



**Gyanmanjari**  
Innovative University

Course Syllabus  
Gyanmanjari Institute of Arts  
Semester-2 (MA)

**Subject:** English Prose and Essays - MATEN12507

**Type of course:** Major Core

**Prerequisite:** NA

**Rationale:**

The objective of this syllabus is to offer ESL and EAL students a comprehensive education in English Prose and Essays, covering theoretical aspects, practical skills, literary appreciation, and professional writing. The goal is to prepare students for diverse real-life communication scenarios and provide them with the essential tools for academic and professional success in the realm of prose and essay writing.

**Teaching and Examination Scheme:**

Teaching Scheme			Credits	Examination Marks					Total Marks
CI	T	P		C	Theory Marks		Practical Marks		
			ESE		MSE	V	P	ALA	
04	00	00	04	60	30	10	00	50	150

*Legends: CI-Classroom Instructions; T – Tutorial; P - Practical; C – Credit; SEE - Semester End Evaluation; MSE- Mid Semester Examination; V – Viva; CCE-Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation; ALA- Active Learning Activities.*



**Course Content:**

Sr. No	Course content	Hrs.	% Weightage
1	<b>The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy:</b> About Author, Plot Structure, About Characters, Social Hierarchy and Caste System, Colonial Influences, Family Dynamics, Symbols and Motifs, Narrative Structure, Forbidden Love and Social Taboos, Political Undertones, Postcolonial Critique, Nature and Landscape, Gender Roles and Feminism.	08	25 %
2	<b>The Wretched of the Earth by Franz Fanon:</b> Introduction to Fanon's Theory, The Pitfalls of National Consciousness, Violence as a Tool of Liberation, Psychological Effects of Colonization, The Role of Intellectuals, Case Studies in Colonized Nations, Cultural Alienation and Reclamation, The Impact of Colonial Violence on Women, Neocolonialism and Post-Independence Challenges, Fanon's Influence on Postcolonial Studies.	08	25 %
3	<b>The Death of the Author by Roland Barthes:</b> Shift of Focus, the reader's interpretation and interaction with the text, Multiplicity of Meanings, a text is open to multiple interpretations, which are influenced by the reader's own experiences, cultural background, and context, Death of the Author, The text becomes detached from the author's biography and is free to be interpreted in various ways	08	25 %
4	<b>Can the Subaltern Speak? by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak:</b> The Subaltern term borrows from Antonio Gramsci, marginalized and oppressed groups, Question of Representation, academic discourse and mainstream politics, Colonial Discourse, colonial power structures operate through discursive practices, inferior and voiceless, Subaltern Agency, agency of the subaltern within resistance movements and everyday practices of survival, Limitations of Representation, Intersectionality, Postcolonial Critique, Feminist Perspective, Ongoing Debate, discussions of globalization, neo liberalism, and social justice	08	25 %

**Continuous Assessment:**

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Sr. No	Active Learning Activities	Marks
1.	<p><b>Character Analysis Through Creative Expression:</b> Students have to conduct research on any character from “The God of Small Things” focusing on their background, personality traits, key relationships, and significant events involving them in the story and the upload the report on the GMIU web portal.</p>	10
2	<p><b>Symbolic Analysis:</b> Students have to Analyze each chosen symbol in detail, exploring its multiple layers of meaning and its function within the novel. Consider how the symbol contributes to the development of characters, themes, and the overall narrative structure and write it paper to upload on GMIU web portal.</p>	10
3	<p><b>Cultural and Historical Context:</b> Students have to Consider the cultural and historical context of the novel, particularly the social and political landscape of Kerala, India, during the time period in which the story is set (late 20th century). Discuss how cultural and historical factors influence the symbolism employed by Roy and shape its interpretation in the form of writing and upload on the GMIU web portal.</p>	10
4	<p><b>Formatting and Submission:</b> Students have to Write their analysis in essay format, adhering to academic writing conventions (MLA, APA, or Chicago style). Ensure clarity, coherence, and proper citation of sources. Submit their assignment on GMIU web portal.</p>	10
5	<p><b>Critical Engagement:</b> Students have Engage critically with secondary sources (literary criticism, scholarly articles, interviews with the author, etc.) to deepen their analysis and support their interpretations of the symbolism in "The God of Small Things to upload on GMIU web portal.</p>	10
Total		50



**Suggested Specification table with Marks (Theory):60**

Distribution of Theory Marks (Revised Bloom's Taxonomy)						
Level	Remembrance (R)	Understanding (U)	Application (A)	Analyze (N)	Evaluate (E)	Create (C)
Weightage	20%	40%	40%	00	00	00

Note: This specification table shall be treated as a general guideline for students and teachers. The actual distribution of marks in the question paper may vary slightly from above table.

**Course Outcome:**

After learning the course, the students should be able to:	
CO1	Examine the narrative structure of "The God of Small Things," including its use of language, imagery, and stylistic devices.
CO2	Articulate the key concepts and theories presented in "The Wretched of the Earth," including Fanon's analysis of colonialism, imperialism, and liberation struggles.
CO3	Articulate the concept of the shift in focus from the author to the reader in literary interpretation as proposed by Roland Barthes.
CO4	Define the term "subaltern" as it is understood in postcolonial theory, drawing on Antonio Gramsci's original concept.

**Instructional Method:**

The course delivery method will depend upon the requirement of content and the needs of students. The teacher, in addition to conventional teaching methods by black board, may also use any tools such as demonstration, role play, Quiz, brainstorming, MOOCs etc.

From the content 10% topics are suggested for flipped mode instruction.

Students will use supplementary resources such as online videos, NPTEL/SWAYAM videos, e-courses, Virtual Laboratory

The internal evaluation will be done on the basis of Active Learning Assignment

Practical/Viva examination will be conducted at the end of semester for evaluation of performance of students in the laboratory.



**Reference Books:**

- [1] **Can the Subaltern Speak?" by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak**
  - Publisher: Columbia University Press
  - Publication Date: December 1, 1994
- [2] **The Wretched of the Earth" by Frantz Fanon**
  - Publisher: Grove Press
  - Publication Date: December 1, 2004
- [3] **The Death of the Author" by Roland Barthes**
  - Publisher: Hill and Wang
  - Publication Date: November 15, 1977
- [4] **Postcolonialism: A Very Short Introduction" by Robert J.C. Young**
  - Publisher: Oxford University Press
  - Publication Date: July 11, 2003
- [5] **The Location of Culture" by Homi K. Bhabha**
  - Publisher: Routledge
  - Publication Date: October 7, 2004

