



MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY

Kottayam, Kerala

Undergraduate Programmes (HONOURS)
2024 Admission Onwards

SYLLABUS

SIGNATURE COURSE

Name of the College	UC College, Aluva					
Faculty/ Discipline	English					
Programme	BA (Hons) English					
Course Coordinator	Anu S					
Contributors	Dr Asha Baby Mathews					
Course Name	Conflict zone Literatures: Memory, Identity, and Resistance.					
Type of Course	DSE					
Specialization title	This Signature Course does not have a specialization.					
Course Code	MG5DSEENGA00					
Course Level	300					
Course Summary	Conflict Zone Literatures focuses on how individuals in geopolitically aggrieved areas reorganize their identities and negotiate violence through literary space. Literature becomes a site of resistance and memory. The course employs an Interdisciplinary and Genre-Based Approach that integrates literary criticism with political theory and structural analysis. It moves beyond traditional literary analysis to address the psychosocial and geopolitical realities of the regions being studied. It encourages students to examine how literature functions as a site of systemic resistance. The students will be able to understand how prose and poetry reflect geopolitical instability and challenge the dominant metanarratives. It equips students with practical skills in negotiation and mediation to handle disputes peacefully.					
Semester	5	Credits			4	Total Hours
Course Details	Learning Approach	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Others	
		4	0	0	0	60
Pre-requisites, if any						

Course Outcomes (CO)

Number of COs		4	
CO No.	Expected Course Outcome	Learning Domains *	PO No
1	Understand the emergence of Conflict Zone Literature as a distinct literary genre.	U	PO6
2	Identify the socio-political ramifications of prose and poetry in aggrieved zones.	U	PO1
3	Analyse the intersection of trauma, survival and memory within unstable geopolitical environments.	An	PO7
4	Critically evaluate the "contours of power" and their structural ramifications in the literature of aggrieved zones.	E	PO8

*Remember (K), Understand (U), Apply (A), Analyse (An), Evaluate (E), Create (C), Skill (S), Interest (I) and Appreciation (Ap)

CO-PO Articulation Matrix

CO/PO	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7	PO 8	PO 9	PO 10
CO 1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
CO 2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CO 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
CO 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-

'0' is No Correlation, '1' is Slight Correlation (Low level), '2' is Moderate Correlation (Medium level) and '3' is Substantial Correlation (High level).

Course Content

Content for Classroom transaction (Units)

Module	Units	Course Description	Hrs	CO No.
1	Introducing Conflict Zone Literatures			
	1.1	1. Debamitra Kar: "Introduction" from Conflict Zone Literatures: A Genre in the Making.	10	["1"]
2	Ethics of witnessing			
	2.1	"If I must Die" by Refaat Alareer	3	["2"]
	2.2	"The Redeployment" by Phil Klay	5	["2"]
	2.3	Achille Mbembe: "Necropolitics" from Necropolitics.	10	["2"]
3	Mapping Trauma and Memory.			
	3.1	"Telemachus" by Ocean Vuong	3	["3"]
	3.2	Sea Prayer by Khaled Hosseini	8	["3"]
	3.3	"There's a Hole in the City" by Richard Bowes	8	["3"]
4	Aesthetics of Resistance			
	4.1	"We Lived Happily During the War" by Ilya Kaminsky	3	["4"]
	4.2	"A century later" by Imtiaz Dharker	3	["4"]
	4.3	"Home" by Warsan Shire	3	["4"]
	4.4	3. "The End and the Beginning" by Wisława Szymborska	4	["4"]

Teaching and Learning Approach	Classroom Procedure (Mode of transaction) Lectures, Readings, Group Discussions, Debates, Panel Discussions
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Assessment Types	MODE OF ASSESSMENT Mode of Assessment: Theory
	A. Continuous Comprehensive Assessment (CCA) • Theory - 30 Marks Class test, seminar and assignment.
	B. End Semester Evaluation (ESE) • Theory - 70 Marks Assessment Methods – Semester End Examination Duration of Examination – 2.00 Hrs Pattern of examination for Theory – Non-MCQ Different parts of written examination – Part - A , B , C Answer Type: ◦ PART - A ◦ MCQ - (10 out of 10) - 10 × 1 = 10 ◦ PART - B ◦ Short answer - (6 out of 9) - 6 × 5 = 30 ◦ PART - C ◦ Essays - (2 out of 4) - 2 × 15 = 30

References

- Alosman, M. Ikbal M. "Grievable and Un-grievable Lives: Phil Klay's Redeployment." *Humanitas*, vol. 9, no. 17, 2021, pp. 30-44.
- Altoma, Salih J. "The Story of a Poem: Refaat Alareer's 'If I Must Die'." *ArabLit Quarterly*, 2024.
- Chavez, Jeremy De, and Cassie Jun Lin. "The Faithful Work of Drowning: A Reparative Reading of Ocean Vuong's 'Telemachus'." *The Explicator*, vol. 78, no. 2, 2020, pp. 66-70.
- Kar, Debamitra. *Conflict Zone Literatures: A Genre in the Making*. Routledge India, 2024.
- Hamdi, Tahrir. "Refaat Alareer's 'If I Must Die': The Death of the Author, the Afterlife of the Tale." *Arab Studies Quarterly*, vol. 47, no. 2, 2025.
- Mironescu, Doris. "Poetry, Disability and Metamodernism: Ilya Kaminsky's Deaf Republic." *University of Iasi*, 2022.
- Obi, F. U., and R. C. Onyejizu. "Dwelling and the Complexities of Return in Warsan Shire's Poetry." *Journal of Critical Studies in Language and Literature*, vol. 2, no. 6, 2021.
- Poudel, Bishnu. "Refugee Chronicles: Khaled Hosseini's Sea Prayer and the Struggle for Human Rights." *ResearchGate*, 2025.
- Strubel, E. "Storytelling and Resistance in Palestinian Literature." *EBSCOhost*, 2024.

Suggested Readings

- Alareer, Refaat, editor. *Gaza Writes Back: Short Stories from Young Writers in Gaza*. Just World Books, 2014.
- Hirsch, Marianne. *The Generation of Postmemory: Writing and Visual Culture After the Holocaust*. Columbia University Press, 2012. (Essential for analyzing Vuong's intergenerational trauma).
- Said, Edward. *Culture and Imperialism*. Vintage Books, 1993.

Affidavit

- We, UC College, Aluva and Anu S, retain the copyright of this syllabus and expressly prohibit its distribution in complete form to any institution outside our own.
- We, UC College, Aluva, agree to appoint a new course coordinator for the proposed Conflict zone Literatures: Memory, Identity, and Resistance. in the event of the unavailability of the currently nominated coordinator. This appointment will ensure the continued coordination of course delivery, assessments, and all related academic responsibilities necessary for the successful implementation of the signature course, for as long as the college offers this programme.
- We, UC College, Aluva and Anu S, declare that no part of this signature course submitted here for approval has been taken from the course content developed by, or from any of the course titles prepared by, the BoS/expert committee in

the same discipline under our University.

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