

## **Introduction to Literary Theory (BEL E 503)**

### **Course Outcomes**

After completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- enhance knowledge about the constructed ideas of the literary material, and a refined sense of theory
- develop an ability to look beyond the obvious and rewrite and reconstruct texts
- inquire into the nature and functions of literature and literary theory

### **Unit I**

New Criticism and Formalism

### **Unit II**

Structuralism

### **Unit III**

Post-Structuralism and Deconstruction

### **Unit IV**

Feminism

### **Unit V**

Postcolonialism

### **Suggested Topics**

East and West, Orientalism, 20th Century Theories, Postmodernism

### **References**

- Terry Eagleton, *Literary Theory: An Introduction* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2008).
- Peter Barry, *Beginning Theory* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2002).

## Indian Classical Literature (BEL E-601)

### Course Outcomes

After the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Study significant sections of Vyasa's Mahabharata in order to determine conceptualisation and representation of class, caste, gender, and disability in the context of the epic battle over rights and righteousness.
- Study Sanskrit drama, a Nataka, and a Prakarna, to appreciate its debts to Natyashastra in their formal aspects.
- Explore the central concerns of Sanskrit drama in relation to notions of the ideal ruler, lover, friend, and spouse; the voices of the poor and the marginalised, the position of women in different social strata, the subversive use of humour, and the performative aspects of Sanskrit theatre.
- Introduce students to selections elucidating Sanskrit poetics; the Rasa theory from Natyashastra, to help students appreciate the inter-connections between theory and practice in theatre; a representation of disability in theatre, examined through the portrayal of Vidushaka.

### Unit I

Vyasa, selections from *The Mahabharata*, from *The Mahabharata of Krishna-Dwaipayana Vyasa*, trans. K. M. Ganguli (Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 2012).

- 'The Dicing' and 'Sequel to Dicing', Book 2, Sabha Parva Section XLVI-LXXII
- 'The Temptation of Karna', Book 5, Udyog Parva, Section CXL-CXLVI.
- 'Dhritrashtra and Gandhari's Wrath', Book 11, Section XI-XV.

### Unit II

Kalidasa *Abhijnana Shakuntalam*, tr. Chandra Rajan, in *Kalidasa: The Loom of Time* (New Delhi: Penguin, 1989).

### Unit III

Sudraka *Mrcchakatika*, tr. M.R. Kale (New Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas, 1962).

## **Unit-IV**

Bhasa *Karnabharam* or *The Anguish of Karna* Thirteen Plays of Bhasa, tr. A.C.Woolner and Lakshman Swarup (Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas, 1985)

## **References**

- Selections from *Natyasastra*, (i) Chapter 6, 'The Sentiments'; (ii) Chapter 20, 'Ten Kinds of Play'; trans. Manomohan Ghosh (Calcutta: Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1951) pp.105-17; 355-74.

- Iravati Karve, 'Draupadi', in *Yuganta: The End of an Epoch* (Hyderabad: Disha, 1991) pp. 79–105.
- J.A.B. Van Buitenen, 'Dharma and Moksa', in Roy W. Perrett, ed., *Indian Philosophy, vol. V, Theory of Value: A Collection of Readings* (New York: Garland, 2000) pp. 33–40.
- Edwin Gerow et al, 'Indian Poetics' in *The Literatures of India: An Introduction*, ed. Edward. C. Dimock et al, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1974. Pp 115-143