

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

Title of the Course	Core Course BEN-DSC04: INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH																																						
Category of the Course	Year & Semester First Year & Second Semester	Credits 4	Subject Code																																				
Hours:	90																																						
Objectives:	To give an understanding of the evolution of Indian Writing in English and appreciate its literature from the period of western colonization to the twenty first century.																																						
Course Introduction (to be considered for internal assessment only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival of East India Company and the associated impact • History of Indian Writing in English • Introduction of English Studies in India (Macaulay's minutes) • Nativisation of English • The Postcolonial experience • Diaspora Writers 																																						
Course Components	<p>UNIT 1: Poetry</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">1.1. "Our Casuarina Tree"</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Toru Dutt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.2. "Coromandel Fishers"</td> <td>Sarojini Naidu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.3. " Night of the Scorpion"</td> <td>Nissim Ezekiel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.4. "Introduction"</td> <td>Kamala Dass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.5. "The Bus"</td> <td>Arun Kolatkar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.6. "The Frog and the Nightingale"</td> <td>Vikram Seth</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.7. "Her Garden"</td> <td>Meena Alexander</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1.8. "Narcissus"</td> <td>Easterine Kire</td> </tr> </table> <p>UNIT 2: Prose</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">2.1 "The Secret of Work"</td> <td style="width: 40%;">- Swami Vivekananda</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.2 "India and Greece" & "The Old Indian Theatre"</td> <td>- Jawaharlal Nehru (Selection from The Discovery of India)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.3. "Religion in a Changing World"</td> <td>- Dr.Radhakrisnan (Religion, Science and Culture)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.4. Passages from The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian-</td> <td>Nirad C.Chaudhuri (Picador Book of Modern Indian Literature – Amit Chaudhuri)</td> </tr> </table> <p>UNIT 3: Drama</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">3.1 Dance Like a Man</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Mahesh Dattani</td> </tr> </table> <p>UNIT 4: Short Story</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">4.1 "Under the Banyan Tree"</td> <td style="width: 40%;">R.K Narayan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.2 "The Night Train at Deoli"</td> <td>Ruskin Bond</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.3 " Unaccustomed Earth"</td> <td>Jhumpa Lahiri</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.4 "Laburnum for my Head"</td> <td>Temsula Ao</td> </tr> </table> <p>UNIT 5: Fiction</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">5.1 <i>Kanthapura</i></td> <td style="width: 40%;">Raja Rao</td> </tr> </table>			1.1. "Our Casuarina Tree"	Toru Dutt	1.2. "Coromandel Fishers"	Sarojini Naidu	1.3. " Night of the Scorpion"	Nissim Ezekiel	1.4. "Introduction"	Kamala Dass	1.5. "The Bus"	Arun Kolatkar	1.6. "The Frog and the Nightingale"	Vikram Seth	1.7. "Her Garden"	Meena Alexander	1.8. "Narcissus"	Easterine Kire	2.1 "The Secret of Work"	- Swami Vivekananda	2.2 "India and Greece" & "The Old Indian Theatre"	- Jawaharlal Nehru (Selection from The Discovery of India)	2.3. "Religion in a Changing World"	- Dr.Radhakrisnan (Religion, Science and Culture)	2.4. Passages from The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian-	Nirad C.Chaudhuri (Picador Book of Modern Indian Literature – Amit Chaudhuri)	3.1 Dance Like a Man	Mahesh Dattani	4.1 "Under the Banyan Tree"	R.K Narayan	4.2 "The Night Train at Deoli"	Ruskin Bond	4.3 " Unaccustomed Earth"	Jhumpa Lahiri	4.4 "Laburnum for my Head"	Temsula Ao	5.1 <i>Kanthapura</i>	Raja Rao
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Learning Outcomes:	By the end of the course, students will be able to <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ understand the evolution of Indian Writing in English➤ identify the influence of Classical Indian tradition and the impact of western colonisation on Indian English writers➤ analyse Indian ethos found in the representative texts➤ evaluate Indian English texts from the postcolonial perspective
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Prescribed Texts:

- i) Gokak V.K, *The Golden Treasury of Indo-Anglian Poetry*, Sahitya Akademi, 2006
- ii) Mehrotra, A.K. , *The Oxford India Anthology of Modern Indian Poets* , OUP,1993
- iii) Peeradina, Salem , *Contemporary Indian Poetry in English* ,Macmillan 1972
- iv) Nehru, Jawarhalal , *The Discovery of India*,1946
- v) Vivekananda, *Karma Yoga* , Advaita Ashrama Publication,2012
- vi) Radhakrishnan,*Religion, Science and Culture*, Orient Paperback
- vii) Chaudhuri, Amit, *Picador Book of Modern Indian Literature*. 2001
- viii) Davidar, David, *A Clutch of Indian Masterpieces*, Aleph Books, 2016
- ix) Ao Tamsula, *Laburnum for my Head* ,Penguin India, 2009
- x) Lahiri, Jhumpa,*Unaccustomed Earth*, Random House India,2008
- xi) *Collected Plays* - Mahesh Dattani , Penguin, India.

FURTHER READING (to be considered for internal assessment only)

- Henry Derozio - “The Harp of India”
- Sri Aurobindo - “The Tiger and the Deer”
- Mamta Kalia - “Tribute to Papa”
- Jeet Tayil - “The Penitent”
- Anjum Hasan -“A Place like Water”
- Arundhati Subramaniam - “Another Way”
- Amartya Sen – “Diaspora and the World” from *The Argumentative Indian*
- Arundhati Roy - “Capitalism :A Ghost Story” from *Broken Republic*
- Novels by Mulkraj Anand, R.K.Narayan , Manoghar Malgonkar,Anitha Desai, Shashi Deshpande , Arvind Adiga,

BOOKS & WEB SOURCES FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

- Iyengar, K. R. Srinivasa. *Indian Writing in English* . Revised edition, Sterling
- King, Bruce: *Modern Indian Poetry in English* . Oxford University Press, 2005.
- M. K., Naik. *A History of Indian English Literature*. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 2009.
- Mehrotra, A. K. *An Illustrated History of Indian Literature in English* . New Delhi:Permanent Black, 2003.
- Dharwadkar Vinay and A.K.Ramanujam,*The Oxford Anthology of Modern Indian Poetry*
- A.K.Mehrotra,*The Oxford India Anthology of Modern Indian Poets*
- Thieme John, *The Arnold Anthology of Postcolonial Literatures in English*
- Singh Umeed,Sharma Pankaj ed. *Reading a Novel:Kanthapura & An Exercise in Language Use*, Macmillan, 2016.
- Chaudhuri Amit, *Picador Book of Modern Indian Literature*, Picador
- <https://cafedissensus.com/2017/06/15/easterine-kires-six-poems/>
- <http://poetry.sangamhouse.org/2013/03/a-place-like-water-by-anjum-hasan/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHr4FIKIU6c>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CzCE2_LoAXg

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RECOMMENDED MOOC

- NPTEL: Indian Fiction in English <https://nptel.ac.in/courses/109106135/>

TEDX TALKS

- Indian Writing in English: Literary Texts – Introduction
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yYAMk6akP5I>
- Significance of Salman Rushdie's *The Midnight's Children*
https://www.ted.com/talks/iseult_gillespie_why_should_you_read_midnight_s_children
- Significance of Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*
https://www.ted.com/talks/laura_wright_why_should_you_read_the_god_of_small_things_by_arundhati_roy