

**Programme Project Report (PPR)**  
**for**  
**Distance Learning Programme under School of Distance Education**

**Certificate in ‘Film, Culture and Society’ (CFCS)**

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*Academic support by*  
**School of Letters**  
**Mahatma Gandhi University**  
**Kottayam, Kerala**

# **CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN ‘FILM, CULTURE AND SOCIETY’** (Distance Learning Programme - Certificate Programme)

## **Programme Project Report**

Mahatma Gandhi University started the School of Distance Education in 1989 with the vision of providing the opportunity for quality education to all realms of society. Since the beginning, thousands of students have availed themselves of this opportunity for higher education to a great extent throughout Kerala. Many students outside the State had also benefited from this. But after the new directions of the UGC in 2014, the University had stopped all the Off-Campus Centres of the School of Distance Education both inside and outside the State.

Now it is the new endeavour of the School to revamp its functioning by offering different types of Diploma and Certificate programmes very relevant to contemporary society, in addition to the conventional Graduate and Post Graduate programmes. This is being done with the academic and infrastructural support of the eminent Schools and Interdisciplinary Interuniversity Centres of the University. All these Schools/ Centres have already conducted similar Programmes or Post Graduate Programmes in the same area. This Certificate Programme has been designed by the School of Letters and is to be conducted by the School of Distance Education with the academic support of the School.

### **a) Programme’s mission & Objectives :**

“Film, Culture and Society” is a certificate course, aimed at exploring the inter relation between film, culture and the public. The primary motive of the course is to create the awareness that cinema, a modern art form is something more than a source of mere entertainment by locating it within the historical, political and cultural contexts of its production.

This course is intended to bring in a fresh attitude towards visual culture among the present generation. It assumes that film, as an important medium of cultural education, plays a significant role in shaping and moulding cultural and intellectual perspectives. As a centre of theatrical and cinematic activities, School of Letters takes it as an intellectual mission to transform viewing culture for the development of a better society.

This certificate programme consists of four courses with four credits each. Three of them are intended to equip the students with developing perspectives for watching, analysing and critiquing cinema. The remaining one demands student’s

critical aptitude in the form of a dissertation/ monograph to be submitted at the end of the course.

As a six months programme, the course is envisaged to be introductory in nature, but at the same time designed in such a way that it will be of immense aid to those who wish to pursue further enquiries in the area.

**b) Relevance of the programme:**

The course is intended to develop critical aptitude and intellectual enquiry among those who cannot otherwise attend a regular programme. As the most influential medium of ‘edutainment’, studying cinema transforms individuals from passive viewers to active agents of cultural criticism.

**c) Nature of prospective target group of learners:**

Candidates from various streams can join the programme. The prospective target group of learners include all those who have passed Plus Two.

**d) Appropriateness of programme to be conducted in Open and Distance Learning mode to acquire specific skills and competence:**

This programme in open and distance mode helps aspiring candidates who are unable to join a regular programme. But at the same time, the contact classes designed for the candidates are expected to give them theoretical inputs and space for discussion. In today’s technologically advanced environment, it is possible for candidates to watch films in their own convenient locations.

**e) Instructional design:**

The programme is of six moth duration comprising four courses with a total of 16 credits. There are adequate contact classes and the assessment involves both internal as well as external components. Each candidate has to submit a monograph/dissertation at the end of the programme.

Duration-6 months							
Course Code	Course Type	Course Name	Contact Sessions (hours)	Credits	*Internal Marks	External Marks	Total Marks
DE-SL-1	Core course	History of Cinema	12	4	20	80	100
DE-SL-2	Core course	Cinema and Literature	12	4	20	80	100
DE-SL-3	Core course	Screenplay: Text and Analysis	12	4	20	80	100
DE-SL-4	Project work	Monograph/	12	4		100	100

		dissertation					
Total			48	16			400

\*Through assignments/term papers

### f) Procedure for Admission, Curriculum Transaction and Evaluation

Admission to the programme will be done by the University through a common procedure for all the programmes under the School of Distance Education. A pass in the Plus Two level is the minimum eligibility for the admission. Fee structure will be decided by the University. The School will prepare an academic calendar/activity planner and will be circulated among all the learners at the time of admission itself. The academic calendar will include all the significant activities, important dates, schedule of submission of assignments, schedule of contact classes, schedule of examinations, etc.

