SYLLABUS
UNDER

CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM

B. A.

ASSAMESE

Total Credits : 120
Core Courses : 72
Elective : 36
Ability Enhancement : 04
Skill Enhancement : 08
CORE COURSES

Credits-72

COURSE I: History of Assamese Language and Script

Credits: 5+1

This course intends to trace the history of Assamese language and its script starting from the origin. In this paper, how Assamese is derived from the original Indo-Aryan language and developed through various phases is discussed thoroughly. The significant prose of the chronicles and the *charit pathi* is also discussed to know the history of Assamese language. Apart from these, this paper puts emphasis on discussing the evolution of Assamese script that started with the ancient stone inscriptions found in different places of Assam. With an intention to study the present status of the language, this paper discusses further the morphology, phonology, syntax and semantics of Assamese.

Unit of the course

1. Indo Aryan Languages and Assamese language
2. Origin and development of Assamese Script.
3. Assamese language in the medieval period (prose of the *charit pathi* and the chronicles)
4. Phonology, Morphology and Syntax of Assamese language
5. Semantic changes

Prescribed Text


Reading list

Course II: Language Varieties

Credits: 5+1

This course aims at discussing language, language varieties of Assamese and the use of the Assamese language varieties in modern Assamese literature and also in Assamese audio-visual media. Because of the geographical situation of Assam, Assamese language is spoken differently in different parts of the state. The two such major varieties of the language can be divided into two broad varies according to their regions, such as; *ujani* and *namoni*. Again, these two sectors can be divided into more sub categories. Now a days, the term ‘dialect’ is not accepted and the ‘dialects’ are seen being used extensively in modern literature and audio-visual media. An intensive study of these language varieties is the aim of this paper.

**Unit of the course**

2. Language varieties of Assamese
3. Grammar and vocabulary of the language varieties of Assamese
4. Use of language varieties in modern Assamese literature
5. Use of language varieties in audio-visual media

**Prescribed Text:**


**Reading list:**

Course III: Functional Grammar of Assamese

Credits: 5+1

Functional grammar has a number of features which makes it suitable for studying language variation. It looks closely at the different contribution made by clause, phrase and word structure to a group. The primary objective of this Paper is to provide essential principles of Assamese grammar with prescriptive rules and exercises to bring the learner as quickly as possible to the point where he/she can understand the imperative features of forms and structures of words (morphology) with their customary arrangement in phrases and sentences; and, to serve as a reference for consolidating the grasp of the language.

Unit of the course

1. Parts of Speech
2. Semantic Properties
3. Sentence Structure
4. Vocabulary
5. Correction of Sentences/ Application of Grammar

Reading list

Medhi, Kaliram. Asamiya bhasar byakaran aru bhasatatva.

Course IV: Cultural Behavior of the Assamese

Credits: 5+1

The aim of the course is to acquaint the students with the meaning of culture and the various manifestations of culture such as social customs, clan traditions, family customs, rituals, festivals, belief on omen etc. The study will enable the students to understand the social, religious and cultural significance of the behavioral patterns exhibited by the people in the
society, based on cultural beliefs. Further, the study will enable the students to know the evolution of culture and to understand the various cultural issues facing the present society.

**Units of the course**

1. Meaning and definition of Culture
2. Behavioral Pattern of society
3. Festivals and Rituals
4. Cultural issues
5. History of Culture

**Reading List**

Saikia, Nagen. *Asomiya manuhor itihas.*


**Course V: Oral Traditions: Folk tales, Folk songs and myths**

**Credits: 5+1**

The course is designed to introduce the students to the concept of oral tradition in general and Assamese oral tradition in particular. The teaching method of this course includes the identification of texts which contains the elements of Folklore and Culture in Assamese. The intense study of select texts will equip the students to understand the particular field of knowledge in Assamese and inculcate an ability to write on these disciplines. This study
shall explain the role of literature to understand Folklore and Culture and the need of these disciplines in understanding and production of literary texts.

**Units of the Course**

1. Meaning, Definition and Sectors of Folklore
2. Folk songs and its Varieties
3. Folk tales and its Varieties
4. Folk tales, folk songs and myths of Assam
5. Folk elements in Assamese literature

**Reading List**

Saikia, Nagen. *Asomiya manuhor itihas*.


