

**School of Human Studies**  
**Ambedkar University Delhi**  
**Course Outline**

**Time Slot-**\_\_\_\_\_

**Course Code:**

**Title:** Deconstructing Normalcy

**Type of Course:** Elective

**Cohort for which it is compulsory:**

**Cohort for which it is elective:** MA Psychology

**No of Credits:** 4

**Semester and Year Offered:** 4th Semester (Winter Semester 2018)

**Course Coordinator and Team:** Mr. Wrick Mitra

**Email of course coordinator:** wrick@aud.ac.in

**Pre-requisites:** All MA psychology courses of Semester 1,2,&3.

**Aim:** The category of the normal is widely (and often unthinkingly) deployed in several branches of Psychology , and along with it comes a hasty pathologization of diverse forms of experiences and expressions that are “out of the ordinary”, There is a way in which the “natural” is revered , a way in which a unitary world view commands unquestioned respect. Being exposed to the varied cultural manifestations of the phenomenon, or the social construction of it, makes one more critical of “reality” and more respectful of the diversity that makes the world. Bringing to dialogue insights from the writings of Michel Foucault and Jacques Derrida on Reason and Judith Butler on Performativity, this course will primarily cultivate critical thinking in terms of the normal/ abnormal dyad.

**Brief description of modules/ Main modules:**

- I. Introduction to Post structuralism (2 Weeks)
- II. Sexuality (2 Weeks)
- III. Gender (4 Weeks)
- IV. Madness (7-8 Weeks).

## Reading list and References

- Belsey, C. (2002) . Poststructuralism : A very short introduction. New York:Oxford University Press.
- Potter, J. (1996). Representing Reality: Discourse , Rhetoric and Social Construction. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- Applerouth, S. and Edles, L.D. (2011). Sociological Theory in the Contemporary Era: Text and Readings. Sage: India.
- Foucault,M. (1978). The History of Sexuality. New York : Vintage Books.
- Salil, Sarah. (2007). Sexualities and Communication in everyday life. CA : Sage. ·M.M.( eds.). Sexualities and communication in everyday life. C.S :Sage
- Butler, J. (1993). Bodies that matter : On the discursive limits of “Sex”. New York: Routledge.
- Butler, J. (1990). Gender Trouble:Feminism and the Subversion of identity . New York, Routledge.
- Salil,S. (2004). The Judith Butler Reader. New York: Blackwell.
- Belsey,C. (2002). Poststructuralism: A very short introduction . New York:Oxford Univfersity Press.
- Potter, J. (1996). Representing Reality: Discourse , Rhetoric and Social Construction. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- Applerouth,S. and Edles, L.D. (2011) . Sociological Theory in the Contemporary Era:Text and Readings. Sage : India.
- Salih, Sarah (2007). On Judith Butler and Perfomativity” in Lovaas.
- Butler, J. (1993). Bodies that matter: on the discursive limist of Sex. New York: Routledge.
- Foucault,M. (1965). Madness and Civilization. New York: Pantheon.
- Foucault,M. (1975). Abnormal. New York: Pantheon.
- Derrida,J. (2001). Cogito and the History of Madness in Writing and Difference. New York: Sage

**Assessment Methodology:** Film Analysis, Term Papers, Weekly reflections, Viva Voce.

- A) Class Participation – 20%
- B) Written Submission 1 – 40%
- C) Written Submission 2 - 40%