

**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>	Adventure Literature			
<b>Credits:</b>	4 Credits			
<b>Course Code (new for I Semester students):</b>	SOL2EN312			
<b>Course Code (old for III Semester students):</b>	SLS2EN312			
<b>Type of Course:</b>	Compulsory	No	Cohort	MA in English
	Elective	Yes	Cohort	MA other than English
<b>Course Coordinator and Team:</b>	Dr. Bhoomika Meiling			
<b>Email of course coordinator:</b>	bhoomika@aud.ac.in			
<b>Pre-requisites:</b>	None			

**Aim:** This course seeks to explore the nexus between colonial enterprise, rise of the middle class readership and the corresponding clamour for narratives about the ‘unknown’ and the ‘unheard of’. A trend that was set in 1719 with the publication of *Robinson Crusoe*, gave rise to newer expectations among readers tied down to their home turfs, from writings that showed them a slice of the exotic elsewhere which seemed real due to the sprinkling of factual and ‘scientific’ descriptions influenced by the new knowledge created in the Age of Reason. By the mid nineteenth century, most of the adventure narratives were exploring newer ways of touching increasingly fantastic territories with uncanny similarities to real life colonialist endeavours. In this context, the course will critically analyze adventure writings, chiefly of the nineteenth century, by focusing on novels beginning with *Robinson Crusoe* (1719) and meandering through some representative nineteenth century European and American adventure narratives.

**Tentative Reading List:**

Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*

Edgar Allan Poe's *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket*

R.M. Ballantyne's *The Coral Island*

Jules Verne's *The Mysterious Island*

Alfred Assollant's *Once Upon A Time in India*

Apart from these a host of secondary readings will be used to link the different ideological pegs that hold the course together.

**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	Class test	End of August/Early September	10%
2	Mid Semester Exam	Third week of September	20%
3	Presentation	Mid October	20%
4	Term Paper	Second week of November	20%
5	End Semester Exam	End of November	30%