**Course VI: Folk and Performing Art**

**Credits: 5+1**

The aim of the course is to enable the students to study the folk and performing art, which is in consonance with nature, forming integral part of religion and society, which gives expression to the aesthetic nature of human beings and the society. The study will further enable the students to understand the origin and significant features of various folk and performing art of Assam. In addition, the students will be able to appreciate the religious sentiments of the people, their social
life, beliefs, customs and ethos, relationships and emotional components, associated with these performing arts.

**Units of the Course:**

1. An introduction to Performing Art
2. Material Culture involved in Performing Art: making of musical instruments, mask, dress material, accessories etc.
3. Performing Art and staging
4. Satra Institute of Assam and its role in preserving performing art
5. Elements of folk and performing art in modern performances and literature

**Reading List**

- Rajbanshi, Paramananda. *Asamiya sanskritir kanika*

**Course VII: History of Assamese Literature (Ancient to Medieval period)**

**Credits: 5+1**

The aim of the course is to give a complete survey of Assamese literature in chronological order. Since Assam has a vast collection of literature from the ancient to modern time, it is necessary to introduce to the students of language and literature with literary texts in historical background. This course deals with ancient, medieval, and modern literary history in a comprehensive
method. The evolution, changes, and transition in literary production, emergence, and development of various literary genres are discussed with specific examples.

Units of the Course

1. Classification of Assamese literature
2. Oral literature, Charyapada etc.
3. Pre-Sankarite period (1300AD to 1490AD)
4. Sankarite period (1490AD-1700AD)
5. Post Sankarite Period (1700AD to 1830AD)

Prescribed Text

Reading list

Course VIII: History of Assamese Literature (Modern to Contemporary)

Credits: 5+1

The aim of the course is to introduce Assamese literature from modern to contemporary period that starts with advent of the American Baptist missionaries in the year of 1826. The western influence on Assamese literature is also discussed in this paper to understand the modern trend in Assamese literature. Discussion on the role of literary magazines, starting from *Arunodoi* and *Jonaki* would help students learn the import of various literary movements in literary history. An attempt has been made to include recent literary scenario of Assam in the while discussing contemporary Assamese literature. This course would look at the concept of modernity in Assamese literature.

Units of the Course

1. Socio-cultural background of Assam in the 19th Century
2. Missionary literature (1826-1830)
3. The period of Hemchandra and Gunabhiram (1870-1890)
4. The romantic period, the era of Bezbarooah (1890-1940)
5. Contemporary period (1940 to present day)

Prescribed Text

Reading list

Course IX: Study of an Important Author
Credits: 5+1

The study of an important author will enable the students to understand the significant contribution made by the author to the society, the impact of his philosophy and writings on the society and the far reaching changes brought out by his path breaking and revolutionary ideas. This will enable the students to critically examine his life and works in a focused manner and to understand the underlying forces that shaped his life and philosophy and such an analysis will be a source of inspiration for the students.

Units of the Course:
1. Narration and Narrator
2. Life and works of the author
3. Literary contribution of the author
4. Narrative style of Author
5. Significance of the author in present day Assam

Prescribed text and Reading list
Books and articles written on Srimanta Sankaradeva

Course X: Study of an Important Text
Credits: 5+1
The aim of the course is to enable the students to analyze the work of an author intensively so that the students can have a deep insight into the period in which the work was written, the life styles of the people, historical information such as kings, forts and palaces, description of nature, knowledge of fauna and flora, various forms of love and above all the message of the author as embodied in the work. The study will motivate the students to develop their literary interests, tastes and creative abilities.