Evaluation of the courses shall be done by the faculty themselves on the basis of internal assessment and end semester examinations. 20% of the marks will be decided by the internal evaluations and the remaining 80% by the end semester examinations which will be done by the University. The performance of a student in each course is evaluated in terms of percentage of marks with a provision for conversion to grade points.

Each student shall be required to do one Assignment/Book review/Debate/Seminar/Presentation of case study for each course. Assignments/book review after valuation shall be returned to the students. The teacher shall define the expected quality of the above in terms of structure, content, presentation and the like, and inform the same to the students.

**Grading System** will be followed for the evaluation on a ten point scale. The details of the grading system are given in the following Table.

#### Percentage Equivalence of Grade:

Range of % of Marks	Grade Letter	Performance	Grade Point
95 - ≤ 100	O	Outstanding	10
85 - < 95	A plus	Excellent	9
75 - < 85	A only	Very Good	8
65 - < 75	B plus	Good	7
55 - < 65	B only	Above Average	6
45 - < 55	C	Average	5
40 - < 45	P	Pass	4
< 40	F	Fail	0
Absent	Ab	Absent	0

'P' grade is required for a minimum pass in a course. The minimum GPA required for a pass in the Certificate programme is 4.

### **Calculation of Grade Point Average (GPA) :**

**Credit Points for the Course** = (No. of Credits assigned for the course x Grade Point secured for that course).

**GPA** indicates the performance of a student in the programme. GPA is based on the total **credit points** earned by a student in all the courses divided by the total number of credits assigned to the courses required in the programme.

**Note: GPA is computed only if the candidate passes in all the required courses (gets a minimum required grade for a pass in all the required courses as per the curriculum).**

**GPA =**

$$\frac{\text{Total credit points earned by the student from all the required courses of the programme}}{\text{Total credits of all courses required in the programme}}$$

This formula shall be printed on the Grade Card issued to the student with a note that it could be used to convert the grades into mark-percentages. (The details of the grading system as indicated above shall also be printed on the Grade Card).

### **Conversion of GPA to Grade**

<b>GPA</b>	<b>Grade</b>
10	O
9.0 - < 10	A plus
8.0 - < 9	A only
7.0 - < 8	B plus
6.0 - < 7	B only
5.0 - < 6	C
4.0 - < 5	P
< 4	F
Absent	Ab

### **Conversion of GPA to percentage**

**Equivalent Percentage = (GPA obtained) X 10**

#### **g) Requirement of the laboratory support and library resources:**

The library and infrastructure support of the School and the University will be extended to the learners as per requirement.

Mahatma Gandhi University Library and Information System consists of University Library, libraries of the Schools and 4 study centre Libraries. The University Library was established in 1989. The University Library which is situated in the main campus occupies purpose-built accommodation, and provides a variety of facilities and has a user-

friendly environment. These include individual work spaces, room for group study and teaching, audio-visual access and online information retrieval system. The building of the University Library is 2000 sq.m in area consisting of the cellar, the ground floor and the first floor.

Academic as well as public users are given the facility to use the library. Special category membership is provided to journalists. The library is providing service from 8 am to 8 pm in three shift timings for its staff. The library functions on an average of 345 days in a year. The libraries of teaching departments are open during working hours of the Schools. Reading space is provided in all the three floors housing the various sections of the library. The library provides reading facility to the visually impaired users too. For this, an electronic lab custom made for visually and physically challenged users has been set up during 2016.

The University Library has a Library Advisory Committee. It is an 18 member committee with Vice-Chancellor as Chairman and University Librarian as Convener.

The library has a collection of 59,000 books, 232 journals, 2,135 Ph.D. theses and has access to 15000+ e-journals under E-Shodh Sindhu. The activities of the Library are comprehensively automated using open source library management software KOHA. OPAC, Journal Article Index, By monthly Bibliography compilation and Literature Search Service are also available

The library is a member of the INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad as well as DELNET (Developing Library Network). As a member of these networks, the library provides access to the resources of other major libraries in the country. In addition to the access to UGC INFONET consortium, it has access to major online databases, such as EBSCO, ProQuest dissertations and theses, Oxford Scholarship Online, IEEE All Society Periodicals Package etc. Mahatma Gandhi University had won the State IT Award during the year 2009 in the e-learning category for its university online theses digital library. The various department libraries have a good collection of subject specific books and journals.

