

Department of English
Jamia Millia Islamia

MAJOR COURSES 4 Credits

Course Title: Background to English Literature

Course Outline: The course traces the history of English Literature from pre-Renaissance to the postmodern period. Delving into the socio-cultural, political, religious and economic changes in the society, the paper deals with the question of how society influences literature and vice-versa. It also looks into the development of literary writings and forms along with the changing trends.

Unit I - History of English Literature 1485 – 1600

- Context and Conditions
- Renaissance Poetry
- Elizabethan Theatre
- Metaphysical Poetry
- Jacobean Drama

Carter, R. and John McRae. The Routledge History of English Literature. Taylor s Francis, 2016. pp. 53 – 112.

Unit II - History of English Literature 1600 – 178G

- Context and Conditions
- Restoration Drama
- The Novel

Carter, R. and John McRae. The Routledge History of English Literature. Taylor s Francis, 2016. pp. 115 – 186.

Unit III - History of English Literature 178G – 1G01

- Context and Conditions
- Romantic Poetry
- Romantic Prose
- Victorian Novels
- Victorian Drama

Carter, R. and John McRae. The Routledge History of English Literature. Taylor s Francis, 2016, pp. 163 – 307.

Unit IV - History of English Literature 1601 – 2000

- Context and Conditions
- Modern Poetry
- Twentieth Century Drama
- Modern Novel

Carter, R. and John McRae. *The Routledge History of English Literature*. Taylor s Francis, 2016, pp. 311- 467.

Unit V - Study of Genres, Forms, and Literary Terms

- Allegory
- Dramatic Monologue
- Elegy
- Epic
- Gothic Novel
- Metaphysical Poets
- New Criticism
- Ode
- Satire
- Sonnet
- Symbolism

Abrams, M.H. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. Cengage Learning, 2015.

References Books:

- Abrams, M.H. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. Cengage Learning, 2015.
- Carter, R. and John McRae. *The Routledge History of English Literature*. Taylor s Francis, 2016. Daiches, David. *A Critical History of English Literature*. Supernova Publishers, 2011. 2 vols.
- Evans, Ifor. *A Short History of English Literature*. Penguin Books, 1976.
- Ford, Boris, editor. *The Pelican Guide to English Literature*. Penguin Books, 1962. 7 vols.
- Legouis, E. and Cazamian, L.F. *History of English Literature*. Macmillan, 1938.
- Hudson, William Henry. *An Outline History of English Literature*. Rupa s Co., 2015.
- W J Long. *English Literature: Its History and Its Significance for the Life of the English-speaking World*. Maple Press, 2012.
- Compton-Rickett, A. *A History of English Literature*. Alpha Edition, 2016.

Course Title: Poetry - I

Course Outline: This course aims to introduce students to the study of poetry as a distinct literary genre. It seeks to familiarize students with the development of English verse from medieval times to the Victorian Age through select texts* that highlight evolving poetic forms, styles and themes which are representative of the age in which they were composed.

*All recommended texts in this paper appear in:

Leeson, Edward, (Selected). *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*. Macmillan, London, 1680.

Unit – I

Chaucer, Geoffrey. "From The Prologue to The Canterbury Tales". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 6-12.

Spenser, Edmund. "[The Cave of Despair] From The Faerie Queene". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 52-57.

Unit – II

Shakespeare, William. "When, in disgrace with Fortune and men's eyes". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 81.

Milton, John. "On His Late Wife". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp.138.

Unit – III

Dryden, John. "MacFlecknoe". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 188-164.

Blake, William. "London". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 280-81.

Unit – IV

Wordsworth, William. "Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 285-86.

Coleridge, Samuel Taylor. "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner". *The New Golden Treasury of English Verse*, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 301-20.

Unit – V

Alfred, Lord Tennyson. "Crossing the Bar". The New Golden Treasury of English Verse, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 367-68.

Browning, Robert. "My Last Duchess". The New Golden Treasury of English Verse, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 371-72.

Rossetti, Christina Rossetti. "A Birthday". The New Golden Treasury of English Verse, collected by Edward Leeson, Macmillan, 1680, pp. 382.

References Books:

- Bostetter, Edward. E. "The Nightmare World of The Ancient Mariner". Studies in Romanticism, Vol. 1, no. 4, summer 1962, pp. 241-54. JSTOR, <https://doi.org/10.2307/255SS5c4>.
- Cuddon, J. A. and Claire Preston. The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory. Oxford UP, 1968.
- Drabble, Margaret and Jenny Stringer. The Concise Oxford Companion to English Literature. Oxford University Press, 2007.
- Ford, Boris, editor. The Pelican Guide to English Literature Vol. 1-4, Penguin Books, 1960.
- Harrison, Antony H. Victorian Poets and Romantic Poems: Intertextuality and Ideology. University of Virginia Press, 1990.
- Harmon, William and C. Hugh Holman. A Handbook to Literature. 7th ed., Prentice-Hall, 1966. Hudson, W.H. An Introduction to the Study of Literature. Rupa s Co, 2015.
- Schiffer, James, editor. Shakespeare's Sonnets: Critical Essays. Routledge, 2013