



Introduction to Literary Theory

Humanities and Social Sciences

Instructor Name: Dr. Sayan Chattopadhyay

Institute: IIT Kanpur

Department: Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Intro: : This course traces the development of the major theoretical frameworks, from classical Greek theories of mimesis to the present day concerns of ecocriticism and postcolonialism, which are used to analyse texts within the discipline of English literary studies. Apart from giving a comprehensive overview of the salient features that inform each school of literary theory, the course also connects these theoretical frameworks to the social, political, and cultural contexts that underline them. It is hoped that this course will enable the students to have a firm understanding of the various eclectic concepts that inform the field of literary theory and also to engage with literature more critically.

Pre Requisites: : None

Core/Elective: : Elective

UG/PG: : Both

Industry Support : Institutions offering courses on English studies

Reference : Peter Barry Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory Raman Selden, et al. A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory (5th edition) Terry Eagleton Literary Theory: An Introduction M. H. Abrams A Glossary of Literary Terms Peter Brooker A Glossary of Cultural Theory David Lodge and Nigel Wood Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader

About Instructor: Dr. Sayan Chattopadhyay is an assistant professor of English literature at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at IIT Kanpur. He has a doctorate degree from the University of Cambridge. His primary areas of research include Postcolonial Studies and Indian English Writings and his research articles have appeared in various scholarly journals including Journal of Postcolonial Writing (Routledge), Ariel: A Review of International English (University of Calgary), The Journal of Commonwealth Literature (Sage) and Prose Studies History, Theory, Criticism (Routledge).



COURSE PLAN

SL.NO	Week	Module Name
1	1	Introduction, Mimesis.
2	2	Classical&Neo-Classical Literary Theories, Romanticism.
3	3	Formalism, Dialogism, Reader Response theory.
4	4	Reader Response Theory, Structuralism, Post-Structuralism.
5	5	Marxism, Psychoanalytic Theory.
6	6	Psychoanalytic Theory, Gender.
7	7	Modernism, Post-Modernism, Postcolonialism
8	8	Eco-Criticism, Indian Literary Theory.