

MA in Comparative Literature

(Revised and introduced from 2018)

Semester I

CL/MA Core 1: Introducing Literary Studies, Concepts and Events

Objective: The course will introduce comparative literary studies and certain concepts and events important to understand literary or cultural texts. The outline of the course will be as follows. Apart from the prescribed texts, there will be special lectures on other aspects of literature and linguistics.

Outcome

By the end of this section the learner will be able to identify the following Concepts and tools of Comparative Literature:

Literature, Comparative Literature, National Literature, General Literature, History, World Literature, Sahitya, Genology, Thematology, Historiography, Literary History, Literary Periodization, *itihās*, denotation, connotation, extrinsic, intrinsic, synchrony, diachrony, orality, performance, reading.

Ten (10) concepts will be discussed.

Suggested Readings:

Sisir Kumar Das, 'Prologue', *A History of Indian Literature (1800-1910), Western Impact: Indian Response*.

David Damrosch, Natalie Melas, & Mbongiseni Buthelezi, (Eds). *The Princeton Sourcebook in Comparative Literature*.

Sayeed, S.A: 'Being seen through Literature' (Visva Bharati Quarterly)

Dakshinaranjan Mitra Majumder's introduction to *Cchelebhulano Cchara*

Rabindranath Thakur's introduction to *Thakumar Jhuli*, and *Sahajpath*

M.H. Abrams, *A Glossary of Literary Terms*

Events: This section will discuss some of the most important literary and extra-literary events within the Comparative Literary framework.

Suggested Readings:

Sisir Kumar Das. 'Prologue', *A History of Indian Literature (1800-1910), Western Impact: Indian Response*.

CL/MA/ Core 2: Language Course I (Cross-listed)

Objective:

The objective of this course is to introduce compulsory language learning as part of skill development. The students will have option of selecting **ONE** Indian or non-Indian language from the pool of options offered to that particular batch. The syllabus and reading list for this course will be made available to the students by the respective language department. Please refer to Appendix 1 for a pool of syllabi.

Outcome:

By the end of this course the student will be able to develop language skill. This is a skill enhancement course.

CL/MA/ Core 3: Comparative Literature Methodology I

Objective : The objective of this course is to introduce the methodological tools of Comparative Literature and to enable students to read ‘text/s’ through a detailed study of a particular mode, for instance lyric or narrative.

Outcome:

By the end of this course the learner will be able to identify the various modes of literary production and Comparative Literature methodology.

Essays (Max: 5)

Das, Sisir Kumar. ‘The Idea of Literary History’.

Dev, Amiya. ‘Literary History from Below.’ In *Comparative Literature: Theory and Practice*. Ed. Amiya Dev and Sisir Kumar Das.

Dev, Amiya. ‘Writing Indian Literary History’

Emeneau, M.B. ‘India as a Linguistic Area’.

Guillen, Caludio. *Challenges of Comparative Literature* (Selections)

Majumdar, Swapan. *Comparative Literature, Indian Dimensions*. (Selections)

Majumdar, Swapan. ‘Thematology in the Indian Context’

Notz-Bogumil, Sieghild. ‘Comparative Literature: Methodology and Challenges in Europe with Special Reference to the French and German Contexts’. In *Quest of a Discipline: New Academic Directions for Comparative Literature*, ed. Rizio Yohannan Raj.

Pollock, Sheldon. *Literary Cultures in History*. (Introduction)

Lyrics (Max: 15)

Poets/Collections will be selected from the following pool:

Sappho, Pindar, Horace, Vedic Hymns, Upanishads, Theragatha, Therigatha, Gatha-sat-sai, Sanskrit court poetry, Catullus, Spenser, Petrarch, Ronsard, Wyatt, Milton, Medieval Indian Bhakti and Sufi lyrics, Sor Juana, Sidney, Donne, Browning, Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, Keats, Subramania Bharati, Rabindranath Thakur, Mohammad Iqbal, Cristina Rosetti, Hopkins, Rilke, Yeats, Nicolas Guillén, Ceaser Vallejo, Pablo Neruda

Prose Narrative (Max: 2-4)

Mukhopadhyay, Ramkumar. Bharatbarsher Godyakaatha (Mitra and Ghosh) (Selections)

