

Ambedkar University Delhi

Course Outline

Monsoon Semester (July-December 2017)

School:	School of Letters
Programme with title:	MA English
Semester to which offered: (I/ III/ V)	I and III Semesters
Course Title:	Translation in Contemporary India
Credits:	4 Credits
Course Code (new):	SOL2EN352
(old):	SLS2EN352
Type of Course:	Elective yes Cohort MA English
	Elective yes Cohort MA other than English

Course Coordinator and Team: Sanju Thomas

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Pre-requisites: Working knowledge of one more Indian language other than English

Aim: The course will introduce students to the role and main concerns of translation in India, including the translation strategies while dealing with various kinds of texts and the way translation can be used to problematize the issues of colonialism, language hierarchy, gender and caste. It will also look at the process of translation through theoretical texts that carry examples of translation strategies and also through brief literary pieces.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules:

Module 1

Introduction: History of Translation in India

The module provides a brief history of translation in India from the earlier times to the contemporary times. The objective is to make students aware that translation in India was a different concept and how the idea of translation itself changed with colonialism.

- “In Our Own Time, On Our Own Terms: ‘Translation in India’”. *Translating Others I*. 102-119. Print.
- Bassnett, Susan and Trivedi, Harish. *Post Colonial Translation: Theory and Practice*. London: Routledge 1999. Print.
- Devy. G.N. “Translation and Literary History.” *Post-colonial Translation*. Eds. Susan Bassnett and Harish Trivedi. London: Routledge, 1999. 182-188. Print.

Module 2

Translation and the making of the Indian Nation

This module addresses the language issue in India, and how the new independent nation tried to grapple with the many concerns that a multilingual nation raised.

Asaduddin, M. “Translation and Indian Literature: Some Reflections” *Translation Today*, 3:1&2. 2006. 1-19. Print.

- Guha ,Ramachandra. The Rise and Fall of the Bilingual Intellectual. *Economic and Political Weekly*. 44: 33 (AUGUST 15-21, 2009), 36-42. Print.
- Pattanayak, DP. Multilingualism and Language Politics in India. *International Centre Quarterly*. 11:2, LANGUAGE (JUNE 1984). 125- 131. Print
- Rai, Alok. The Persistence of Hindustani: India International Centre Quarterly.29: 3/4, India: A National Culture? (WINTER 2002-SPRING 2003). 70-79. Print.
- George, Rosemary Marangoly. “The SahityaAkademi and National Literature.” *Indian English and the Fiction of National Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 2013. Print.
- Selections from Middle India. BhashamSahni
- Selections from Vaikom Muhammad Basheer

Module 3

The Process of Translation

Translation is not just a linguistic transfer but it's also about mediating between cultures. Translators use different strategies to negotiate between languages, cultures, time periods and ideologies. This section will look at certain translation strategies employed by translators. The texts will be read along with the translator's note to have a better understanding of the way a translator approaches a translation issue.

- Dharwadker, Vinay. "Translating the Millennium: Indian Literature in the Global Market: Ramanujan's Theory and Practice." *Indian Literature*. 52:4 (246) (July-August 2008), 133-146. Print.
- Ramanujan, A.K. Selections from *Poems of Love and War*.
- Prasad, Kashi. "Translating Premchand." *Indian Literature*. 25:5 (September-October 1982), 86-97. Print.
- Premchand. *Kafan* (Three different translations)

Module 4

The Politics of Translation

It is said that translation is seldom an innocent activity. A translator can alter a text in subtle and even in blatant ways to accommodate a different reading. This module will look into some interesting ways in which a text can be changed while translating it to respond to different demands of the times.

- Ramanujan, A.K. "Three Hundred Ramayanas: Five Examples and Three Thoughts on Translation." *The Collected Essays of A.K. Ramanujan*, ed. Vinay Dharwadker. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1999. 131-160. Print.
- Mukherjee, Sujit. "Translation as Patriotism." *Translation as Discovery*. New Delhi: Allied Publishers Private Limited, 1981. Print.
- Kumar, Akshaya. "Translating Bhakti: Versions of Kabir in Colonial/Early Nationalist Period Indian Literature". 50:1 (231) (January-February 2006), 149-165. Print.

- Niranjana, Tejaswini. "Translation as Disruption". *Siting Translation: History, Post-structuralism, and the Colonial Context*. Berkely: University of California Press, 1992. Print
- Bhalla, Alok. "The Politics of Translation: Manto's Partition Stories and Khalid Hasan's English Version". *Social Scientist*, Vol. 29, No. 7/8 (Jul. - Aug., 2001), pp. 19-38
- Selections from Manto
- Excerpts from *Chemmeen*. (Tranlsation by NarayanaMenon (1962) and Anita Nair (2011))

Module 5

Translating Gender and Caste

This module will look at the question of caste and gender in translation. Translating caste and gender demands a very nuanced understanding of the process and politics of translation. From the choice of the texts to the negotiation of cultural and aesthetic terms associated with gender and caste, translation here becomes a very significant and empowering activity. The module besides reading translator's notes and theories around these, will also read gender and caste in translation.

- Kamala.N. "Translation and/in gender." *Translation: Poetics and Practice*. Ed. AnisurRehman. New Delhi: Creative Books. 2002.
- Spivak, GayatriChakravarty. "The Politics of Translation." *Outside the Teaching Machine*. New York: Routledge, 1993.
- Godard, Mukherjee Alok, Mukherjee, Arun. "Translating Minoritized Cultures: Issues of Caste, Class and Gender". *Postcolonial Text*. 2:3. 2006. 1-21.
- Devi, Mahasweta. "Draupadi". *Critical Inquiry*. 8:2. Writing and Sexual Difference. 1981. 381-402.
- Bama. *Sangati*. OUP. 2009.

Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
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1	Assignment	To be decided	10%
2	Mid Semester Exam	As per academic calendar	30%
3	Presentation	October	30%
4	Portfolio	November	30%