**Units of the Course:**

1. Madhab Kandali and his *Ramayana: An Introduction*
2. Language of the text
3. Localization and creative touch of the author in the text
4. Depiction of Nature and Social scenario of Assam in Kandali’s *Ramayana*

**Prescribed text**

Duttabarua, Harinarayan (Ed.): Madhab Kandalir *Saptakanda Ramayana*

**Reading list**

Goswami, Mamoni Raisom. *Ramayana from Ganga to Brahmaputra*, Delhi, 1996

**Course XI: Selected Texts: Novels and Short Stories**

**Credits: 5+1**

The novels and short stories are two major genres of modern times, expressing the regional nuances, keeping intact the essence of national literature as well. The novels and short stories, inevitably, participate in the construction of the modern thinking of the nation and bring various cultures closer. The objective of the Paper is to introduce the influence of European thought during modern times, impact of print medium and modern education and, the emergence of new forms in Assamese. A celebrated novel and a few short stories are to be studied to understand the vividness and vibrancy in modern Telugu literature.

**Units of the Course:**
1. Definition, characteristics and classification of novels

2. Definition and characteristics of short story

3. Reading of the novel *Manomati* by Rajanikanta Bardoloi and *Astaraag* by Homen Borgohain

4. Reading of the selected short stories of Lakshminath Bezbarua, Syed Abdul Malik, Bhabendranath Saikia, Sourabh Kumar Saliha, Nirupama Borgohain

5. Characteristics of a novel or a short story as reflected in the prescribed texts and character analysis of the major characters

**Prescribed Texts:**

Bardoloi, Rajanikanta, *Manomati*


Borgohain, Homen (Ed.) *Nirbachito Golpo Samkalan*

**Reading List:**

Thakur, Nagen (Ed.) *Esha Basarar Asomiya Upanyash*

Gogoi, Hridayananda, ed. *Galpa aru Shilpa*

**Course XII: Selected Texts: Poetry and Plays**

**Credits: 5+1**

This course intends to introduce the students to poetry and play in general and Assamese poetry and Assamese play in particular. It is designed to have a glimpse of Assamese lays and poems that represent medieval, modern and contemporary period.
Units of the Course:

1. Definition and characteristics of a play
2. Poetry and Assamese poetry: An Introduction
3. Reading of the play *Parijat harana* by Srimanta Sankaradeva and *Karengar ligiri* by Jyotiprasad Agarwala
4. Characteristics of a play in the prescribed texts and character analysis of the major characters
5. Reading of the selected poems of Madhabdev, Hemchandra Goswami Raghunath Chaudhary, Nalinibala Devi, Amulya Barua, Hem Barua, Nirmalprabha Bordoloi, Nilamani Phukan, Nabakanta Barua

Prescribed texts

*Parijat harana* by Srimanta Sankaradeva and *Karengar ligiri* by Jyotiprasad Agarwala
Neog, Maheswar (Ed.): *Sanchayan*

Reading list

Talukder, Nanda, *Kabi aru Kabita*
Deka Hazarika, Karabi, *Asamiya Kabita*
__________________ *Asomiya Kabi aru Kabita*

Elective Courses

Assamese

*(Any six course to be chosen)*

Credits: 36 (6×6)

Course I: Cultural History of the Assamese
This course aims to impart the knowledge of social, cultural, and political history of Assam. This course covers the following areas: The geographical locations, origin, early history, social fabric and the state of economy, Culture and Civilization of Assamese from the ancient period to contemporary period - divisions of land and life of people - sources from history, anthropology, sociology, culture etc.

Units of the Course:

1. Geographical Location and natural resources
2. History of Assamese and Society
3. Emperors and Rulers of Ancient Assam
4. Religions, Trade, Literature and Arts of Assam
5. Social Reforms and Modernization during Colonial period

Reading list:


Course II: Literary Terms

This course offers a glimpse into the exciting world of literary terms, critical theories and points of view that are commonly used in East and West to classify, analyze, interpret, and write the history of works of literature. The purpose of the study is to help students identify and absorb the essential terms and devices used by authors to gain a thorough understanding of the works and to keep them current with the rapid and incessant changes in the literary and critical scene and to take into account new publications in literature, criticism, and scholarship.

Units of the Course:

1. Definition, Identification and Usage of Literary Techniques in Assamese Literature.
2. Essential Terms: Metaphor, Simile, Analogy, Hyperbole, Allusion, Satire, Irony etc.
3. Critical Theories and Perspectives: Introduction to aesthetic theories of Rasa, Alamkara; and critical perspectives of Feminism, Marxism and Psychoanalysis.

