

Syllabus for Ph.D. Entrance Kashi Naresh University, Sant Ravidas Nagar

Subject: English

Unit 1

Classical Literature and its social background—Greek and Latin Literature, advent of poetry: theological, religious, oral and folk epics or primary epics and literary epics; origin of tragedy, comedy and satire, nine muses, roles of gods and deities in Greek and Roman Literatures.

Unit II

Beginning of Literature in English—A brief history of Angles, Saxons and Jutes, Arrival of Christianity to England, Anglo-Saxon Poetry, Chaucer, first secular poem Beowulf and other religious poems.

Middle English Period: Norman Conquest, Anglo-Norman Literature, Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio, invention of Sonnets, Chronology of English Monarchs, Hundred Years of War, Black Death, Wat Tylor's Rebellion, War of Roses. Geoffrey Chaucer.

Unit III

Renaissance: Fall of Constantinople, Tudor dynasty, Establishment of Printing Press, Translations, More's Utopia and his assassination, Biblical Translations, Division of Church, Beginning of play-cycles and types of plays during the Middle Ages.

Tottles' Miscellany, Ascension of Elizabeth, First English Tragedy and First Comedy, University Wits, Establishment of theatres, Sir Philip Sidney, Edmund Spenser.

Shakespearean plays, War of Theaters, Ascension of James VI of Scotland as Jacobian period, Tudor Dynasty, gunpowder plot, Authorized Version of Bible, Comedy of Humors, Domestic Tragedies, Prose-Shakespeare, First Folio

Caroline Period: Metaphysical Poetry, Cavalier Poetry, Closing of theatres, Censorship of Press, Murder of Charles I, Milton, Oliver Cromwell as Lord Protector

Unit IV

Restoration or Age of Dryden: Restoration of Monarchy as well as theatres, Royal Society, Great Fire of London, Dryden—the first poet-laureate, Exclusion Bill Crisis, Popish Plot, Glorious

Revolution, Comedy of Manners, Heroic Tragedy, The Diarists- Samuel Pepys, Roger North and John Evelyn, Editing of Shakespearean Plays.

Age of Pope or the Augustan Age: 18th century- The Age of Prose and Reason, Invention of Novels, Daniel Defoe as the first Novelist, Four Wheels of English Novel, Henry Fielding-the father of English Novels, spread of periodicals, The Tatler, The Spectator. Jonathan Swift—a Man of Pseudonyms, and the Satirists.

Age of Sensibility or Age of Johnson: The Revival of Medieval Literature, Johnson's Dictionary, Lives of Poets, Preface to Shakespeare, Transitional Poets, Graveyard Poets, the Heralds of the Romantic Revival, Ploughman's Poet, Gothic Novels, Sentimental Drama

Unit V

Romanticism its social background: Renaissance of wonder, French Revolution, Thomas Gray, William Collins, William Wordsworth, John Keats, Percy Bysshe Shelley, William Hazlitt, Jane Austen, Novels of Manners, Historical Novels, nature and supernatural poetry, Lyrical Ballads, Lake Poets, Satanic School of poets, Cockney School of poetry, Charles Lamb-the prince among essayists, Four Ages of Poetry, Defense of Poetry, Quarterly Review, Blackwood's Magazine, London Magazine.

Unit VI

Victorian Literature and Its Social Background.

Tennyson, Browning, Arnold, Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Barret Browning, Charles Dickens, George Meredith, Bronte Sisters, George Eliot, Margaret Oliphant, Mrs. Gaskell, Thomas Hardy, Wessex Novels, Reform Bill, Chartism, Two Nation Theory, Hungry Forties, Survival of the Fittest, Detective Novels, Samuel Butler-the Rebel, Thomas Carlyle, John Ruskin, Oxford movement, Thomas Babington Macaulay's Minutes on Indian Education, The Pre-Raphaelite School, Nonsense Literature, The Decadents.

Unit VII

20th Century Literature its social background: War Poets, Stream of Consciousness Novels, Bloomsbury Group, The Waste land, Imagism, Beat Movement, The Movement, Georgian poetry, Beginning of Linguistic Theories, Theatre of the Absurd, Kitchen Sink Drama

Unit VIII

American Literature its social background:

Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Sylvia Plath, Edgar Allan Poe, Ernest Hemingway, Arthur Miller, Eugene Gladstone O'Neill.

Unit IX

Indian English Writers and Social Milieu: Toru Dutt, Sarojini Naidu, Sri Aurobindo, Mulk Raj Anand, R. K. Narayan, Raja Rao, Nissim Ezekiel, Kamala Das, Agha Shahid Ali, A. K. Ramanujan, Anita Desai, Salman Rushdie, Vikram Seth, Amitav Ghosh, Arundhati Roy, Kiran Desai, Jhumpa Lahiri, Aravind Adiga.

Unit X

New Literature and its pros and cons: Chinua Achebe, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, Nadine Gordimer, Ben Okri, Margaret Atwood, Alice Munro, Michael Ondaatje V.S. Naipaul, George Lamming, Derek Walcott, Patrick White, Peter Carey, David Malouf.

Unit XI

Theory and Criticism: Classical criticism—Aristotle, Plato, Longinus, Horace, Dante, Quintilian; Renaissance Criticism—Stephen Gasson, Sidney, Ben Jonson, Dryden's Criticism, Wordsworth's Theory of Poetic Diction, Coleridge's Fancy and Imagination, Modern Criticism—Formalism, New Criticism, Psychoanalysis', Feminism, Deconstruction, structuralism, Post-structuralism, Historicism, New Historicism, Marxism, Modernism, Postmodernism, Postcolonialism, Eco-criticism