Hutum pyanchar Naksa, Tekchand Thakur, Ruswa, Troilokyonath Mukhopadhyay, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, Rajshekhar Basu, Rabindranath, Hajari Prasad Dwivedi, Phaniswarnath Renu, Premchand, Fakirmohan Senapati, Chandu Menon, Potheri Kunhambu, C.V Raman Pillai, R.A.Krishnamurthy (Kalki), Rashid Jahan, Ismat Chughtai, Qurratulain Hyder, Ashapura Devi, Mahasweta Devi, Nabaneeta Dev Sen, Ambai, Sara Joseph, Sharan Kumar Limbale, Bama, Indira Goswami, Cervantes, Flaubert, Chekov, Maupassant, Tolstoy, Gorky, Dostoyevsky, Alejo Carpentier, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Juan Rulfo, Jorge Louis Borges, Calvino, Orhan Pamuk, Sharadindu Bandyopadhyay, Kafka, Samsul Haque, Bhairappa

Suggested Readings:

Behdad, Ali & Thomas, Dominic eds. *A Companion to Comparative Literature*.

Chakraborty Dasgupta, Subha. Ed. *Genealogy*.

Chanda, Ipshita. Ed. *Historiography*.

Bandyopadhyay, Sibaji. Ed. *Thematology*.

Fokkema, Douwe. *Issues in General and Comparative Literature*.

Praver, S.S. *Comparative Literary Studies: An Introduction*.

Weisstein, Ulrich. *Comparative Literature and Literary Theory: Survey and Introduction*. Trans. William Riggan.

Lefevere, Andre. *Essays in Comparative Literature*

CL/MA/ Core 4: Approaches to Literature I

Objective:

The objective of this course is to introduce certain theoretical approaches to literature as propagated in India and outside. The first section will deal with theoretical essays, while the second section will use literary texts to explain the theoretical approaches.

Outcome:

By the end of this course the learner will be able to explain the interface to literary theories and Comparative Literature in India and outside.

SECTION A: Any one of the following clusters will be offered:

Ancient Indian Literary Theory

Structuralism and Post-structuralism – Discourse Analysis

Reader Response Theory – Theory of Rasa – Theory of Dhvani

Essay: (Max 5)

Bharata: *Natyasastra* (Selections)

Dey, S.K. *History of Sanskrit Poetics* (Selections)

Warder, A.K. *Indian Kavya Literature* (Selections)

Kane, P.V. *History of Sanskrit Poetics* (Selections)

Saussure, Ferdinand de. *A Course in General Linguistics* (Selection)

Benjamin, Walter. ‘The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction’, ‘The Storyteller’

Barthes, Roland. ‘Death of the Author’

Foucault, Michel. ‘What is an Author’

SECTION B: Poems and Plays will be chosen from the following list:

Poems (6) and Plays (2)

Akam and Puram poems, Sudraka, Kalidasa, Bhavabhuti, Shakespeare, Moliere, Schiller, Lessing, Racine, Corneille, Surdas, Ramprasad, Ghalib, Baudelaire, Garcia Lorca, Mallarmé, Rilke, Rabindranath Thakur, Satyendranath Datta, Sudhindranath Datta, Nirala, Mahadevi Verma, Modern Indian Lyrics, Girish Karnad, Badal Sircar, Namdeo Dhasal, Pablo Neruda, A.K. Ramanujan, Arun Kolatkar, Ratan Thiyam, Mardhekar, Dakxin Bajarange Chhara, Dharamveer Bharati, Mohan Rakesh, Sukumar Ray, Utpal Dutta, Alfred Jarry, Beckett, Brecht, Pirandello, Ionesco, Soyinka, Tanti Brothers

Suggested Readings:

Barthes, Roland: *A Roland Barthes Reader*

Bennett, Tony: *Formalism and Marxism*.

Derrida, Jacques. ‘Structure, Sign and Play’

Dey, S.K. *History of Sanskrit Poetics*

Eagleton, Terry. *Literary Theory: An Introduction*.

Laclau, Ernesto. *Ideology and Politics in Marxist Theory*.

Mukherjee, Ramaranjan. *Ancient Indian Literary Criticism*

Norris, Christopher. *Deconstruction: Theory and Practice*.

Young, Robert. *Untying the Text: A Post-Structuralist Reader*.

Adhuna. Published by Sahitya Akademi
Mukhopadhyay, Ramkumar. *Bharatbarsher Kavya Kaatha*.
Dharwadkar & Ramanujan. *The Oxford Anthology of Modern Indian Poetry*

Semester II

CL/MA/ Core 5: Comparative Literature Methodology II

Objective:

The objective of this course is to introduce the following concepts:

Reception, Contact in the Indian/ Non-Indian Context.

Outcome:

The learner will be able to explain the various textual negotiations through theory of reception.

