Structure of B.A. Honours English under CBCS

Core Course

Paper Titles
1. Indian Classical Literature
2. European Classical Literature
3. Indian Writing in English
4. British Poetry and Drama: 14th to 17th Centuries
5. American Literature
6. Popular Literature
7. British Poetry and Drama: 17th and 18th Centuries
8. British Literature: 18th Century
9. British Romantic Literature
10. British Literature: 19th Century
11. Women’s Writing
12. British Literature: The Early 20th Century
13. Modern European Drama
14. Postcolonial Literatures

Discipline Centric Elective (Any four)

Paper Titles

1. Modern Indian Writing in English Translation
2. Literature of the Indian Diaspora
3. British Literature: Post World War II
4. Nineteenth Century European Realism
5. Literary Theory
6. Literary Criticism *
7. Science fiction and Detective Literature
8. Literature and Cinema
9. World Literatures
10. Partition Literature
11. Research Methodology
12. Non-fictional Narratives *
13. Biography and Autobiography *

*Syllabi to be developed/reviewed
Generic Elective (Any four)

**Paper Titles**

1. Academic Writing and Composition
2. Media and Communication Skills
3. Text and Performance
4. Language and Linguistics
5. Women and Empowerment
6. Modern Indian Literature (The North East)
7. Contemporary India
8. Gender and Human Rights
9. Modern Indian Literature: Poems and Short Stories
10. Language, Literature and Culture

*Syllabus under revision*

**Ability Enhancement Course**

**Compulsory**

**Paper Titles**

1. Environmental Study
2. English/MIL Communication

**Ability Enhancement Elective Course (Any two)**
Paper Titles

1. Film Studies *
2. English Language Teaching
3. Soft Skills
4. Translation Studies and Principles of Translation
5. Creative Writing
6. Business Communication
7. Technical Writing

*Syllabus under revision

Structure of B.A./B.Com. Programme under CBCS

English

Semester 1
AECC: English Communication Skills/MIL/EVS
DSC 1A: The Individual and Society. Eds

Semester 2
AECC: English Communication Skills/MIL/EVS
DSC 1B: Selections (poems, short stories) from Modern Indian Literature

Semester 3
DSC 1C: British Literature
  Novel
  Play

AEEC -1: Creative Writing, Book and Media Reviews
Semester 4

DSC 1D: Literary Cross Currents

Selections from Living Literatures-An Anthology of Prose and Poetry

Novella

Play

AEEC-2: Translation Studies and Principles of Translation

Semester 5

AEEC-3: Technical Writing

DSE-1A: Soft Skills

GE-1: Gender and Human Rights

Semester 6

AEEC- 4: Business Communication

DSE-1B: Academic Writing

GE -2: Cultural Diversity

Detailed Syllabi

I. B.A. Honours Core

Paper 1: Indian Classical Literature


**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
The Indian Epic Tradition: Themes and Recensions
Classical Indian Drama: Theory and Practice
Alankara and Rasa
Dharma and the Heroic

**Readings**

**Paper 2: European Classical Literature**
4. Ovid *Selections from Metamorphoses* ‘Bacchus’,

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
The Epic
Comedy and Tragedy in Classical Drama
The Athenian City State
Catharsis and Mimesis
Satire
Literary Cultures in Augustan Rome

Readings

Paper 3: Indian Writing in English
1. R.K. Narayan Swami and Friends
2. Anita Desai In Custody
3. H.L.V. Derozio ‘Freedom to the Slave’

‘The Orphan Girl’
Kamala Das ‘Introduction’
‘My Grandmother’s House’
Nissim Ezekiel ‘Enterprise’
‘The Night of the Scorpion’
Robin S. Ngangom The Strange Affair of Robin S. Ngangom’
‘A Poem for Mother’
4. Mulk Raj Anand ‘Two Lady Rams’

Salman Rushdie ‘The Free Radio’
Rohinton Mistry ‘Swimming Lesson’
Aravind Adiga ‘The Sultan’s Battery’

Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations
Topics
Indian English
Indian English Literature and its Readership
Themes and Contexts of the Indian English Novel
The Aesthetics of Indian English Poetry
Modernism in Indian English Literature