<b>A. MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY LIBRARY</b>	
<b>Category</b>	<b>No.</b>
Books	59000
Journals	232
Bound Journals	7500
Ph.D Theses	2135
E-Journals (in UGC-Infonet, renamed as E-ShodhSindhu)	15000
Online databases (in UGC Infonet)	11
Online Archives subscribed	185 Titles
Online databases subscribed	4
E-books	7338
DVDs: Educational Videos	293

<b>B</b>	<b>Name of School/Centre</b>	<b>Total No. of books</b>
	School of Letters	18233

**h) Cost estimate of the programme and the provisions:**

Budget estimate (for 100 students)

S.No.	Item	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Faculty remuneration/ Manpower	3
2.	Study material	2
3.	Film screening	3
4.	Internal assessment	0.5
5.	End semester examination	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9.50</b>

**Total Programme fee: Rs.9500/-**

**i) Quality assurance mechanism and expected programme outcome:**

The quality of the programme will be ensured through strict monitoring by an executive committee including the Co-ordinator of the programme, the subject experts, Director, School of Distance Education and Head of the School of Letters. The Co-ordinator of the programme shall ensure the regular student feedback of courses, teachers and programme in the prescribed format towards the end of the semester and the same shall be analysed to draw conclusions for effecting improvement. Periodical review meetings on the programme efficacy will be held in which the remarks of teachers on curriculum, syllabi and methods of teaching and evaluation will be given due importance. Moreover, the progress and the quality of the programme will be monitored by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the University from the outcome and feedback of the learners as well as the proper documentation maintained in the Centre.

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## Syllabus

### Certificate in 'Film, Culture and Society' (CFCS)

#### DE- SL- 1: History of Cinema

##### *Objective:*

This introductory course aims to generate in students a familiarity with the evolution of cinema as an art form, its spread across the world, the evolution of theoretical concepts, and significant films and film makers.

#### Module 1

Modern science—early experiments in cinema—Lumiere Brothers — silent films— D.W. Griffith—*Birth of a Nation*—Charlie Chaplin—*Modern Times*.

#### Module 2

Expressionism—mise en scène—montage—Soviet films—*Battleship Potemkin*—Eisenstein—neorealism—*Bicycle Thieves*—new wave cinema.

#### Module 3

Auteur theory—Alfred Hitchcock—Hollywood Cinema—Asian Cinema: Japanese, Korean, Iranian films—Third World Cinema—Feminist Films—Indian Cinema—Dadasaheb Phalke—Rithwik Ghatak—Satyajit Ray—Apu Trilogy—Popular films: Bollywood and South Indian films—Issues of representation.

#### Module 4

Malayalam cinema—silent films—J.C.Daniel—*Vigathakumaran, Balan*—Kerala Renaissance and cinema—*Neelakkuyil, Chemmeen*—the New Wave in Malayalam: Adoor Gopalakrishnan, G. Aravindan, John Abraham—Popular films in Malayalam.

#### References

1. Susan Hayward, *Cinema studies: Key concepts*, 2000, Routledge.
2. Chidananda Dasgupta, *Talking about Films*, 1981, Orient.
3. William H. Philips, *Film an Introduction*, 2009, Bedford/St. Martin's.
4. Richard Abel, *Encyclopedia of early Cinema*, 2005, Routledge.
5. Chelangattu Gopalakrishnan, *Loka cinemayude Charithram*, 2013, Current Books, Trichur.

6. Vijaykrishnan, *Malayala Cinemayude Katha*, 2005, Mathrubhumi, Kozhikkodu
7. V.K. Joseph, *Cinamayum Prathyayasasthravum*, 2000, Chintha publishers.
8. C.S.Venkiteswaran, *Malayala cinema patanangal*, 2011, DC Books.
9. Aju K.Narayanan, Cheri Jacob K., *Cinema Muthal Cinema Vare*, 2012, SPCS, Kottayam.
10. Sheeba M Kurian (ed.), *Cinema: Sankethikathayum Samskaravum*, 2017, University of Kerala.

## DE- SL-2: Cinema and Literature

Objective: This course aims to enable students to understand and analyze films in the context of the relation between literature and cinema. Issues of adaptation and inter-semiotic translation will also be a focus of discussion.