SECTION A: Theories of Reception

Essays (Max: 5)

Jauss, H.R. 'Literary History as a Challenge to Literary Theory'

Praver, S.S. 'Reception and Communication'

Das, S. K. *Mad Lover* (Selections), *East West Encounter* (Selections)

Holub, Robert C. 'The Change in Paradigm and its Socio-Historical Function'

Thakur, Rabindranath. *Prachin Sahitya* (Selection)

Majumder, Swapan. 'Vidyayotanik Shakespeare' (JJCL 20-21), 'Reception Aesthetics in a Colonial Context'

Majumder, Swapan. *Comparative Literature: Indian Dimensions*. (Selection)

SECTION B: Reception of a particular author/text in the Indian/non-Indian context.

For example, Reception of Rabindranath/ Nirala / Najrul Islam/ Shakespeare /Kalidasa

Reception of the Rama katha

Reception of *Odyssey*

Reception of Epic/*Mahakavya* Tradition for e.g. *The Iliad/ The Mahabharata*

Suggested Readings:

Durišin, Dionýz. *Sources and Systematics of Comparative Literature*. Trans. Peter Tkác. Bratislava. Selections

Durišin, Dionýz. *Theory of Literary Comparatistics*. Trans. Jessie Kocmanová.

Richman, Paula. *Many Ramayanas: The Diversity of a Narrative Tradition in South Asia*

Chanda, Ipshita. *Reception of the Received*

Majumder, Swapan. *Comparative Literature: Indian Dimensions*
Iser, Wolfgang. *The Act of Reading*

CL/MA/ Core 6: Language Course II (Cross-listed)

Language course II will be continuation of the Language Course I.

CL/MA Core 7: Approaches to Literature II

Objective:

The objective of this course is to introduce the following clusters of literary theory:

Discourse, Gender, Marxism, Psychoanalysis, Aesthetics ‘from below’ (for instance, Dalit Aesthetics, Indigenous Contexts etc.)

Outcome:

The learner will be able to describe the various interfaces of literary theories and their contact zones across several cultures in India and beyond.

SECTION A: Any one of the following clusters will be offered.

Discourse + Gender + Marxism

Discourse + Gender+ Psychoanalysis

Aesthetics ‘from below’ (for instance, Dalit Aesthetics, Indigenous Contexts etc.)

Essays: (Max 5)

Geetha, V. *Gender* (Selection)

Tharu, Susie & Lalitha, K. *Women’s Writing in India*. (Introduction)

Sangari, Kumkum. *Politics of the Possible* (Selections)

Thorat, Sukhadeo. ‘Literacy and Education Levels’

Devy, Ganesh. ‘A Nomad Called Thief’.

Smith, Linda Tuhiwai. ‘Imperialism, History Writing and Theory’

Montoro, Carmen Celiz. ‘Defying Otherness: Chicano Geopolitical, Literary and Historical Imprints’

Wa Thiongo, Ngugi. ‘The Language of African Theatre’

Heiss, Anita. ‘Aboriginal Identity and its Effects on Writing’

Lodge, David and Wood, Nigel eds. *Modern Criticism and Theory* (Selections)

Ellmann, Maud ed. *Psychoanalytic Literary Criticism* (Selections)

Kaplan, Cora. 'Opening Pandora's Box - Subjectivity, Class and Sexuality in Socialist Feminist Criticism' in eds. Gayle Greene & Coppelia Kahn: *Making a Difference: Feminist Literary Criticism*.

Kristeva, Julia. 'Motherhood According to Bellini' / 'Women's Time'

SECTION B: Short Stories (3) and Novels/Personal Narratives (2) will be chosen from the following list of authors:

Fakirmohan Senapati, Chandu Menon, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, Rabindranath, Pudumaipittan, Mouni, Jyotirmoyi Devi, Manik Bandyopadhyay, Premchand, Faniswarnath Renu, Ismat Chughtai, Qurutulin Haider, Basheer, Ambai, Rigoberta Menchu, Domitila Barrios, Bama, Baby Kamble, Urmila Pawar, Pratibha Roy, Manoranjan Byapari, U.R Ananthamurthy, Buchi Emecheta, Intizar Hussain, Ali Cobby Eckerman, D.O. Fagunwa, Witi Ihimaera, Nabaneeta Dev Sen, Sarah Joseph, Mahasweta Devi, Kalpana Gagdekar, Lee Maracle, Raghunath Murmu, Kanji Bhai Patel, Indira Goswami, Rosario Castellanos, Isabel Allende, Gioconda Belli, Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Mariamma Ba, Amos Tutuola.

Suggested Readings:

Bakhtin, M. 'Discourse in the Novel'

Depadquale, Paul; Eigenbrod, Renate & Larocque, Emma, eds. *Across Cultures/ Across Borders*.
Eagleton, Terry. *Marxism and Literary Criticism*.

