stories, 2001.*
8. *Steiner, G After Babel: Aspects of Language and Translation. Oxford: OUP, 1997.*
9. *Talgeri, P and S K Verma Eds. Literature and Translation. New Delhi: JNU, 1988.*
10. *Berger John, Ways of Seeing. Penguin.*

**15ELL734****POST-COLONIAL STUDIES****4 0 0 4**

**Objective:** To apply the theoretical aspects in the prescribed works.

**Unit 1**

Edward Said - Orientalism

Franz Fanon - Wretched of the Earth  
Homi Bhabha - Location of Culture  
Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak - Can the Subaltern Speak?

**Unit 2**

B. Ashcroft, G Griffiths & H. Tiffin - The Empire Writes Back  
Partha Chatterjee - The Nation and its Fragments

**Unit 3**

E. M. Forster - A Passage to India  
Sashi Deshpande - That Long Silence  
V. S. Naipaul - A House of Mr. Biswas

**Unit 4**

Chinua Achebe - A Man of the People  
Ngugi wa thiongo - Petals of Blood  
J. M. Coetzee - Disgrace

**Unit 5**

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee - Anand Math  
Bapsi Sidwa - Ice Candy Man  
Michael Ondaatje - The English Patient

**15ELL796****DISSERTATION****12 cr**

M.Phil. dissertation will be prepared by the students on a topic chosen by them in consultation with the supervising teacher. They are expected to undertake research by getting recourse to contemporary literary and cultural theories. The length of the dissertation should be 70/80 pages. The dissertation has to be finalized within the time frame stipulated by the University and submitted on the date fixed for that purpose.

**15ELL797****VIVA-VOCE****5 cr**

There will be an external examiner appointed by the University for the M.Phil. viva-voce. The viva will be based on the dissertation submitted by the students. They are expected to justify their work, i.e., theory, analysis methodology and conclusion. Marks will be awarded on the basis of their performance at the viva.