MANGALORE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Semester 1 (Soft Core 2)

ENS 405: READING WOMEN WRITING

- Soft Core 4 credits (3 lectures and 1 tutorial)
- End semester examination 70 marks
- Internal Assessment 30 marks - Monthly Tests/ Assignments/ Class Reports

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. To sensitize students to gender issues
2. To introduce critical terminology for a gendered analysis of texts
3. To enable a discursive analysis of some Indian women's texts

COURSE OUTCOME:

The student will have achieved the following by the end of the semester:

- Familiarity with gender concepts and its reflection in literature
- Acquaintance with some important Indian women writers
- Ability to analyze women's texts with a critical and gendered perspective.

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Section A: Feminist Criticism

1. Masculinity, Femininity and gender roles - differentials in socialization - patriarchy and matriarchy - female division and bonding

2. Literature, Canon and Genre - Images of Women and Stereotyping - Feminist Literary Criticism - Re-reading subversive texts

Section B: Women's Autobiographies and Fiction

Esther David *The Walled City*

Shashi Deshpande *That Long Silence*

Anita Nair *Ladies' Coupe*

Vaidehi's*Gulabi Talkies*

Bama *Karukku*

References:

Virginia Woolf *A Room of One's Own*
Simone de Beauvoir *The Second Sex*
Betty Friedan *The Feminine Mystique*
Kate Millet *Sexual Politics*
Elaine Showalter "Feminist Criticism in the Wilderness"
K K Ruthven *Feminist Literary Studies*
Alice Walker "In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens"
Barbara Christian *Black Feminist Criticism*
Tillie Olsen *Silences*
Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar*Madwoman in the Attic*;
---. *No Man's Land* 3 vols
VrindaNabar*Caste as Woman*
Dale Spender *Man-made Language*
Maggie Humm *Practising Feminist Criticism*