### Module 1

Relation between cinema and literature—Adaptation: concepts and approaches—Joy Gould Boyum, Dudley Andrew, Andre Bazin—adaptation in contemporary times — Adaptation as translation

### Module 2

Indian context of film adaptation—Indian mythology and silent films—the New cinema and literature—adaptation and Bollywood: *Devadas* movies.

### Module 3

Malayalam cinema and literature—early attempts at adaptation in Malayalam—adaptations in 1960s— ‘Vadakkan pattu’ films—world literature and Malayalam cinema.

### Module 4

Detailed analysis of select films:

1. *Patherpanchali*
2. *Vidheyan*

## References

1. Robert Stam & Alessandra Raengo, *Literature and Film*, 2008, Blackwell.
2. Joy Gould Boyum, *Double Exposure: Fiction into Film*, 1989, Berkley.
3. Dudley Andrew, *Concepts in Film Theory*, 1984, Oxford University Press.
4. Geoffrey Wagner, *The Novel and Cinema*, 1975, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.

5. RVM Divakaran, *Kathayum Thirakkathayum*, 2005, Oliv, Kozhikkodu.
6. Jose K Manuel, *Cinemayude Patangal*, 2004, Current books.
7. Madhu Iravankara, *Malayala Cinemayum Sahityavum*, 2009, DC Books.
8. I.Shanmughadas, *Cinemayude vazhiyil*, 1990, Current Books.
9. P.S. Radhakrishnan, *Charithravum, Chalachithravum*, 2010, Bhasha Institute.
10. Aju K Narayanan, Anvar Abdulla, 'Kathayamama Kathayamama(thira)kathakalathisadaram', Deshabhimani onappathippu, 2017.

### **DE- SL- 3: Screenplay: Text and Analysis**

Objective: The course aims to familiarize the students with screenplay as a blueprint of cinema. Screenplay writing and its structural, aesthetic and political dimensions will be subjected to close analysis.

#### **Module 1**

Cinema and screenplay—screenplay and literature—basic tenets of screenplay writing  
Screenplay: structure, narration and dialogue—the Three Act theory of Syd Field.

#### **Module 2**

Important screenplays in Indian cinema—Sathyajith Ray's screenplays—narrative techniques of transforming literature into screenplay—screenplays of popular films.

#### **Module 3**

Screenplays in Malayalam—screenplay writers in Malayalam—Ponkunnam Varkey, Uroob, Thoppil Bhasi, S. L. Puram Sadanandan, M.T. Vasudevan Nair, Padmarajan, P. Balachandran and Renjith.

#### **Module 4**

Detailed study of select screenplays:

1. *Oru Vadakkan Veeragadha*
2. *Chinthavishtayaya Shymala*

### **References**

1. Syd Field, *Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting*, 2005, RHUS.
2. Aravindan Vallachira, *Thirakkatha: Cinemayude Blueprint*, 2010, SPCS.
3. CS Venkiteswaran, *Cinema talkis*, 2012, DC Books, Kottayam.
4. Jose K Manual, *Thirakkatha rachana: Kalayum siddhanthavum*, 2004, Current Books.
5. RVM Divakaran, *Kathayum Thirakkathayum*, 2005, Oliv, Kozhikkodu.
6. Dominic J Kottoor, *Thirakkatha: Cinemayude Drusyaparakaram*, 2011, Current

Books.

7. Jithesh T, *Cinemayude Vyakaranam*, Olive, kozhikkodu.

8. N.P.Sajeesh, *Thiramalayalathinte avasthanthrangal*, 2007, Kerala Bhasha Institute.

9. Panmana Ramachandran Nair (ed), *Chalachithra Patanangal*, 2008, Current Books.

10. Adoor Gopalakrishnan, *Cinema samskaram*, 2011, Mathrubhumi books.

#### DE- SL- 4: **Monograph/Dissertation**

Course 4 is a dissertation/monograph typed and bound, submitted by each candidate based on the knowledge acquired in the course. The dissertation shall be of 25 to 30 pages, consisting of minimum 2 chapters in addition to an Introduction and a Conclusion.

The project work may be on any of the following areas:

Screenplay

Adaptation

Remake

Theoretical/political/cultural reading of film(s)

Issues of representation

Narrative structural issues and techniques

Any other topic related to films and film world.