Grosz, Elizabeth. *Volatile Bodies: Toward a Corporeal Feminism*. (Selections)

Panjabi, Kavita and Chakravarty, Paromita eds. *Women Contesting Culture: Changing Frames of Gender Politics in India*

Limbale, Sharankumar. *Towards an Aesthetic of Dalit Literature*.

Rose, Jacqueline. *The Case of Peter Pan*. (Selections).

Spivak, G.C. 'Feminism and Critical Theory'.

Williams, Raymond. *Marxism and Literature*.

G.N. Devy Reader.

Wa Thiongo, Ngugi. *Decolonizing the Mind*.

Milloy, John. S. *A National Crime*.

Thorat, Sukhadeo. *Dalits in India*.

Kahani Meri Tumhari.

Bottomore, T. *Dictionary of Marxist Thought*

Sangari & Vaid. *Recasting Women*

Mohanty, C. T. *Under the Western Eye*

McCann & Kim. *Feminist Theory Reader*

Dorfman & Mattelart. *How to Read Donald Duck*

We Were Making History published by Stree Shakti Sangathana

CL/MA Core 8: Translation Studies

Objective:

The objective of this course is to identify Translation Studies within the rubric of Comparative Literature methodology.

Outcome:

The learner will be able to engage with various languages and subsequently collaborate with Source and Target language experts to translate important text/s from and into various Indian and non-Indian languages. This is also a skill enhancement course.

Section I: Introduction

Brief history of Translation Studies

Scope of Translation Studies

Basic concepts associated with Translation Studies (e.g: author, translator, original text, target text, source language, target language, equivalence, invisibility, adaptation, transcreation, translatability etc.)

Some major standpoints on theories of translation

Section II: Essays (8-10)

To be chosen from the following pool:

Dryden, John: 'On Translation'

Benjamin, Walter: 'The Task of the Translator'

Jakobson, Roman: 'On Linguistic Aspects of Translation'

Schleiermacher, Friedrich: 'On the Different Methods of Translating'

Mukherjee, Sujit: *Translation as Discovery* (Selection)

Goethe: 'Three Types of Translation'

Paz, Octavio: 'Translation: Literature and Literality'

Niranjana, Tejaswini: *Siting Translation* (Selections)

Venuti, Lawrence: *Translator's Invisibility* (Selections)

Bassnett, Susan: *Translation Studies* (Selections)

Asaduddin M.: 'Translation and Indian Literature: Some Reflections'

Lefevere, Andre. *Translation, Rewriting and the Manipulation of Literary Fame* (Selections)

Lefevere, Andre. 'The 'Third-World' Translated'

Singh, Udaya Narayana. *Translation as Growth* (Selections)

Suggested Readings:

Weissbort, Daniel and Eysteinnsson, Astradur. Eds. *Translation – Theory and Practice: A Historical Reader*
Munday, Jeremy. *Introducing Translation Studies*
Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies edited by Mona Baker and Gabriela Saldanha
Dasgupta, Sayantan. ‘Translating India Today: Local cultures, global ambitions and colonial hangovers’ In P. Basu, & I. Chanda (Eds.), *Locating Cultural Change: Theory Method Process*.
Kotahri Rita. ‘Studying Cultural Change?’
Lakshmi Holmstrom’s Introduction to Bama’s *Karukku*
G.C. Spivak’s Introduction to Mahasweta Devi *Imaginary Maps*
Alladi Uma and M.Sridhar’s Introduction to *Ayoni*.
T Vijay Kumar’s Introduction to *Kanyashulkam*.
Ipshta Chanda’s Introduction to *Dhorai Charit Manas* and to *Two Plays by Sukumar Ray*.
Lefevere, Andre. *Essays in Comparative Literature*

Semester III

CL/MA/Core 9: Aesthetics and Poetics

Objective:

The objective of this course is to trace the different trajectories of aesthetics and poetics, their intersections and contradictions. Keeping the Classical Indian and European traditions in focus, the course will discuss some of the following clusters. Four clusters will be offered each semester.

