

## Ambedkar University Delhi

### Course Outline

Monsoon Semester (August- December, 2017)

<b>School:</b>	School of Letters/ School of Liberal Studies			
<b>Programme with title:</b>	MA English			
<b>Semester to which offered: (I/ III/ V)</b>	I & III semester			
<b>Course Title:</b>	Asian Canadian Literature			
<b>Credits:</b>	4 Credits			
<b>Course Code (new):</b>	SOL2EN331			
<b>Course Code (old):</b>	SLS2EN331			
<b>Type of Course:</b>	Compulsory	No	Cohort	MA in English
	Elective	Yes	Cohort	MA other than English

**Course Coordinator and Team:** Prof. Harish Narang

**Email of course coordinator:** harishc.narang@gmail.com

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Aim:** The course is aimed at familiarizing the students with the writings of those Canadians who trace their origins to Asia, either directly- from India or Japan, for instance- or via some other nation such as Tanzania or Jamaica, and who form significant diasporic communities within the multicultural milieu of Canada.

The selected texts will be studied in the larger socio-politico-cultural context of history of migrant communities, the economic and political reasons for such inter-national movements of communities and groups of people, their assimilation or otherwise in the host countries and their umbilical cord relations with mother nations. In short, the process of diaspora formation will provide the backdrop to the course. Various theoretical positions about diasporic writing will also be studied in this course to enable an informed analysis of the selected literary texts.

**Tentative Reading List:**

<i>The Assassin's Song</i>	M.G.Vassanji
<i>Tales from Ferozsha Baag</i>	Rohinton Mistry
<i>Obasan</i>	Joy Kogawa
<i>Wizard Swami</i>	Cyril Debydeen

Besides these, students will be assigned special readings of stories, plays and poems by writers other than those mentioned above, for Carry Home Assignment, Mid-Semester Test and Class Presentations by individual students or group of students.

Module I: The Politics and Poetics of diaspora formation: Sociology of terms like Exile, Immigration and Diaspora

Module II: Theoretical positions and Practice of Diasporic Writing

Module III: Canada: History, policy of multiculturalism, various diasporic communities and their dynamics in Canadian society:

Module IV: Detailed study of the texts in class

**Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Date/period in which Assessment will take place</b>	<b>Weightage</b>
1	Carry Home Assignment	End of August	20%
2	Mid Semester Exam	Last week of September	20%
3	Class Presentations	Mid October	20%
4	End Semester Exam	End of November	40%

Lists of suggested readings of primary and secondary material will be provided in class.

Supportive reading material relevant to the course will be put together and placed in the Photocopy shop for students to buy and use.