**Reading lists:**

**Course III: Science Fiction and Fantasy**

This course intends to train students to critically analyze the structure of scientific fiction dealing with imaginative content such as futuristic settings, futuristic science technology and the related genre of fantasy and its imaginary elements within the scientifically established context of the story. It offers the critical apparatus to identify all the main ideas of science fiction that often explore the potential consequences of scientific and other innovations and prepare them to understand the literature of ideas. This course is to enable the students to incorporate the indigenous and traditional knowledge into contemporary knowledge system with the help of literature.

**Units of the Course:**

1. Science fiction as serious literature: Recent studies.
2. Themes in science fiction: Time travel, Space travel, Superhuman, Cyberpunk, Climate fiction, Comic science fiction etc.
4. Authors of science fiction and fantasy.

**Prescribed Texts:**

1. Bora Lakshminandan, 2008, *Kaykalpa*
2. Phukan Bandita, 2011, *Sandhan*
3. Goswami, Dinesh Chandra, *Manuh aru Mahakash*
4. Goswami, Dinesh Chandra, *Dinesh Chandra Goswamir Swanirbachito Golpo.*

**Reading lists:**
1. Berman Michael (2008), *The Everyday Fantastic: Essays on Science Fiction and Human Being*

**Course IV: Essay Writing**

The purpose of the course is to train students to write a good essay with a focused subject of discussion in eminently readable Assamese. Fashioning a coherent set of ideas into an argument, analyzing the facts and figures collected, raising counterarguments and preparing a conclusion are intended to be explained through some of the best writings of celebrated essayists.

**Units of the Course:**

1. Writing Essay: Developing an argument that encapsulates the response to the question-creating a logical sequence of ideas- introducing the subject- providing supporting evidence for the main body of the essay- summarizing the ideas- editing the draft and preparing the final copy.
2. Types of Essays: Expository, Persuasive, analytical and argumentative.

**Reading lists:**

1. Deka, Dharmasimha, *Rachana Bichitra*
2. Barua, Tultul, *Asomiya Rachana Samkalan*

**Course V: Autobiography**

The aim of the course is to enable the students to know the history of the author, his struggles and significant achievements, the conditions and various forces of his period that shaped him and his everlasting contribution to the society. As the author portrays his life truthfully with an emotional and personal appeal, the study will enable the students to establish a personal rapport with the life and philosophy of the author as reflected in the autobiographical work. The study of
autobiographical works will guide the students to appreciate the higher ideals that need to be followed and the pitfalls that need to be avoided in their own lives.

**Units of the Course:**
1. Biography and Autobiography
2. Journey of self-experience
3. Issues in social Challenges
4. Literary Works

**Prescribed Texts:**
1. Bezbarooah, Lakshminath, *Mor Jeevan Sonwaran*
2. Goswami, Mamoni Raisom, *Adha Likha Dastabez*

**Reading Lists:**
1. Sarma, Satyendra Nath, *Asomiya Sahityar Samikshatmak Itibritta*
2. Neog, Maheswar, *Asomiya Sahityar Ruprekha*

**Course VI: Children’s Literature**

The aim of the course is to understand more about the innocent world of the children, their mindset, expectations, limits etc. as reflected in the Children's Literature. The reading of Children Literature serve as an exercise to the mind and body of the children and infuse them with self-confidence, develop their critical ability, promote communication skills, lead to understanding of the aesthetics, develop imagination etc. The study will enable the students to better understand the psychology of children, to deal with them sensitively avoiding conflicts which create mental stress, so that the children become good citizens and leaders in the future.

