

Year of introduction: 2023

Objectives: To introduce scholars to the key areas of the occult in literary works. It will provide an understanding of the fundamentals of what occultism in literature is and how it has transformed over the ages. Aiming at a student-centric learning through regular presentations and discussions, the course will impart an understanding of various approaches to identify, analyze, and appreciate the occult ideologies, symbols, motifs, and themes in literature. This course will enhance the scholar's overall understanding of the occult in literature.

Learning Objectives: The course helps to study the various aspects of literary works modelled on the theme of the occult.

Pedagogy: The course will cover the theoretical understanding of occult narratives along with the close readings of some narratives for understanding the application of theories.

Syllabus**Unit 1: The Occult – An Introduction**

What is Occult? – Witchcraft, Kabbalah, Charms, Tarot, Thelema, Theosophy, Alchemy – Branches of Occultism – History of Occult – The Occult in Literature – Esotericism – Occult theories.

Unit 2: Occult Fiction

The Necronomicon – Howard Phillips Lovecraft

To the Devil, A Daughter – Dennis Wheatley

The Witch – Anton Chekov

Foucault's Pendulum – Umberto Eco

Unit 3: Occult Poetry

The Haunted Palace / The Raven – Edgar Allen Poe

Hymn to Lucifer – Alister Crowley

The Magic Net – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The Second Coming – William Butler Yeats

Unit 4: Occult Drama

The Witch of Edmonton – William Rowley, Thomas Dekker, and John Ford

Doctor Faustus – Christopher Marlowe.

Unit 5: Occult Prose

Secret Societies and Submersive Movements – William Guy Carr

“Smite him hip and thigh”: *Satanism, Violence and Transgression* – Jesper Aagaard Petersen

Anton LaVey’s Satanic Philosophy: An Analysis – Dr Gabriel Andrade.

Prescribed Texts:

Occult Origins: Hakim Bey’s Ontological Post-Anarchism - J C Greer

The Occult: A History - Colin Wilson

What is Occult? - Sadhguru

De Occulta Philosophia libri III (Three Books of Occult Philosophy) - Henry Cornelius Agrippa

Introduction: The Visual and the Symbolic in Western Esotericism - Peter J. Forshaw

Satan, Prince of This World - William Guy Carr

The Necronomicon - Howard Philips Lovecraft

To the Devil, A Daughter - Dennis Wheatley

The Witch - Anton Chekov

Foucault’s Pendulum - Umberto Eco

Doctor Faustus - Christopher Marlowe

The Witch of Edmonton - William Rowley, Thomas Dekker, and John Ford

The Haunted Palace - Edgar Allen Poe

Anton LaVey’s Satanic Philosophy: An Analysis – Dr Gabriel Andrade.

“Smite him hip and thigh”: *Satanism, Violence and Transgression* - Jesper Aagaard Petersen

Initiation into Hermetics - Franz Bardon

Course Outcome:

After the Completion of the course, the student will be able to –

CO1 – Trace the origin and development of the occult in literature.

CO2 – Appreciate, analyze, and interpret the occult themes and ideas in literature.

CO3 – Critically analyze the different components of the occult in literature from around the world.

CO4 – Identify and evaluate the ideological, symbolic, and thematic elements evident in occult literature.

Evaluation Pattern:

| | Weightage | Component |
|-----------------|------------------|---|
| Internal | 50 (30 + 20) | Mid-Term Examination (30) + Continuous Evaluation [Presentation] (20) |
| External | 50 | End Semester Examination |
| Total | 100 | |