Outcome:

By the end of this course the learner will be able to

- identify the various schools of ‘aesthetics’ in India and beyond.
- Describe several concepts like:
Aesthetics and *Nandantatva*
Art and *Kavya*
Literature and *Sahitya*
Drama and *Drisyakavya*
Imitation and *Anukarana*
Sublime and *Ananda*

Authors/texts will be selected from the following list:

Plato: *Ion, Republic, Dialogue* (Selections)

Aristotle: *Poetics* (Selections)
Horace: *Ars Poetica* (Selections)
Longinus: 'On the Sublime'
Frederick Schiller: *Aesthetical and Philosophical Essays* (Selections)
Wordsworth: Preface to *Lyrical Ballads*
Coleridge: *Biographia Literaria* (selections)
Hegel: *Hegel's Lectures on Aesthetics* (selections)
Kant: *The Critique of Judgement* (selections)
Baudelaire: Preface to *Les Fleur du mal*
Bharata: *Natyasastra*
Bhamaha: *Kavyalamkara*
Dandin: *Kavyadarsha*
Anandavardhana: *Dhvanyaloka*
Rajshekhara: *Kavyamimansha*
Abhinabagupta: *Abhinavabharati, Dhvanyalok Locana*

Number of essays to be taught every year: 8-10

Suggested Readings:

Classical Literary Criticism (Oxford)
Modern Literary Criticism
Gupta, Atul. *Kavya Jijñasa*
Mukherjee, Ramaranjan. *Ancient Indian Literary Criticism*
Dey, S.K. *History of Sanskrit Poetics*
Kane, P.V. *History of Sanskrit Poetics*
Warder, A.K. *Indian Kavya Literature*

CL/MA/ Core 10: Language Course III

Language Course III will be the continuation of the Language Course II.

CL/MA/Core 11: Journey of Comparative Literature

Objective:

The objective of this course is to trace the journey of Comparative Literature, its core theories, and debates centering the discipline. It will also discuss terms like Comparative Indian Literature, Indian Comparative Literature etc. Topics/ Essays will be selected from the following list:

Goethe's idea of World Literature
Mathew Arnolds's idea of Comparative Literature
La Littérature comparee – the French Hour
German and American hour

Possnett's *Comparative Literature*
Rabindranath's 'Visvasahitya'
Buddhadev Basu's 'Comparative Literature in India'
ACLA reports
Various schools of CL
CL and Other disciplines

Outcome:

By the end of this course the learner will be able to understand the various hours of Comparative Literature and its diverse ramifications in the Global scenario.

Suggested Readings:

Guillen, Claudio. *Challenges of Comparative Literature*
Berheimer, Charles. *Comparative Literature in the Age of Muliculturalism*
Saussy, Haun. *Comparative Literature in the Age of Globalizaion*
Weisstein, Ulrich. *Comparative Literature*
Spivak, Gayatri. *Death of a Discipline*
Damnrosch, David. *What is World Literature*
Bassnett, Susan. *Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction*
Dev & Das. *Comparative Literature: Theory and Practice*
Dev, Amiya. *The Idea of Comparative Literature*
George, K.M. *Comparative Indian Literature*
Das, S.K. *A History of Indian Literature*
Papers Mainly Comparative compiled by Swapan Majumder
Thakur, Rabindranath. *Sahitya*

CL/MA/ Option 1 (Cross-listed)

In this semester a student can choose **ONE** optional course from the options available in that particular semester.

Semester IV

CL/MA/ Core 12: Language Course IV (Cross-listed)

Language course IV will be the continuation of the language course III.

CL/MA/ Core 13: Term paper

Objective:

The objective of this course is to introduce the concept of academic writing and research work in the field of Comparative Literature.

Outcome:

By the end of this course the learner will submit a term paper of 8000-10000 words under the supervision of a teacher. It is expected that in the term paper the student will include the CL methodology and approach s/he has learnt in the previous courses and will learn how to write an academic paper with proper understanding of style sheet/s. Annotated translation with a critical introduction may also be considered as a term paper. However, in this case the work must be done under the joint supervision of a CCL teacher and a language expert (if the CCL teacher is not an expert of the source language).

CL/MA/ Option 2 (Cross-listed)

CL/MA/ Option 3 (Cross-listed)

In this semester a student can choose **TWO** courses from the options available in that particular semester.

Optional Courses:

In the third and fourth semesters, Optional Courses will be offered from the following list:

- I. Rabindranath and Translation
- II. Rabindranath and Pedagogy
- III. Rabindranath and his reception of Aesthetics
- IV. Literatures of Asia
- V. Literatures of the Subcontinent
- VI. Journey of a Text
- VII. Literature and the Other Arts
- VIII. Literature and New Media
- IX. Literature and Orality
- X. Literatures of Latin America
- XI. Literatures of Canada
- XII. Literatures of Africa
- XIII. Event Study
- XIV. Detective Fictions
- XV. Comics
- XVI. Science Fiction
- XVII. Proof Reading and Editing
- XVIII. Translation as Skill
- XIX. Script Writing
- XX. Popular Fiction