



UNDER GRADUATE SYLLABUS IN ENGLISH
Under the Semester System
NEHU, SHILLONG

ENGLISH HONOURS

1st Semester

Except in Paper-1 all Eight papers will consist of One Compulsory Reference to Context / Short answer question which will carry 20 marks.

PAPER I

100 Marks

POETRY I

Poetry I and II are intended to provide a comprehensive guide to English poetry, its development, its forms and movements, throughout the ages.

Beginning with Chaucer, the most notable poet of the Middle Ages, representative poets of the Renaissance in England have been selected. There is the sonnet, the most popular literary form of the Elizabethan age, and Milton's famous pastoral elegy which displays his grand style in contrast to Donne's playful handling of 'conceits'. The Metaphysical School of Poetry and is represented by Donne and Marvell.

The quest motif, taken up by poets in the future, has been effectively used by Vaughan in this period. Dryden and Pope epitomise the spirit of the Restoration and the Augustan period (or neo-classicism) in their masterful deployment of satire concerning social and moral issues. Gray's elegy, the best known of all English elegies, has been included.

1 Compulsory Reference to Context Question	4X5= 20
4 Compulsory Descriptive/ Essay Type Questions	4x20=80

Chaucer	: 'Selection from <i>The General Prologue</i> - The Friar'
Spenser	: 'Men Call You Fayre (From <i>Amoretti</i> , Sonnet No.79)'
Shakespeare	: 'Like as the Waves make towards the Pebbled Shore' (Sonnet No.60)
Donne	: 'The Relic'
Milton	: <i>Lycidas</i>
Marvell	: 'To His Coy Mistress'
Vaughan	: 'The World'
Pope	: 'Epistle to Miss Blount'
Gray	: 'Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard'

Suggested Reading:

Corns, T N(ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to English Poetry*. Cambridge: University Press, 1973

Duran, Angelica : *Concise Companion of Milton*, London, Blackwell, ,2006

Eliot, T.S.: *On Poetry and Poets*, London, Faber and Faber, 1957



Ford, Boris ed. *The Age of Chaucer and From Donne to Marvell in The New Pelican Guide to English Literature*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1999.

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3rd Semester

Paper III

100 Marks

DRAMA

The course traces the development of drama from the Elizabethan age to the post-war era of the twentieth century. It introduces drama as a literary as well as dramatic genre with due emphasis on dramatic elements (like plot, structure, etc). The course also aims



to give students an understanding of the major dramatic works with a sense of their historical and cultural context and the techniques that inform them.

1 Compulsory Reference to Context Question

4X5= 20

4 Descriptive/Essay type Questions

4x20=80

Christopher Marlowe	: <i>The Jew of Malta</i>
William Shakespeare	: <i>Twelfth Night</i>
John Webster	: <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>
William Congreve	: <i>Love for Love</i>
Bernard Shaw	: <i>Saint Joan</i>
John Osborne	: <i>Look Back in Anger</i>

Suggested Reading:

Branmuller, A.R. & M. Hattaway eds. *The Cambridge Companion to English Renaissance Drama*. Cambridge: Cambridge U P, 1990.

Brooks, C. & R.B.Heilman. *Understanding Drama*. N.Y: Holt, Reinhart & Winston, 2000. Indian edition

Leggatt, Alexander. *English Drama: Shakespeare to the Restoration, 1590-1660* (Longman Literature in English Series). London & New York: Longman, 1988.

Innes, Christopher. *Modern British Drama. 1890 – 1990*. Cambridge: Cambridge U P, 1992

McMillan, S. *Restoration and Eighteenth Century Comedy*. 2nd edition. NY & London: W.W. Norton & Co., 1997

Rabey, David Ian. *English Drama Since 1940*. (Longman Literature in English Series). London: Longman, 2003

Bevis, Richard W. *English Drama: Restoration & Eighteenth Century, 1660-1789*. (Longman Literature in English Series). London & New York: Longman, 1988

Casebook Series (Macmillan) on all prescribed authors/texts recommended

5th Semester

Paper V

100 Marks

POETRY II

Poetry II begins with a study of the major poets of the Romantic Movement in English poetry of the nineteenth century. Besides embodying the major preoccupations of Romantic poetry the poems are also meant to reflect the times. The Victorian period, with its troubled complexity, is represented by its most celebrated poets. Modern English poetry is represented by Hopkins 'the proto-modernist' nineteenth-century poet, Yeats a modern and uncompromising Romantic poet, Eliot the high priest of Modernism, and Auden the interpreter of social ills. The section ends with Ted Hughes, a poet laureate, in whose poetry can be found a synthesis of two separate traditions of twentieth-century verse.

1 Compulsory Reference to Context Question
4 Compulsory Descriptive/ Essay Type Questions

4X5= 20
4x20=80

Wordsworth	: 'Tintern Abbey'
Coleridge	: 'Kubla Khan'
Shelley	: 'Ode to the West Wind'
Keats	: 'Ode to Autumn'
Tennyson	: 'The Lady of Shalott'
Browning	: 'A Grammarian's Funeral'
Arnold	: 'Dover Beach'



Yeats : 'Sailing to Byzantium'
Eliot : 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock'
Auden : 'Spain 1937'
Dylan Thomas : 'Poem in October'

Suggested Reading:

Bate, Jonathan : Shakespeare and the English Romantic Imagination, Oxford, OUP, 1986
Bowra, C. M. The Romantic Imagination. New Delhi: OUP, 1999.
Bloom, H : *The Best Poems of the English Language*, New York, HarperCollins Publishers, 2004.
Culler, A. D. *The Poetry of Tennyson*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997.
Liu, Alan : *Wordsworth: the Sense of History* Stanford, Stanford Univ Press, 1989
Manning, Peter: *Reading Romantics: Texts and Contexts*, New York, Viking, 1990

5th Semester

PAPER VI

100 Marks

FICTION II

This Course is designed to acquaint students with important works of fiction of the second half of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century. The changes that came over the English novel in the first half of the twentieth century amounted to a radical redefinition of the nature and function of fiction. Some representative novels of the period have been included in this course so as to familiarize the students with the important trends. Special credit will be given to evidence of background reading in examination answers.

1 Compulsory Short Answer Question
4 Descriptive/Essay type Questions

4X5= 20

4x20=80

George Eliot : *Silas Marner*
Thomas Hardy : *The Mayor of Casterbridge*
Joseph Conrad : *Lord Jim*
D.H. Lawrence : *Sons and Lovers*
Virginia Woolf : *To The Lighthouse*

Suggested Reading:

1. Ford, Boris. ed *The New Pelican Guide to English Literature: From Dickens to Hardy*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1999.
2. Friedman, Alan. *The Turn of the Novel*. London: OUP, 1966.
3. Stevenson, Randall. *Modernist Fiction: An Introduction*. Hertfordshire: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1992.
4. Fraser, G.S. *The Modern Writer and His World*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1953.

