Semester II (Soft Core 1)

ENS 454: ORIENTALISM AND LITERARY STUDIES

- Credits: 4 (3 Lectures and 1 Tutorial per Week)
- Examination: End-semester examination: 70 Marks; Internal Assessment: 30 Marks)
- Internal Assessment: Class presentation, Monthly Test, Seminar—separately or in combination)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

This course seeks to introduce students to:

- Orientalism as a critical discourse and its bearings on Indian history and culture from 18th through to 21 century.
- To reassess the conventional ways in which we have been studying Indian culture the Indian literary texts.
- To problematize the current dominant academic assumptions regarding culture, colonialism and colonial experience.
- To bring together orientalism and postcolonialism and enable students to become aware of the fact that they are the objects of imperial gaze
- Encourage students to find out how other erstwhile colonial cultures are faring in this regard.

COURSE OUTCOME:

- The student will acquire a broad knowledge of the main arguments of orientalism as a critical discourse and be able to apply it in negotiating Indian literary texts.
- The students will comprehend the cultural problems of the colonial period and understand them historically. The student will understand how these cultural problems are generally set as an agenda by the imperial interests.
- The students will be able to reinterpret the main texts of the Indian cultural discourse in terms of orientalism and postcolonialism
- Students will learn to compare their postcolonial and orientalist narrations with that of other cultures in similar situations (middle and far east, China etc)
- From observations made in the case of individual texts, students will learn to synthesize a broader critical discourse that will help them as a critical tool.
- Students will evaluate cultural/literary passages from their cultures and see how best they can respond to them.

Chair Person
BOS in English (UG/PG)
Mangalore University
Mangala Gangotri - 574 199

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
MANGALORE UNIVERSITY
New CBCS MA SYLLABUS
(Passed in 20, January 2020 BoS, effective from 2020)

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Section A: Theory

1. De Saussure:
    a. Part One: General Principles—Chapter 1: Nature of Linguistic Sign in de Saussure *Course in General Linguistics*, ed. Perry Meisel *et.al.*, Columbia University Press, New York, 2011.
    b. Part Two: Chapter Three—Identities, Realities, Values.

2. An Introduction to Critical Discourse Analysis: The concept of Discourse, Power and the Subject (Chapters 1-3, Alec McHoul and Wendy Grace, *A Foucault Primer: Discourse, Power and the Subject* or any other publication dealing with Foucault on the concepts of Discourse, Power and the Subject)

3. Edward Said: Chapter 1, "The Scope of Orientalism" in Said, Edward., *Orientalism*, Vintage Books, New York, 1979

Section B: Orientalist Discourse

4. British Romantic poetry and Orientalism: Orientalist elements in Romantic poetry such as antiquity, origin, the foreign, strange, the other, exotic, mysterious, mystical, spiritual, romance, the primitive, the savage, monstrous, the grotesque, the awesome, terrible, the sublime, the sensual, the erotic, and the feminine

5. Edward Said: the following chapters from his *Culture and Imperialism*, Vintage Books, New York, 1994 :

    a. "Empire Geography and Culture"
    b. "Two Visions in Heart of Darkness"
    c. "Jane Austen and Empire,"

Parimita

Chair Person
BOS in English (UG/PG)
Mangalore University