Readings
**Paper 4: British Poetry and Drama: 14th to 17th Centuries**

1. Geoffrey Chaucer *The Wife of Bath’s Prologue*

   Edmund Spenser Selections from *Amoretti*:
   Sonnet LXVII ‘Like as a huntsman...’
   Sonnet LVII ‘Sweet warrior...’
   Sonnet LXXV ‘One day I wrote her name...’
   John Donne ‘The Sunne Rising’
   ‘Batter My Heart’
   ‘Valediction: forbidding mourning’
2. Christopher Marlowe *Doctor Faustus*
3. William Shakespeare *Othello*
4. William Shakespeare *Twelfth Night*

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
Renaissance Humanism
The Stage, Court and City
Religious and Political Thought
Ideas of Love and Marriage
The Poet in Society

**Readings**

**Paper 5: American Literature**

1. Nathaniel Hawthorne *The House of the Seven Gables*
2. Toni Morrison *Beloved*
3. Edgar Allan Poe ‘The Purloined Letter’
4. Scott Fitzgerald ‘The Crack-up’
5. William Faulkner ‘Dry September’
6. Anne Bradstreet ‘The Prologue’
7. Walt Whitman Selections from *Leaves of Grass*:
   ‘O Captain, My Captain’
   ‘Passage to India’ (lines 1–68)
8. Alexie Sherman Alexie ‘Crow Testament’
‘Evolution’

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
The American Dream  
Social Realism and the American Novel  
Folklore and the American Novel  
Black Women’s Writing  
Questions of Form in American Poetry

**Readings**

**Paper 6: Popular Literature**
1. Lewis Carroll *Through the Looking Glass*
2. Agatha Christie *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*
3. Shyam Selvadurai *Funny Boy*
4. Durgabai Vyam and Shyam Selvadurai *Bhimayana: Experiences of Untouchability*

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
Coming of Age  
The Canonical and the Popular  
Caste, Gender and Identity  
Ethics and Education in Children’s Literature  
Sense and Nonsense  
The Graphic Novel

**Readings**

**Paper 7: British Poetry and Drama: 17th and 18th Centuries**
1. John Milton *Paradise Lost: Book 1*
2. John Webster *The Duchess of Malfi*
3. Aphra Behn *The Rover*
4. Alexander Pope *The Rape of the Lock*

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
- Religious and Secular Thought in the 17th Century
- The Stage, the State and the Market
- The Mock-epic and Satire
- Women in the 17th Century
- The Comedy of Manners

**Readings**

**Paper 8: 18th Century British Literature**
1. William Congreve *The Way of the World*
2. Jonathan Swift *Gulliver’s Travels* (Books III and IV)
3. Samuel Johnson ‘London’
   Thomas Gray ‘Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard’
4. Laurence Sterne *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
- The Enlightenment and Neoclassicism
- Restoration Comedy
- The Country and the City
- The Novel and the Periodical Press

**Readings**

**Paper 9: British Romantic Literature**

1. William Blake ‘The Lamb’,
   ‘The Chimney Sweeper’ (from The Songs of Innocence and The Songs of Experience)
   ‘The Tyger’ (The Songs of Experience)
   ‘Introduction’ to The Songs of Innocence
   Robert Burns ‘A Bard’s Epitaph’
   ‘Scots Wha Hae’

2. William Wordsworth ‘Tintern Abbey’
   ‘Ode: Intimations of Immortality’
   Samuel Taylor Coleridge ‘Kubla Khan’
   ‘Dejection: An Ode’

3. Lord George Gordon
   Noel Byron ‘Childe Harold’: canto III, verses 36–45 (lines 316–405); canto IV, verses 178–86 (lines 1594–674)
   Percy Bysshe Shelley ‘Ode to the West Wind’
   ‘Ozymandias’
   ‘Hymn to Intellectual Beauty’
   John Keats ‘Ode to a Nightingale’
   ‘To Autumn’
   ‘On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer’

4. Mary Shelley Frankenstein

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**

Reason and Imagination
Conceptions of Nature
Literature and Revolution
The Gothic
The Romantic Lyric

**Readings**

**Paper 10: British Literature: 19th Century**
1. Jane Austen *Pride and Prejudice*
2. Charlotte Bronte *Jane Eyre*
3. Charles Dickens *Hard Times*
4. Alfred Tennyson ‘The Lady of Shallot’

‘Ulysses’
‘The Defence of Lucknow’
Robert Browning ‘My Last Duchess’
‘The Last Ride Together’
‘Fra Lippo Lippi’
Christina Rossetti ‘The Goblin Market’