**Units of the Course:**
1. Defining of Children Literature
2. Characteristics of Children’s literature
3. Role of Children’s Magazine’s in Assamese Literature
4. Children’s Songs and selected fictions
5. Motivate the talents of children

**Prescribed Texts:**
2. Saikia, Bhabendra Nath (1997) *Santa, Sista, Hrista-Pusta, Mahadusta*
3. Barua, Nabakanta, *Siyali Palegoi Ratanpur*
**Reading List:**
1. Tamuli, Santanu, *Asomiya Sishu Sahitya Samikksha*
2. Bardoloi, Nirmalprabha, *Sishu Geeti-Natyam Samkalan*
3. Barua, Nabakanta, *Sishu Sahitya Samagra*
4. Deka Hazarika, Karabi, *Bharatiya Sahityar Mouchaque*

**Course VII: Lexicography: Dictionary and Encyclopedia**

The objective of the course is to introduce basic concepts and issues connected with the theory and practice of dictionary making. The lectures and prescribed texts will cover differences between Dictionary and Encyclopedia, various category dictionaries in Assamese Language. It will also focus on online dictionaries and Encyclopedias, which are available in Assamese.

**Units of the Course:**

1. An Introduction to Lexicography
2. Various Types and use of dictionaries in Assamese language
3. Structure of General Dictionaries
4. Encyclopedias: General Structure, types and uses

**Reference:**
1. Barua, Hemchandra: Hemkosh
2. [http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/candrakanta/](http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/candrakanta/)

**Course VIII: Language and its use in Computer**

The aim if the course is to enable the students to acquire a basic understanding of the history of computers, important accessories of computers, functions and uses of computers, Assamese language usage in computers, resources in the form of Assamese software-word processors, browsers, search engines, fonts, spell checker, grammar checker etc. This will further enable the students to acquaint themselves with internet, official web-sites, Assamese libraries, e-mail, e-groups, chatting, e-journals, Assamese music/Radio stations in web, Assamese social web sites, e-commerce, blogs etc.

**Units of course:**

3. Internet and Assamese Language: Web journals, blogs etc

Reference:
1. www.xahitya.org
2. www.enajori.com
3. www.xukhduk.com/

Reading lists:

Course IX: Editing and compiling:
The aim of the course is to acquaint the students with the various steps and processes that need to be undertaken before publication such as copying of text, preparation of explanation of the text, bringing out textual variations, preparation of word meaning index etc. The students will be able to know about the role of an editor and publisher, techniques of printing, and usage of proof reading symbols. The students will also acquire basic knowledge on the role of author, publisher and book seller, besides acquiring an understanding of copy right act, contract between the author and the publisher and the legal requirements that need to be complied with such as registration with the Registrar of Publications and sending free copies of the book to national libraries etc.

Units of course:
1. Preparations of editing stages
2. Necessity of editing and compiling
3. Roll of Editor
4. Copy rights

Reading list:

Course X: Language use and Registers:
The aim of the course is to enable the students to understand the meaning of various types of registers, their meaning and functions with a view to promote a better use of the language by the students. The students will be able to know the principles of grammar to use appropriate words at the appropriate context as sanctioned by usage over a long period of time, which will promote the aesthetic beauty of the language. It would certainly be inappropriate to use language and vocabulary.

**Units of course:**

1. Definition and meaning of Registers
2. Functions of Registers in the society
3. Relation between Language and Registers
4. Types Registers (Static Registers, Formal Registers, Consultative Registers, Casual Registers, and Intimate Registers)

**Reading lists:**


**II: Skill Enhancement Courses (Any Four)**

**Credits: 4×2**

**Course I: Language in Advertisement**

This course is created for students interested in marketing and advertising to understand the emotive power of the words they use and to train them in employing Assamese precisely and more effectively. The lessons emphasize the fact that while the visual content and design has a huge impact on the consumer, it is the language that makes it possible to identify a product and remember it. This will enable the students to use the advertisements as effective and attractive instruments with better indelibility and spread of communication for promotion of economic, commerce, business and social interests.

**Units of the Course:**

1. Meaning, Definition of Advertisement
2. History of Advertisement and theories of communication
3. Aims and kinds of Advertisement- Merits and demerits of Advertisement- usage of Advertisement
5. Techniques of Advertisement – Negative effects of Advertisement

Reading lists:


Course II: Language in Film

The aim of the course is to teach the correlation between Language literature and film and to impart the basic knowledge of film narrative and literary narratives. The intertextuality of film and literary texts is the pivotal concept of this study to train the students to understand the various mode of adaptation of literary works like Novels, Short Stories and other wings in film.

