Ambedkar University Delhi

Course Outline

Winter Semester (Jan to May 2017)

Mondays and Tuesdays 1.45 PM to 3.45 PM

Room No. 404

School: Letters

Programme with title: MA English

Semester to which offered: II and IV

Course Title: 20th Century American Drama

Credits: 4 Credits

Course Code (new): SOL2EN314

Course Code (old): SLS2EN314

Type of Course:

Compulsory

Elective Yes (Open elective for II and IV semester students)

For SUS only (Mark an X for as many as appropriate):

- 1. Foundation (Compulsory)
- 2. Foundation (Elective)
- 3. Discipline (Compulsory)
- 4. Discipline (Elective)
- 5. Elective

Course Coordinator and Team: Gunjeet Aurora

Email of course coordinator: gunjeet@aud.ac.in

Pre-requisites: None

Aim: The course will introduce the students to some of the great dramatists of American literature and explore themes such as post war sufferings, displacement, lack of faith and loss of relationships in the 20th century as reflected in some representative plays.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules: The course will showcase some of the brilliant playwrights of America from the early twentieth century to the more recent times. The plays deal with a variety of themes such as class, race, gender, politics, disability and personal traumas. The course will study the emergence of American Drama and the socio-cultural factors which influenced the development and growth of this genre in American literature.

Reading List: Below is an exhaustive reading list. Plays will be selected for classroom discussion and presentations depending upon the class size.

Primary Reading List

- 1. Eugene O'Neill, Emperor Jones
- 2. Arthur Miller, Death of a Salesman
- 3. Tennessee Williams, The Glass Menagerie
- 4. Lorraine Hansberry, Raisin in the Sun
- 5. Edward Albee *The Zoo Story*
- 6. Susan Glaspell *Trifles*
- 7. Amiri Baraka Dutchman
- 8. August Wilson Fences
- 9. Clifford Odets Waiting for Lefty
- 10. Sam Shepard Buried Child
- 11. George C.Wolfe The Colored Museum
- 12. David Mamet American Buffalo
- 13. Maria Irene Fornes The Conduct of Life
- 14. David Henry Hwang M. Butterfly
- 15. Tony Kushner Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes
- 16. Suzan Lori-Parks Topdog/Underdog

Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
1	Test	Jan	10%
2	Mid-Term	Feb	30%

3	Presentation	March	30%
4	Term Paper	April	30%