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
Utilitarianism
The 19th Century Novel
Marriage and Sexuality
The Writer and Society
Faith and Doubt
The Dramatic Monologue

**Readings**

Paper 11: Women’s Writing

1. Emily Dickinson ‘I cannot live with you’

‘I’m wife; I’ve finished that’

Sylvia Plath ‘Daddy’
‘Lady Lazarus’

Eunice De Souza ‘Advice to Women’
‘Bequest’

2. Alice Walker *The Color Purple*

3. Charlotte Perkins Gilman ‘The Yellow Wallpaper’

Katherine Mansfield ‘Bliss’


Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations

**Topics**
The Confessional Mode in Women’s Writing
Sexual Politics
Race, Caste and Gender
Social Reform and Women’s Rights

**Readings**

Paper 12: British Literature: The Early 20th Century

1. Joseph Conrad *Heart of Darkness*
2. D.H. Lawrence *Sons and Lovers*
3. Virginia Woolf *Mrs Dalloway*
4. W.B. Yeats ‘Leda and the Swan’

‘The Second Coming’
‘No Second Troy’
‘Sailing to Byzantium’
T.S. Eliot ‘The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock’
‘Sweeney among the Nightingales’
‘The Hollow Men’

Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations

Topics
Modernism and non-European Cultures
The Women’s Movement in the Early 20th Century
Psychoanalysis and the Stream of Consciousness
The Uses of Myth
The Avant Garde

Readings

Paper 13: Modern European Drama
1. Henrik Ibsen *Ghosts*
2. Bertolt Brecht *The Good Woman of Szechuan*
3. Samuel Beckett *Waiting for Godot*
4. Eugene Ionesco *Rhinoceros*

Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations

Topics
Politics, Social Change and the Stage
Text and Performance
European Drama: Realism and Beyond
Tragedy and Heroism in Modern European Drama
The Theatre of the Absurd

Readings


Paper 14: Postcolonial Literatures
1. Chinua Achebe Things Fall Apart
2. Gabriel Garcia Marquez Chronicle of a Death Foretold
3. Bessie Head ‘The Collector of Treasures’

Ama Ata Aidoo ‘The Girl who can’
Grace Ogot ‘The Green Leaves’
4. Pablo Neruda ‘Tonight I can Write’

‘The Way Spain Was’
‘Ode to a Tomato’
Derek Walcott ‘A Far Cry from Africa’
‘Goats and Monkeys’
‘Names’
David Malouf ‘Revolving Days’
‘Wild Lemons’
‘The Martyrdom in Room no 14’

Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations

Topics
De-colonization, Globalization and Literature
Literature and Identity Politics
Writing for the New World Audience
Region, Race, and Gender
Postcolonial Literatures and Questions of Form

Readings


II. Discipline Centric Elective (Any Four)

Detailed Syllabi
Paper 1.

Modern Indian Writing in English Translation

Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations

Topics
The Aesthetics of Translation
Linguistic Regions and Languages
Modernity in Indian Literature
Caste, Gender and Resistance
Questions of Form in 20th Century Indian Literature


Paper 2

Literature of the Indian Diaspora

1. M. G. Vassanji The Book of Secrets (Penguin, India)
2. Rohinton Mistry A Fine Balance (Alfred A Knopf)
3. Meera Syal Anita and Me (Harper Collins)
4. Jhumpa Lahiri The Namesake (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
5. Hari Kunzru Transmissions (Penguin Books)

Background Reading


Paper 3

British Literature (Post World War II)

1. John Fowles The French Lieutenant’s Woman
2. Jeanette Winterson Sexing the Cherry
3. Hanif Kureshi My Beautiful Launderette
4. Phillip Larkin ‘Whitsun Weddings’

‘Church Going’
Ted Hughes ‘Hawk Roosting’
‘Crow’s Fall’
Seamus Heaney ‘Digging’
‘Casualty’
Carol Anne Duffy ‘Text’
‘Stealing’

**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
- Postmodernism in British Literature
- Britishness after 1960s
- Intertextuality and Experimentation
- Literature and Counterculture

**Readings**


**Paper 4**

**Nineteenth Century European Realism**


**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**
- History, Realism and the Novel Form
- Ethics and the Novel
- The Novel and its Readership in the 19th Century
- Politics and the Russian Novel: Slavophiles and Westernizers

