

**School of Undergraduate Studies**

**Ambedkar University Delhi**

**Course Outline**

**Time Slot: Monday 11 am – 1pm & Thursday, 9am – 1pm**

**Only for Kashmere Gate Campus**

**Course Code:** SUS1EN231

**Title:** Introduction to Indian and World Literatures

**Type of Course:** Discipline (English)

**Cohort for which it is compulsory:** BA Honours English

**Cohort for which it is elective:** All other Majors

**No of Credits:** 4

**Semester and Year Offered:** I Semester

**Course Coordinator and Team:** Dr. Usha Mudiganti

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

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Aim:** A literature course for undergraduate students should add to their understanding of the day-to-day realities they inhabit. The present course is geared towards this purpose. It includes writings from Caribbean, African, American, Australian, Polish, Japanese, French, South Asian, and other artistic, literary, and cultural traditions. The reading list spans different genres like poetry, prose, drama, songs, cinema, graphic novel, etc. in order to provide a holistic picture of world literature to the students. It is a representative list of modern writings (mostly post-World War II) that reflect on the complexities of life, powerfully as well as with an immense sense of humour. By the end of the course the students will have gained direct acquaintance with some representative 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century authors/ poets/ artists. The course will also equip the students with techniques of textual analysis, and the strategies required in using literary texts to comprehend broader cultural, social, and political issues.

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

- I. Introduction to World Literatures: Origin and Development of the Concept
- II. Introduction to Indian Literature: Evaluation and Critique of the Term
- III. Reading Contemporary World Poetry

- IV. Reading Short Stories in the Framework of World Literature
- V. Reading Novel, Graphic Novel, Memoir and Drama with Discussions on Form in World Literature
- VI. Literatures and Other Arts: Examining the Visual, the Lyrical and the Cinematic

**Assessment Details with weights:**

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
1	Class Assignment	End of August/Early September	15%
2	Mid Semester Exam	End of September	25%
3	Presentation	End of October	25%
4	Question Bank	Mid November	10%
5	End Semester Exam	As per AUD Academic Calendar	25%

**Reading List:**

**Poetry:**

Jayanta Mahapatra: "Hunger"

Kamala Das: "Nani"

Maya Angelou: "Still I Rise"

Diane Burns: "Sure you can ask me a personal question"

Langston Hughes: "I, Too, Sing America"

Wole Soyinka: "Telephone Conversation"

Wisława Szymborska: "Monologue of a Dog"

Nirendranath Chakrabarti: "Amalkanti"

**Short Stories:**

Sandra Cisernos: "Barbie Q"

Alka Saraogi: "Letter to Mrs D'Souza"

Tillie Olsen: "I Stand Here Ironing"

Anita Desai: "Games at Twilight"

Gita Hariharan: "The Remains of the Feast"

Ismat Chughtai: "The Homemaker"

Kirat Babani: "My Amma"

Nadine Gordimer: "Country Lovers"

Munshi Premchand: "The Spell"

**Memoir:**

Emmanuelle Laborit: Selections from *The Cry of the Gull*

**Novel:**

Mulk Raj Anand: *Untouchable*

**Play:**

Mahesh Dattani: *Dance like a Man*

**Songs:**

Bob Marley: "Buffalo Soldier"

Harry Belafonte: "Banana Boat Song"

Brother Marvin: "Jahaji Bhai"

**Film:**

Majid Majidi: *The Color of Paradise*

**Graphic Novel:**

Art Spiegelman: *Maus I*

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE:**

Damrosch, David. *How to Read World Literature*. West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009.

---. *Meetings of the Mind*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2000.

Ferguson, Margaret, Mary Jo Salter, and Jon Stallworthy. Ed. *The Norton Anthology of Poetry*- V Edition.

New York: W.W. Norton, 2005.

Mehrotra, Arvind Krishna. *History of Indian Literature in English*. New York: Columbia University Press,

2003.

Prendergast, Christopher. Ed. *Debating World Literature*. New York: Verso, 2004.