

MA English Semester III

Type of Course: Elective

Course Code : PGECL3E003T

Course Title : Women's Writings Across Cultures

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Parveen Kumari

UNIT I

(a) Virginia Woolf: "Shakespeare's Sister" from *A Room of one's Own*.

(b) Simone de Beauvoir: "Concept of Woman as the Other" from *The Second Sex*.

(c) Jasbir Jain: "Working through Space: Patriarchy and Resistance"

First Week

UNIT I	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours per Topic
	I	An Introduction to Women's Writings Across Cultures History of Women's Writings from diverse background and society and the various themes and subject of the writings by women	1 Hour
	II	Virginia Woolf: "Shakespeare's Sister"-Reading and Discussion	1 Hour
	III	Virginia Woolf: "Shakespeare's Sister"-Reading and Discussion/Question-Answer	1 Hour
	IV	Virginia Woolf: "Shakespeare's Sister"- Critical Analysis and conclusion/Clarification of doubts/ Question-Answer	1 Hour

Second Week

UNIT I	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic

	I	Simone de Beauvoir: “Concept of Woman as the Other”-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	II	Simone de Beauvoir: “Concept of Woman as the Other”-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	III	Simone de Beauvoir: “Concept of Woman as the Other”-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/ Question-Answer	1 Hour
	IV	Simone de Beauvoir: “Concept of Woman as the Other”-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/Conclusion and Clarification of Doubts/Question-Answer	1 Hour

Third Week

Unit I	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Jasbir Jain: “Working through Space: Patriarchy and Resistance”-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	II	Jasbir Jain: “Working through Space: Patriarchy and Resistance”- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/ Question-Answer	1 Hour
	III	Jasbir Jain: “Working through Space: Patriarchy and Resistance”- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis Question-Answer	1 Hour
	IV	Unit I Sum up, Discussion and clarification of doubts/ Question-Answer	1 Hour

UNIT II

(a)Elaine Showalter: “Towards a Feminist Poetics”.

(b)Helene Cixous: “The Laugh of the Medusa”

(c) bell hooks: “Race and Gender” from *Feminism is for Everybody*. bell hooks, *Passionate Politics*.

First Week

Unit II	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Elaine Showalter: "Towards a Feminist Poetics"- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	II	Elaine Showalter: "Towards a Feminist Poetics"- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	III	Elaine Showalter: "Towards a Feminist Poetics" Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/ Question- Answer	1 Hour
	IV	Elaine Showalter: "Towards a Feminist Poetics"- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/ Question- Answer	1 Hour

Second Week

Unit II	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Helene Cixous: "The Laugh of the Medusa" "- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	II	Helene Cixous: "The Laugh of the Medusa" "- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	III	Helene Cixous: "The Laugh of the Medusa" "- Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/ Question-Answer	1 Hour
	IV	Helene Cixous: "The Laugh of the Medusa" Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/ Question-Answer	1 Hour

Third Week

Unit II	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	bell hooks: "Race and Gender"-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	II	bell hooks: "Race and Gender"-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis	1 Hour
	III	bell hooks: "Race and Gender"-Reading, Discussion and Critical analysis/ Question-Answer	1 Hour
	IV	bell hooks: "Race and Gender"-Discussion and clarification of doubts/ Critical analysis-Unit Sum Up/ Question-Answer	1 Hour
		Two assignments from Unit II	

UNIT III (Poetry and Short story)

(a)Coventry Patmore: "Angel in the House" (Selections)

(b)Imtiaz Dharkar: "Purdah 1", "Battle-line" (from Women Poets ed. Eunice de Souza)

(c)Mahasweta Devi: "Draupadi" (tr. By Gayatri Chakravarty Spivak)

First Week

Unit III	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Coventry Patmore: "Angel in the House"- An Introduction to the Poet/ Background and era of the work and its importance	1 Hour

	II	Coventry Patmore: “Angel in the House”- Reading and Discussion/Critical analysis and various critics’ viewpoint like Virginia Woolf, Elaine Showalter, etc.	1 Hour
	III	Coventry Patmore: “Angel in the House”- Reading and Discussion/Critical analysis” of the poem in Indian context	1 Hour
	IV	Coventry Patmore: “Angel in the House”- Reading and Discussion/Critical analysis/Sum up and Question-Answer	1 Hour

Second Week

Unit III	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Intiaz Dharkar: “Purdah 1”-An Introduction to the poem and poet/ background, title of the poem and significance, reading of the poem “Purdah 1” and discussion	1 Hour
	II	Reading and Discussion on the text- “Purdah 1” and the poetic technique used by the poet/ themes/Sum Up/ Question-Answer	1 Hour
	III	Reading and Discussion on the poem “Battle-line” and critical analysis	1 Hour
	IV	Reading and Discussion on the poem “Battle-line” and critical analysis, themes, poetic technique and Sum Up/Question-Answer	1 Hour