**Readings**


**Paper 5**

**Literary Theory**

1. Marxism

2. Feminism

3. Poststructuralism

4. Postcolonial Studies

**Suggested Background Prose Readings and Topics for Class Presentations**

**Topics**

The East and the West  
Questions of Alterity  
Power, Language, and Representation  
The State and Culture

**Readings**

Paper 6
Literature and Cinema


Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations

Topics
Theories of Adaptation
Transformation and Transposition
Hollywood and ‘Bollywood’
The ‘Two Ways of Seeing’
Adaptation as Interpretation

Readings

Other films that may be used for class presentations:


Note:
(a) For every unit, 4 hours are for the written text and 8 hours for its cinematic adaptation (Total: 12 hours)
(b) To introduce students to the issues and practices of cinematic adaptations, teachers may use the following critical material:


**Paper 7**

**Science Fiction and Detective Literature**

1. Wilkie Collins *The Woman in White*
2. Arthur Conan Doyle *The Hound of the Baskervilles*
3. Raymond Chandler *The Big Sleep*
4. H.R.F. Keating *Inspector Ghote Goes by Train*

**Suggested Topics and Readings for Class Presentation**

**Topics**

- Crime across the Media
- Constructions of Criminal Identity
- Cultural Stereotypes in Crime Fiction
- Crime Fiction and Cultural Nostalgia
- Crime Fiction and Ethics
- Crime and Censorship

**Readings**

2. George Orwell, *Raffles and Miss Blandish*, available at: <www.george-orwell.org/Raffles_and_Miss_Blandish/0.html>

**Paper 8**

**World Literatures**


**Suggested Topics and Background Prose Readings for Class Presentations**

**Topics**

- The Idea of World Literature
- Memory, Displacement and Diaspora
- Hybridity, Race and Culture
- Adult Reception of Children’s Literature
- Literary Translation and the Circulation of Literary Texts
- Aesthetics and Politics in Poetry

**Readings**


**Paper 9**

**Partition Literature**


3.

4.

**Suggested Topics and Readings for Class Presentation**

**Topics**
Colonialism, Nationalism, and the Partition
Communalism and Violence
Homelessness and Exile
Women in the Partition

**Background Readings and Screenings**

**Films**
*Garam Hawa* (dir. M.S. Sathyu, 1974).
*Subarnarekha* (dir. Ritwik Ghatak, 1965)

**Paper 10**

**Literary Criticism**
Paper 11

Research Methodology

Unit I: Practical Criticism and Writing a Term paper
Unit II: Conceptualizing and Drafting Research Proposals
Unit III: On Style Manuals
Unit IV: Notes, References, and Bibliography

Paper 12

Biography and Autobiography *

Paper 13

Non-fictional Narratives *

III. Generic Elective (Any Four)

Academic Writing and Composition

Topics
Unit 1: Introduction to the Writing Process
Unit 2: Introduction to the Conventions of Academic Writing
Unit 3: Writing in one’s own words: Summarizing and Paraphrasing
Unit 4: Critical Thinking: Syntheses, Analyses, and Evaluation
Unit 5: Structuring an Argument: Introduction, Interjection, and Conclusion
Unit 6: Citing Resources; Editing, Book and Media Review

Suggested Readings

Media and Communication Skills

Topics
Unit 1: Introduction to Mass Communication
1. Mass Communication and Globalization
2. Forms of Mass Communication

Topics for Student Presentations:
a) Case studies on current issues Indian journalism  
b) Performing street plays  
c) Writing pamphlets and posters, etc.

**Unit 2: Advertisement**  
1. Types of advertisements  
2. Advertising ethics  
3. How to create advertisements/storyboards

Topics for Student Presentations:  
a) Creating an advertisement/visualization  
b) Enacting an advertisement in a group  
c) Creating jingles and taglines

**Unit 3: Media Writing**  
1. Scriptwriting for TV and Radio  
2. Writing News Reports and Editorials  
3. Editing for Print and Online Media

Topics for Student Presentations:  
a) Script writing for a TV news/panel discussion/radio programme/hosting radio programmes on community radio  
b) Writing news reports/book reviews/film reviews/TV program reviews/interviews  
c) Editing articles  
d) Writing an editorial on a topical subject

