

School of Undergraduate Studies

Ambedkar University Delhi

Course Outline

Time Slot-_____

Course Code: SUSEN263

Title: Folk, Oral, Indigenous, Popular Cultures

Type of Course: Discipline English

Cohort for which it is compulsory: BA (English Honours)

Cohort for which it is elective: All other Majors

No of Credits: 4

Semester and Year Offered: 5th Semester (Monsoon Semester 2018)

Course Coordinator and Team: Diamond Oberoi Vahali

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

Pre-requisites: Deep interest and regard for Indigenous, folk cultures and orality

Aim: The objective of the course is to familiarize the students to the folk, oral, indigenous and popular art forms and literature. The aim is also to analyse the interfaces that exist between these forms as well the subtle distinctiveness of each form. The course will bring to the fore the songs of the itinerant street singers, the folklore and tales of the mystics, lovers, as well as those of ordinary people and will see how the folk imagination weaves tales as if it were weaving a tapestry. Thus this course will delve into the indigenous, folk and mass imagination in its varied manifestations.

Brief description of Modules/ Main modules:

Modules and Indicative Reading List: Keeping the time constraint in mind, only a few of the readings listed below will be discussed in the class.

Module I

Critical, Conceptual and Theoretical frameworks

Module II

ORAL

Zirimu, Pio. "Oral Power and Europhone Glory: Orature, Literature, and Stolen Legacies" in *Gunpoints, and Dreams: Towards a Critical Theory of the Arts and the State in Africa*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1998.

Thiong'o, Ngugi wa. "Notes Towards a Performance Theory of Orature". *Performance Research* 12.3 (2007): 4-7. Web. 11 Feb. 2013.
<http://www.ohio.edu/people/hartleyg/ref/Ngugi_Orature.html>

Ao, Temsula. 1999. *The Ao-Naga Oral Tradition*. Baroda: Bhasha Publications, 1999.

Devy, G.N. ed. *Painted Words: An Anthology of Tribal literature*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2002.

Creation myths: Binti and other creation myths

Selections from the Bhilli *Mahabharat*

Selections from the Kunkana *Ramayan*

Verses by Bhakti and Sufi poets

Cultural Diversity, Linguistic Plurality and Literary Traditions in India. Ed. Sukrita Paul Kumar, Vibha S. Chauhan, Bodh Prakash, 1981.

Selections from *Anhad Garje*, 4 vols.,

pBitek, Okot. *Song of Lawino*. London: Heinemann, 1984.

Module III

INDIGENOUS

Carter, Asa Earl. *The Education of Little Tree* (1976) Mexico: University of New Mexico Press; 25th anniversary edition (August 31, 2001)

Devy, G.N. ed. *Painted Words: An Anthology of Tribal literature*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2002.

Devy, G.N. *The G.N. Devy Reader*. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan. 2009.

Duane Niatum. Ed. *Harper's Anthology of Twentieth Century Native American Poetry*. San Francisco: Harper, 1988.

Heiss, Anita and Peter Mirtin McGill. Eds. *Anthology of Australian Aboriginal Literature*. London: Queen's University Press, 2008.

Harlem Frescos.

Lazmi, Kalpana. *Rudali*. 1993.

Seathl. "A Simple Philosophy". *Contemporary English*. New Delhi: OUP, 1991.

Selections from Mahashweta Devi's *Dust on the Road: The political Writings of Mahashweta Devi*

Promod Gupta *Development at Gunpoint*

Indegenous art forms

Module 1V

FOLK

Dandetha, Vijay. 'Duvidha', <http://www.manushi->

india.org/pdfs_issues/PDF%20files%2062/the_dilemma_short_story-vijay_dan_detha.pdf

Kaul, Mani. Dir. *Duvidha*. 1973

Palekar, Amol. dir. *Paheli*. Red Chillies Entertainment. 2005.

Dangrembga, Tsitsi. *Kare Kare Zvako (Long Time Ago) Mother's Day* (a Shona (African) Folk Tale

Gorky, Maxim. "Soviet Literature" in *People's Art in the twentieth Century: Theory and Practice*. Jana Natya Manch, Delhi, 2000.

Gupta, Sudheer. dir. *Anant Kalakar* 2006.

Naithani, Sadhana. "The Colonizer Folklorist". *Journal of Folklore Research* 34.1 (1997): 1-14.

Ramanujan, A. K. *A Flowering Tree and Other Oral Tales from India*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997.

Virmani, Shabnam. dir. *Had-Anhad*. 2008.

---. dir. *Chalo Hamara Des*. 2008.

---. dir. *Koi Sunta Hai (Someone Listens)* 2008.

V., Propp. *Morphology of the Folktale*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1968.

This module will also discuss folk songs and folk music specifically from India.

Module V

POPULAR

Anand, Vijay. dir. *The Guide*. Navketan Films. 1965.

Tamasha 2016

Berlin Wall graffiti

Chauhan, Anuja. *Zoya Factor*. New Delhi: Harpercollins, 2014.

India, a Joint Venture with India Today Group, 2008. Print.

Selections from: Radway, Janice. *Reading the Romance: Women, Patriarchy, and Popular Literature*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1984.

Williams, Raymond. *Culture and Society: 1780-1950*. London: Chatto, 1958.

Selection from Morley, David, Chen, Kuan Hsing (ed.). *Stuart Hall: Critical Dialogues in Cultural Studies*. London: Routledge, 1996.

Pawling, Christopher. Ed. *Popular Fiction and Social Change*. London and Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1984.

Bourdieu, Pierre. *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1979.

Selections from the songs of Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson, Madonna, Lady Gaga, Justin Bieber

Assessment Details with weights:

Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
1	Class participation	Throughout the semester	20%
2	Group Presentation	End September onwards	20%
3	Class test	October 1 st week	20%
4	Term Paper	5 th November	20%
5	Research and Creative document (Research on any indigenous people's movement anywhere in the world or an essay written after a deep engagement with a folk/indigenous artist anywhere 20%)	25 th November	20%

The pattern of assessment is subject to revision depending on the composition and size of the class.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE:

References:

Bettelheim, Bruno. *Uses of Enchantment: The Meaning and Importance of Fairy Tales*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1976.

Dundes, Alan. *Essays in Folkloristics*. Meerut: Folklore Institute, 1978.

Georges, Robert A. and Michael Owen Jones. *Folkloristics: An Introduction*.
Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1995.

Jung, C.G. *The Archetypes and the Collective Unconscious*. 2nd ed. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1968.

Selections from Bronislaw Malinowski's writings on culture and ethnography

Joseph Campbell *The Mask of Gods*

Levi-Strauss, Claude. *Structural Anthropology*. 2 Vols. London: Allen Lane, 1968.