Units of the Course:
1. Introduction of film and its structural composition
2. Language of film and the language in film
3. Identification, Analysis and comparison of theme, plot, characters, dialogues and poetical expressions in a literary work and a narrative film.
4. Intense study a literary work and its film version
5. Study of a classical text in film version to explain the adaptation, contextualization and modification of literary text to film.

Reading lists:

1. Saikia, Bhabendranath (1986): Antarip
2. Goswami, Mamoni Raisom: Datal Hatir Unwe Khowa Haodah
3. Borgohain, Homen: Halodhiya Soraye Baudhan Khai
4. Dutta, Utpal(Ed.): Chalachtra Katha
5. Dutta, Utpal: CHALACHITRA - Samoi-Samaj-Nandanttwa
6. Nayan Prasad: Close Up

Reference:

1. Saikia, Bhabendranath (Dir.) Agnisnaan
2. Barua, Santana (Dir.) *Adahjya*

3. Baniya, Indra (Dir.) *Halodhiya Soraye Baudhan Khai*

**Course III: Language of Printing and Publishing**

The aim of the course is to equip the students with the basic knowledge of the essential elements of publication such as drafting, editing, proof-reading and captioning and preparation of print copy through the use of computer, besides acquainting them with the background information on reputed publications, journals, magazines, periodicals, publishing houses and their contribution to society. The students will be able to gather all technical details regarding desk-top publishing, so that they can independently prepare the print copy of their work and publish it, without outside assistance.

**Units of course:**

1. Introduction: Publication information- reputed publications-Journals/ Magazines/ Periodicals- Contribution of publishing houses
2. Publication: Drafting-Editing- Proof reading-Captioning
3. Computer typing: Use of fonts (fonts available)-Typing-Type setting/ DTP- Formatting and making print copy ready
4. Assignment on above

**Reference:**

1. [www.xahitya.org](http://www.xahitya.org)
2. [www.enajori.com](http://www.enajori.com)

**Reading lists:**

2. Smith, Brady, (2003): *Proof Reading, Revising & Editing Skills Success*

**Course IV: Language of speech (Preparation of Speech)**

The aim of the course is to make the students understand the importance of speech, essential elements of effective speech and how to prepare an effective speech and presentation, so that they can improve their communication skills relating to speech to become successful leaders,
motivators and trend setters in their field or profession. This will enable them to systematically prepare their speech, which is precise, clear, emotionally appealing and logically sound, which makes a positive impact on the listeners.

Units of course:

1. Definition and meaning of speech
2. Effective speech presentation
3. Composition of speech
4. Writing of speech

Course V: Dialogue writing for plays and film

The aim of the course is to enable the students to prepare dialogue writing for plays and films, covering situations which involve removing obstacles or barriers or resolving problems or facing conflicts or removing puzzles in life. The course will also enable them to acquaint themselves with the techniques of effective presentation. This will give an opportunity to students to give expression to their creative ability and to use the language according to a specific situation.

Units of course:

1. Meaning and Definition of Dialogue and conversation
2. Effective dialogue preparation and presentation
3. Composition of dialogue
4. Play writings

Reading lists:

1. Dutta, Utpal(Ed.): Chalachtra Katha
2. Dutta, Utpal: CHALACHITRA - Samoi-Samaj-Nandanttwa
3. Nayan Prasad: Close Up

Course VI: Art of Translation/ Practical Translation

The aim of the course is to enable the students to understand the process and nuances of translation from one language to another to not only develop their skills of translation but also to create an interest to read great translated works in other languages, so that they have a wider
The course will equip them with the theories of translation as well as practical aspects of translation.

**Units of course:**

1. Translation and Theory of Translation: An Introduction
3. Purpose of Translation: Religious purpose -Literary Purpose

**Prescribed Texts:**

1. Duttarua, Harinarayan (Ed.): *Madhav Kandalir Saptakanda Ramayan*
2. Silabhadra: *Rip Van Winkle aru anyanyo keitaman golpo*
3. Goswami, Mamoni Raisom (Ed.) *Kalam: A collection of translated short stories*

**Reading lists:**