**Unit 4: Introduction to Cyber Media and Social Media**  
1. Types of Social Media  
2. The Impact of Social Media  
3. Introduction to Cyber Media

**Texts and Performance**  
**Topics**

**Unit 1: Introduction**  
1. Introduction to theories of Performance  
2. Historical overview of Western and Indian theatre  
3. Forms and Periods: Classical, Contemporary, Stylized, Naturalist

Topics for Student Presentations:  
a) Perspectives on theatre and performance  
b) Historical development of theatrical forms  
c) Folk traditions
Unit 2: Theatrical Forms and Practices
1. Types of theatre, semiotics of performative spaces, e.g. proscenium ‘in the round’, amphitheatre, open-air, etc.
2. Voice, speech: body movement, gestures and techniques (traditional and contemporary), floor exercises: improvisation/characterization

Topics for Student Presentations:
a) On the different types of performative space in practice
b) Poetry reading, elocution, expressive gestures, and choreographed movement

Unit 3: Theories of Drama
1. Theories and demonstrations of acting: Stanislavsky, Brecht
2. Bharata

Topics for Student Presentations:
a) Acting short solo/group performances followed by discussion and analysis with application of theoretical perspectives

Unit 4: Theatrical Production
1. Direction, production, stage props, costume, lighting, backstage support.

Topics for Student Presentations:
a) All aspects of production and performance; recording, archiving, interviewing performers and data collection.

Contemporary India: Women and Empowerment

Unit 1: Social Construction of Gender (Masculinity and Femininity)
  Patriarchy

Unit 2: History of Women's Movements in India (Pre-independence, post independence)
  Women, Nationalism, Partition
  Women and Political Participation

Unit 3: Women and Law
  Women and the Indian Constitution
  Personal Laws (Customary practices on inheritance and Marriage)
(Supplemented by workshop on legal awareness)

Unit 4: The concept of Environment

State interventions, Domestic violence, Female foeticide, sexual harassment

* Suggested Readings to be provided shortly

Dalit Discourse:

* Details awaited

Modern Indian Literature: Poems and Short Stories (Dept. of English, University of Delhi)

1V. Ability Enhancement Elective Course (Any Two)

**English Language Teaching**

Unit 1: Knowing the Learner
Unit 2: Structures of English Language
Unit 3: Methods of teaching English Language and Literature
Unit 4: Materials for Language Teaching
Unit 5: Assessing Language Skills
Unit 6: Using Technology in Language Teaching

Suggested Readings


**Business Communication**

**Objective:** To equip students of the B.Com (Hons.) course effectively to acquire skills in reading, writing, comprehension and communication, as also to use electronic media for business communication.

1. Introduction to the essentials of Business Communication: Theory and practice
2. Citing references, and using bibliographical and research tools
3. Writing a project report
4. Writing reports on field work/visits to industries, business concerns etc. /business negotiations.
5. Summarizing annual report of companies
6. Writing minutes of meetings
7. E-correspondence
8. Spoken English for business communication
   (Viva for internal assessment)
9. Making oral presentations
   (Viva for internal assessment)

Suggested Readings:

Note: Latest edition of text book may be used.

Soft Skills

Technical Writing and Communication in English

**Unit 1**
Communication: Language and communication, differences between speech and writing, distinct features of speech, distinct features of writing.

**Unit 2**
Writing Skills; Selection of topic, thesis statement, developing the thesis; introductory, developmental, transitional and concluding paragraphs, linguistic unity, coherence and cohesion, descriptive, narrative, expository and argumentative writing.

**Unit 3**
Technical Writing: Scientific and technical subjects; formal and informal writings; formal writings/reports, handbooks, manuals, letters, memorandum, notices, agenda, minutes; common errors to be avoided.

**SUGGESTED READINGS**


2. L. Hamp-Lyons and B. Heasely: Study Writing; A course in written English. For academic and professional purposes, Cambridge Univ. Press.


**Additional Reference Books**


1-B: Cultural Diversity. Eds. Sukrita Paul Kumar, Macmillan

1-C: Charles Dickens: Oliver Twist

William Shakespeare: The Merchant of Venice

1-D: Selections from Modern Indian Literature (focus: the North-East and current Dept. of English D.U. Text) /Living Literatures ed

Stories:

Play: Vijay Tendulkar---Silence, The Court is in Session

Novella: Rohinton Mistry---Such a Long Journey