



ST. ALOYSIUS COLLEGE(AUTONOMOUS), JABALPUR

Reaccredited 'A++' Grade by NAAC(CGPA:3.58/4.00)

College with Potential for Excellence by UGC

DST-FIST Supported & STAR College Scheme by DBT

Faculty of Arts

Master of Arts (M.A.)

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LITERATURE

M.A. II Semester

Paper II

Popular Literature

Course Outcomes

CO.No.	Course Outcomes
CO1	Read and identify certain kinds of literature as 'popular and 'formulaic'.
CO2	Distinguish popular, mass-consumption literature from academic, elitist literature.
CO3	Connect popular texts/films to their cultural contexts of production and consumption.
CO4	Evaluate popular texts/films in terms of their generic Patterns
CO5	Write critically based on an evaluative understanding of texts and contexts.

Credit and Marking Scheme

	Credits	Marks		Total Marks
		Internal	External	
Theory	5	40	60	100
Total	5	100		

Evaluation Scheme

	Marks	
	Internal	External
Theory	a) Class Test b) Presentation/Assignment/Quiz/Group Discussion, etc c) Appropriate weightage of attendance in class.	1 External Exams (At the End of Semester)



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Content of the Course

Theory

No. of Lectures (in hours per week): 4.5 Hrs. per week

Units	Topics	No.of Lectures
I Poetry and Short Stories	Introduction to Popular Literature: Origin and Development; Sukumar Ray: The Sons of Ramgaroo, and Khichuri Arthur W. Ryder: The Panchatantra (1975)- The Blue Jackal, The Tortoise and the Birds, The Bear and the Gardener, The Lion and the Mouse Activities: 1. Debate: Ethics in Fables Objective: Explore the ethical complexity of fables 2. Dramatization or Skit Performance Objective: Bring Ray's nonsense literature to life. Activity: Adapt The Sons of Ramgaroo into a short absurdist play or skit. Focus on the play of language, logic-defying situations, and whimsical characters.	15
II Detective Fiction	Agatha Christie's: The Murder of Sir Roger Ackroyd John le Carre: The Spy Who Came in from the Cold Activities: 1. Poirot's Ethical Code Discussion Task: Have a class discussion on Poirot's decision to let the murderer take their own life. Was justice served? 2. Comparative Media Study Task: Watch the 1965 film adaptation. Compare its tone, themes, and character portrayals to the novel. Goal: Understand how narrative tone and subtext can change across media	15
III Children's Literature	Ruskin Bond: The Room on the Roof Lewis Carroll: Through the Looking Glass. Activities: 1. Cultural Mapping Project Students research Anglo-Indian society and the cultural contrasts shown in the book. Have them create a visual map showing locations in Dehradun and how Rusty's experiences reflect Indian society at the time. 2. Table-Top Theatre: Staging a Dialogue Objective: Bring Carroll's rapid-fire dialogue to life, highlight character voices. Students adapt a key conversation (e.g., Alice and Tweedledee/Dum; the Lion and the Unicorn) into a 3-5-minute staged reading. Props can be simple (cardboard chess-pieces, hand- drawn masks).	15



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IV Drama and Graphic Novel	Henrik Ibsen: A Doll's House Durgabai Vyam and Subhash Vyam Bhimayana: Experiences of Untouchability / Autobiographical Notes on Ambedkar Activities: 1. Character Trial: Nora in the Dock Objective: Debate the moral implications of Nora's actions. Activity: Hold a mock trial where students take on roles (Nora, Torvald, Krogstad, judge, lawyer, etc.). The class debates whether Nora's decision to leave her family was justified. 2. Debate: Is Caste Still Relevant Today? Objective: Encourage critical engagement with contemporary relevance. Activity: Host a structured debate or roundtable on the ongoing impact of caste in modern India or elsewhere.	15
V Fantasy and Science Fiction	J.R.R. Tolkien The Lord of the Rings Samit Basu The Simoqin Prophecies Activities: 1. Mythological Inspirations Research Norse, Anglo-Saxon, or Christian myths that inspired Tolkien. Enrichment: Discuss how myth shapes narrative structure and worldbuilding. 2. Genre-Blending Analysis Activity: Identify and discuss how Basu blends Indian mythology with Western fantasy tropes. Enrichment: Builds awareness of cross-cultural storytelling and satire.	15

Keywords/Tags: Youth Identity, growing up, adolescence, humiliation, Doubt, crime, guilt, suspense, accused, Children's fiction, identity, gender, disparity, Identity, doubt, crime, racism, casteism, gender, High Fantasy, Mythopoeia, Genre Hybridity, Humor and Metafiction

References

Reference Books:

1. Gautam, Sanjay. Popular Literature: A History and Guide. Orient Blackswan, 2021
2. Ryder, Arthur W. The Panchatantra. University of Chicago Press, 1925; reprint 1975.
3. Christie, Agatha. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd. 100th Anniversary Edition, HarperCollins, 2022.
4. le Carré, John. The Spy Who Came in from the Cold. Penguin Books, 2025.
5. Bond, Ruskin. The Room on the Roof. 60th Anniversary ed., Penguin Books, 2016.
6. Carroll, Lewis. Through the Looking-Glass. Macmillan Children's Books, 2025.
7. Ibsen, Henrik. A Doll's House. Translated by William Archer, Dover Publications, 1992.
8. Vyam, Durgabai, and Subhash Vyam. Bhimayana: Experiences of Untouchability. Navayana, 2011.
9. Tolkien, J.R.R. The Lord of the Rings. HarperCollins, 2025.



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10. Basu, Samit. The Simoqin Prophecies. Penguin Books India, 2004.
11. Chelva Kanaganayakam, 'Dancing in the Rarefied Air: Reading Contemporary Sri Lankan Literature' (ARIEL, Jan. 1998) rpt,
12. Malashri Lal, Alamgir Hashmi, and Victor J. Ramraj, eds., Post Independence Voices in South Asian, Writings (Delhi: Doaba Publications, 2001) pp. 51-65.
13. Sumathi Ramaswamy, 'Introduction', in Beyond Appearances? Visual Practices and Ideologies in Modern India (Sage: Delhi, 2003) pp. xiii-xxix.
14. Leslie Fiedler, 'Towards a Definition of Popular Literature', in Super Culture: American Popular Culture and Europe, ed. C.W.E. Bigsby (Ohio: Bowling Green University Press, 1975) pp. 29-38.
15. Felicity Hughes, 'Children's Literature: Theory and Practice', English Literary History, vol. 45, 1978, pp. 542-61.
16. https://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/research-support/tutorials-information-literacy-and-critical-thinkin_g/sources-information/
17. <https://www.britannica.com/art/popular-literature>

Suggested digital platforms/ web links

1. <https://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/Home/ViewSubject?catid=9RA537 M1m7VD3VCoav4lQ==>
2. [https://archive.org/stream/in.ernet.dli.2015.100291/2015.100291.Lewis-Carroll divu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/in.ernet.dli.2015.100291/2015.100291.Lewis-Carroll%20divu.txt)

