

Department of Comparative Literature
JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
Extra Departmental Courses offered

UG I, SEMESTER 1

ED 1.5: Narrative – This course offers students an overview of the literary genre from a comparative perspective, including texts from Indian and non-Indian contexts, in order to introduce students to a comparative methodology of reading. Texts for this course include *mahakavya*, epic, novels, and other narratives from Indian and non-Indian traditions.

ED 1.6: Drama – This course offers students an overview of the literary genre from a comparative perspective, including texts from Indian and non-Indian contexts, in order to introduce students to a comparative methodology of reading. The course integrates theory, criticism, and performance, with an emphasis on lateral perspectives in the study of drama. Students are expected to relate individual plays to the conventions of genre and to other contexts, such as the literature of a nation, movement or period, and the other works of a particular author or group of authors. Students would engage in a focused discussion of drama from short plays to longer works and respond articulately to dramatic works, both orally and in writing.

- Bharata's *Natyasastra*/ Aristotle's *Poetics* (selections)
- Kalidasa/ Bhasa/ Sudraka/ Sophocles/ Aeschylus/ Euripedes/ Aristophanes/ Plautus/ Terence/ Seneca / Calderon (2 plays)
- Girish Karnad/ Vijay Tendulkar/ Habib Tanvir/ Badal Sircar/ Mohan Rakesh/ Bhisham Sahni/ Arun Mukherjee/ Chandrashekhar Kambar/ Dileep Jhaveri/ G. P. Deshpande/ Gieve Patel/ Indira Parthasarathy/ Manjula Padmanabhan/ Manoj Mitra (1 play)
- Ionesco/ Beckett/ Genet/ Bond/ Weiss / Chekhov/ Pirandello/ O'Neill/ Monique Mojica/ Daniel David Moses/ Drew Hayden Taylor/ Tomson Highway/ Soyinka/ Ibsen/ Strindberg/ Shaw/ Lorca/ Pinter/ Stoppard/ Brecht/Hellman/ Albee (1 play)
- Folk theatre/ Street plays

UG I, SEMESTER 2

ED 2.5: Poetry – This course offers students an overview of the literary genre from a comparative perspective, including texts from Indian and non-Indian contexts, in order to introduce students to a comparative methodology of reading. Texts read as part of this course include Vedic hymns, ancient Greek poetry, medieval Western and Indian poems, and modern poems from the Western and non-Western traditions.

UG II, SEMESTER 3

ED 3.3: Translation I (with English) – This course, taught jointly by teachers from the departments of Comparative Literature and English, introduces students to the principles and practice of translation, keeping in mind the Indian context. Components include basic theories of translation, history of translation, study of texts in different translations and exercises in translating from Bangla to English. The medium of instruction is English and students are expected to write their answers in English.

UG II, SEMESTER 4

ED 4.4: Translation II (with Bengali) – This course, taught jointly by teachers from the departments of Comparative Literature and Bengali, introduces students to the principles and practice of translation, keeping in mind the Indian, and more specifically the Bengali, context. It addresses the problems of translation with special reference to Indian languages, and tries to examine the principles and practices of translation between other Indian languages and Bangla/English. Components include basic theories of translation, history of translation, study of texts in different translations and exercises in translating from English to Bangla. The medium of instruction is Bangla and students are expected to write their answers in Bangla.

ED 4.5: Comparative Cultural Studies – This is an introductory course in cultural studies, as approached from a comparative perspective. A wide range of cultural texts from Indian and non-Indian contexts are studied with a view to critically examining the divides that exist between

“high” and “low”, “literature” and “politics”, “private” and “public”, “tradition” and “modernity” among others.