Third Week

Unit III	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Mahasweta Devi: "Draupadi": An Introduction to the Author/Background to the story/Reading of the story	1 Hour
	II	Mahasweta Devi: "Draupadi": Reading and Discussion on the story/Critical analysis	1 Hour
	III	Mahasweta Devi: "Draupadi": Discussion on the text and context/title/Political reading of the text/the subject of Marginalization/Myths/Symbols	1 Hour
	IV	Mahasweta Devi: "Draupadi": Discussion on the text/the female subject/A feminist reading/ Personal is political/ Sum up- Question-Answer	1 Hour

UNIT IV

(a) Shashi Deshpande: *Small Remedies*

First Week

Unit IV	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> : An Introduction to Author/Background to the novel	1 Hour
	II	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> – Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour
		Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> –	

	III	Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour
	IV	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> – Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour

Second Week

Unit IV	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> – Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour
	II	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> -A feminist Reading of the text	1 Hour
	III	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> -Reading in the Indian Context	1 Hour
	IV	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> -Reading and Discussion on the main, major and minor characters	1 Hour

Third Week

Unit IV	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> : the narrative technique	1 Hour
	II	Shashi Deshpande: <i>Small Remedies</i> : Various themes	1 Hour
		Discussion/ Critical analysis/Sum	

	III	up/Clarification of the doubts/Question-Answer	1 Hour
	IV	Discussion/ Critical analysis/Sum up/Clarification of the doubts/Question-Answer	1 Hour
		Class test	

UNIT V

(a) Toni Morrison: *Sula*

First Week

Unit V	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : An Introduction to Author/Background of the novel	1 Hour
	II	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour
	III	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour
	IV	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour

Second Week

Unit V	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Detailed Summary and Discussion	1 Hour

	II	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Narrative techniques/ Various Symbols and images used	1 Hour
	III	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : A Black feminist reading of the text, various Black female critics views like bell hooks, Barbara Smith, Alice Walker, etc.	1 Hour
	IV	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Reading in the African/ Black American Context	1 Hour

Third Week

Unit V	Day	Title of the Topic to be Taught	No. of Hours/Days per Topic
	I	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Reading and Discussion on the main, major and minor characters	1 Hour
	II	Toni Morrison: <i>Sula</i> : Sisterhood, Female Friendship, Queer Concept, Rebel	1 Hour
	III	Discussion/ Critical analysis/Sum up/Clarification of the doubts/Question-Answer	1 Hour
	IV	Discussion/ Critical analysis/Sum up/Clarification of the doubts/Question-Answer	1 Hour

PowerPoint Presentation on the topics:

Unit V: Toni Morrison's *Sula*: 4 hours

Suggested Reading:

Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble* (1990)

- De Beauvoir, Simone. *The Second Sex* (1949)
- Eagleton, Mary. (ed). *Feminist Literary Criticism* (1991)
- Ellen Moers: *Literary Women* (1976)
- Freidan, Betty. *The Feminine Mystique* (1963)
- Garnider, Judith Kegan, Ed. *Masculinity Studies and Feminist Theory: New Directions* (Columbia University Press, 2000)
- Greer, Germaine. *The Female Eunuch* (1970)
- Hussey, Mark. *Virginia Woolf A to Z: A Comprehensive Reference for Students, Teachers, and Common Readers to her Life, Works and Critical Reception* (New York & Oxford: OUP, 1996).
- Irigaray, Luce. *Sexes and Genealogies* (New York: Columbia, 1993).
- Kakkar, Sudhir. *Intimate Relations: Exploring Indian Sexuality* (1989), OUP Paperback, 1990.
- Lal, Malashri. *The Law of the Threshold*. (Shimla: IAS, 1995)
- Mill, John Stuart. *The Subjection of Woman* (1869)
- Moi, Toril. *Sexual/Textual Politics* (1985)
- Wolf, Naomi. *The Beauty Myth* (1991)
- Wolf, Naomi. *Fire with Fire* (1993)
- Majumdar, Robin, and Allen McLaurin. *Virginia Woolf: The Critical Heritage*, (eds.) (London: Routledge, 1997)
- Sandra, Gilbert, and Susan Guber. *The Madwoman in the Attic* (1979)
- Thoreau, Susie, and K. Lalitha, eds. "Introduction" in *Women's Writing in India* (New Delhi: OUP, 1993)
- Wollstonecraft, Mary. *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1772)
- Woolf, Virginia. "Shakespeare's Sister" from *A Room of One's Own* (1929)