

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
B.A. DEGREE COURSE IN ENGLISH
SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2020-2021

Title of the Course	Core Course BEN-DSC01: BRITISH LITERATURE- PAPER I		
Category of the Course	Year & Semester First Year & First Semester	Credits 4	Subject Code
Hours	90		
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To introduce the students to the rich legacy of Literature from Britain that remains the fundamental body of literature written in English. • To introduce prominent English writers and their styles from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century 		
Course Introduction (for internal assessment only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaissance and its impact on England • Reformation- causes and effects • Restoration England • Commonwealth England • Coffee houses and their Social Relevance 		
Course Components	UNIT 1: Poetry (Detailed)		
	1.1 “My galley charged”	Sir Thomas Wyatt	
	1.2 “Alas, so all things now”	Henry Howard	
	1.3 “Tell me, thou skilful shepherd’s swain”	Michael Drayton	
	1.4 “Not marble, nor the gilded monuments”:	William Shakespeare (Sonnet 55)	
	1.5 “A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning”	John Donne	
1.6 “How soon hath time”	John Milton		
1.7 “The Pulley”	George Herbert		
1.8 “The Retreat”	Henry Vaughan		
UNIT 2: Poetry (Non-Detailed)			
2.1 “Prothalamion”	Edmund Spenser		
(“CALM was the day...end my song” (Stanzas 1&2))			
2.2 “Astrophel and Stella”	Philip Sidney		
(Sonnet XXXI: With how sad steps, O Moone, ...)			
2.3 “Paradise Lost” (Book I - lines 1 - 83)	John Milton		
2.4 “The Garden”	Andrew Marvell		
UNIT 3: Prose (Detailed)			
3.1 “On Revenge”	Francis Bacon		
3.2 “Of Studies”	Francis Bacon		
UNIT 4: Prose (Non-Detailed)			
4.1 Book of Job: Prologue (chapters 1–2)	}	The Bible [King James Version]	
and			
Epilogue (chapter 42:7–17)			
UNIT 5: Drama (Detailed)			
5.1 Doctor Faustus	Christopher Marlowe		
Learning Outcomes:	By the end of the course, students will be able to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ understand the impact of social and historical events of 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries on English writers and their works ➤ analyse the themes and styles in English poetry, prose and drama written in the Elizabethan and Jacobean Age ➤ assess different works of the same author(s) as well as compare and contrast works of different authors of the same literary period 		

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Prescribed Texts:

- i) An Anthology of Elizabethan Poetry edited by Sukanta Chaudhuri, Oxford UP, Fourth impression– 2002.[1.1to 1.4]
- ii) Six Ages of English Poetry edited by H. M. Williams, Blackie & Sons, Tenth impression–1976.[1.5]
- iii) The Winged Word edited by David Green, Macmillian, 2016 edition.[1.6 to 1.8]
- iv) An Anthology of Elizabethan Poetry edited by Sukanta Chaudhuri, Oxford UP, Fourth impression– 2002.[2.2]
- v) Paradise Lost Books 1 & 2 Edited by Vrinda Nabar. Orient BlackSwan Annotated Study Texts, 2011 edition [2.3]
- vi) Epic and Mock-Epic Anamika Chakraborty OUP.
- vii) The Norton Anthology of English Literature (Tenth Edition) (Vol. Package 1: Volumes A, B, C)
Tenth Edition

FURTHER READING (to be considered for internal assessment only)

- “The Flaming Heart” – Richard Crashaw
- “Another Grace for a Child” – Robert Herrick
- “Epithalamion” – Edmund Spenser
- “Faerie Queene” – Edmund Spenser
- “The Passionate Shepherd to His Love” – Christopher Marlowe
- “Definition of Love” – Andrew Marvell
- “The Garden” – Andrew Marvell
- “On Shakespeare” – John Milton
- “Lycidas” – John Milton
- “Easter Wings” – George Herbert
- “Volpone” - Ben Jonson

BOOKS & WEB SOURCES FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

- English Poetry from the Elizabethans to the Restoration by Pramod K. Nayar. 2012.
- Triumphal Forms: Structural Patterns in Elizabethan Poetry by Alastair Fowler. Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- Elizabethan Women and the Poetry of Courtship by Ilona Bell. Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- The Birth of the Elizabethan Age: England in the 1560s (History of Early Modern England) by Norman L. Jones. Blackwell Publishers, 1995.
- British Literary Periods. <https://www.thoughtco.com/british-literary-periods-739034>
- Poems for all the semesters with a detailed introduction to the author. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>
- Renaissance Love Poetry. <https://www.thoughtco.com/renaissance-love-poems-1788871>
- Elizabethan Age. https://www.ducksters.com/history/renaissance/elizabethan_era.php
- Milton. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/john-milton>
- “Reading English : Why and How.” Dr. Sandie Byrne. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xbBa-sy-Tc>.
- Canterbury Tales. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0ZrBr9DOWA>.
- John Bunyan. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ByKbrzm5gI>.
- Edmund Spenser. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpbzr-OuQo>.

RECOMMENDED MOOC

- NPTEL Video Course: English Language and Literature. **Lecture 1 - The Renaissance An Introduction - Part-1 and 2** <https://www.digimat.in/nptel/courses/video/109106120/L01.html>
- NPTEL Video Course: English Language and Literature. **Lecture 13: The Age of Chaucer** <http://www.digimat.in/nptel/courses/video/109103020/L13.html>

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- NPTEL Video Course: English Language and Literature. **Lecture 15: Milton and his Times**
<http://www.digimat.in/nptel/courses/video/109103020/L15.html>

TED TALKS

- Anne Lamott·TED2017.
https://www.ted.com/talks/anne_lamott_12_truths_i_learned_from_life_and_writing.
- Joshua Prager·TEDActive 2015.
https://www.ted.com/talks/joshua_prager_wisdom_from_great_writers_on_every_year_of_life