

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

Title of the Course	<b>Core Course BEN-DSC05: BRITISH LITERATURE- PAPER III</b>		
Category of the Course	Year & Semester <b>Second Year &amp; Third Semester</b>	Credits <b>4</b>	Subject Code
<b>Hours:</b>	75		
<b>Objectives:</b>	To introduce a few seminal texts of mainstream writers to students and to enable them to understand and interpret literary works of the Victorian age and Twentieth Century.		
<b>Course Introduction</b>  ( to be considered for internal assessment only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial and Agrarian Revolution.</li> <li>• Humanitarian Movements</li> <li>• Victorian England.</li> <li>• British Society</li> <li>• Scientific Temper.</li> <li>• World Wars</li> </ul>		
<b>Course Components</b>	<p><b>UNIT 1: Poetry (Detailed)</b></p> <p>1.1 “Ulysses” Alfred Tennyson  1.2 “My Last Duchess” Robert Browning  1.3 “Dover Beach” Mathew Arnold  1.4 “Easter 1916” W.B. Yeats  1.5 “Journey of the Magi” T.S.Eliot  1.6 “God’s Grandeur” G.M. Hopkins  1.7 “The Unknown Citizen” W.H. Auden  1.8 “The Thought-Fox” Ted Hughes</p> <p><b>UNIT 2: Prose</b></p> <p>2.1 “An Apology for Idlers” R.L.Stevenson  2.2 “On Heroes, Hero Worship and the Heroic in History Lecture III-Shakespeare” Thomas Carlyle  2.3 Pickwick Papers : Chapters 1 &amp; 2 Charles Dickens  2.4 “You and the Atom Bomb” George Orwell</p> <p><b>UNIT 3: Drama</b></p> <p>3.1 Importance of Being Ernest Oscar Wilde</p> <p><b>UNIT 4: Short Story</b></p> <p>4.1 “The Dead” James Joyce  4.2 “A Haunted House” Virginia Woolf  4.3 “The Facts of Life” Somerset Maugham</p> <p><b>UNIT 5: Fiction</b></p> <p>5.1 Far from the Madding Crowd Thomas Hardy</p>		
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	At the end of this course students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and define basic terms and concepts which are needed for advanced courses in British literature</li> <li>• Write brief essays describing the distinct features of the important works of mainstream writers from Victorian Age and Twentieth Century</li> <li>• Analyze and interpret seminal poetry of the period with close reading</li> </ul>		

**Prescribed Texts:**

- i) The Norton Anthology of English Literature (Tenth Edition) (Vol. Package 1: Volumes A, B, C)  
Tenth Edition
- ii) Selected Essays: An Anthology of English Essays for Undergraduate Students. Orient Blackswan. 2013  
(Unit 2:2.1)

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- iii) The Winged Word edited by David Green, Macmillan, 2016 edition.
- iv) Six Ages of English Poetry edited by H. M. Williams, Blackie & Sons, Tenth impression–1976
- v) The Faber Book of Modern Verse. Edited by Michel Roberts. Revised by Peter Porter.

**FURTHER READING ( to be considered for internal assessment only)**

- Wilfred Owen – “Strange Meeting”
- Dante Rossetti -“The Blessed Damozel”
- Seamus Heaney -“Digging”
- Arnold – “Rugby Chapel”, “Scholar Gypsy”
- Charles Dickens - A Tale of Two Cities
- George Eliot – Silas Marner,
- Emily Bronte – Wuthering Heights
- Arthur Conan Doyle – Sherlock Holmes
- George Orwell - Nineteen Eighty-Four, Animal Farm

**BOOKS & WEB SOURCES FOR FURTHER REFERENCE**

- The Cambridge Companion to the Victorian Novel by Deirdre David. 2012.
- George Eliot and the British Empire by Nancy Henry. Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- George Bernard Shaw by G K Chesterton. Cosimo Classics, 2007.
- The Victorian Novel. Edited by Harold Bloom. Infobase Publishing, 2004.
- The Cambridge Companion to the Victorian Novel. Edited by Deirdre David, David Deirdre, Professor Emerita of English Deirdre David. 2001.
- The Oxford Handbook of the Victorian Novel. Edited by Lisa Rodensky. 2013.
- The Oxford Handbook of Victorian Poetry. Edited by Matthew Bevis. 2013.
- The Cambridge Companion to Victorian Poetry. Edited by Joseph Bristow. 2000.
- Tragedy in the Victorian Novel: Theory and Practice in the Novels of George Eliot, Thomas Hardy and Henry James by Jeannette King. Cambridge University Press, 1978.
- A Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry. Edited by Neil Roberts. Blackwell Publishers, 2003.
- The Cambridge Companion to the Twentieth-Century English Novel. Edited by Robert L. Caserio. 2009.
- 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/>
- Poems. <https://www.poemhunter.com/>
- Charlotte Bronte. The Great British Channel. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QyTeDZZBphI>.
- Tennyson. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dryb5Qnf6o>.
- “The Age of Reason and the Age of History.” Leiden University - Faculty of Humanities. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1YEr8ZiZhY>.
- Thomas Hardy. BBC. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_Jgx6ez9LYM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Jgx6ez9LYM).
- Charles Dickens. BBC. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=unKuZ2wINdw>.
- Hopkins. The Life and Poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins- Mr. Steve Ayers, Authenticum Lecture Series. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E32QgpEDEYo>.
- T.S.Eliot. BBC. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39CMZUyyw2s>.
- Ted Hughes. BBC. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCVciE4tmyl&t=64s>.
- Seamus Heaney. Irish History Documentaries. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJekPyV2rJM>.
- Robert Browning. My Last Duchess. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9h\\_csKEwxg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9h_csKEwxg).
- The Pre-Raphaelites: Victorian Revolutionaries (BBC Documentary) Part 1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkWONORqHZw>.

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- W.H.Auden. Yale Lectures. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcRhInARHFs&list=PLwqI96-LQIzKBJLuQReplttH9A7fp1DD&index=3>

**RECOMMENDED MOOC**

- NPTEL Video Course: English Language and Literature. **Lecture 18: The Victorians**  
<http://www.digimat.in/nptel/courses/video/109103020/L18.html>
- NPTEL Video Course: English Language and Literature. **Lecture 19: Modern Literature**  
<http://www.digimat.in/nptel/courses/video/109103020/L19.html>

**TEDX TALKS**

- The new victorians: the millennial revolution | Ernesto Sirotti |  
TEDxSacramento <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I3YbwLhOWLA>