Amrita University's Amrita Values Programme (AVP) is a new initiative to give exposure to students about richness and beauty of Indian way of life. India is a country where history, culture, art, aesthetics, cuisine and nature exhibit more diversity than nearly anywhere else in the world.

Amrita Values Programmes emphasize on making students familiar with the rich tapestry of Indian life, culture, arts, science and heritage which has historically drawn people from all over the world.

Post-graduate students shall have to register for any one of the following courses, second semester, which may be offered by the respective school.

**Courses offered under the framework of Amrita Values Programme**

**Art of Living through Amma**

Amma’s messages can be put to action in our life through pragmatism and attuning of our thought process in a positive and creative manner. Every single word Amma speaks and the guidance received in on matters which we consider as trivial are rich in content and touches the very inner being of our personality. Life gets enriched by Amma’s guidance and She teaches us the art of exemplary life skills where we become witness to all the happenings around us still keeping the balance of the mind.

**Insights from the Ramayana**

Historical significance of Ramayana, the first Epic in the world – Influence of Ramayana on Indian values and culture – Storyline of Ramayana – Study of leading characters in Ramayana – Influence of Ramayana outside India – Misinterpretation of Ramayana by Colonial powers and its impact on Indian life - Relevance of Ramayana for modern times.

**Insights from the Mahabharata**

Historical significance of Mahabharata, the largest Epic in the world – Influence of Mahabharata on Indian values and culture – Storyline of Mahabharata – Study of leading characters in Mahabharata – Kurukshetra War and its significance – Importance of Dharma in society – Message of the Bhagavad Gita - Relevance of Mahabharata for modern times.

**Insights from the Upanishads**

Introduction: Sruti versus Smrti - Overview of the four Vedas and the ten Principal Upanishads - The central problems of the Upanishads – Ultimate reality – the nature of Atman – the different modes of consciousness - Sanatana Dharma and its uniqueness - The Upanishads and Indian Culture – Relevance of Upanishads for modern times – A few Upanishad Personalities: Nachiketas, Satyakama Jabala, Aruni, Shvetaketu.

**Insights from Bhagavad Gita**


**Swami Vivekananda and his Message**

Brief Sketch of Swami Vivekananda’s Life – Meeting with Guru – Disciplining of Narendra - Travel across India - Inspiring Life incidents – Address at the Parliament of Religions – Travel in United States and Europe – Return and reception India – Message to Indians about our duties to the nation.

**Great Spiritual Teachers of India**

Sri Rama, Sri Krishna, Sri Buddha, Adi Shankaracharya, Sri Ramanujacharya, Sri Madhvacharya, Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa, Swami Vivekananda, Sri Ramana Maharshi, Mata Amritanandamayi Devi

**Indian Arts and Literature:**

The aim of this course is to present the rich literature and culture of Ancient India and help students appreciate their deep influence on Indian Life - Vedic culture, primary source of Indian Culture – Brief introduction and appreciation of a few of the art forms of India - Arts, Music, Dance, Theatre, Paintings, Sculpture and architecture – the wonder language, Sanskrit and ancient Indian Literature

**Importance of Yoga and Meditation in Life:**

The objective of the course is to provide practical training in YOGA ASANAS with a sound theoretical base and theory classes on selected verses of Patanjali’s Yoga Sutra and Ashtanga Yoga. The coverage also includes the effect of yoga on integrated personality development.

**Appreciation of Kerala’s Mural Art Forms:**

A mural is any piece of artwork painted or applied directly on a wall, ceiling or other large permanent surface. In the contemporary scenario Mural painting is not restricted to the permanent structures and are being done even on canvas. A distinguishing characteristic of mural painting is that the architectural elements of the given space are harmoniously incorporated into the picture. Kerala mural paintings are the frescos depicting mythology and legends, which are drawn on the walls of temples and churches in South India, principally in Kerala. Ancient temples, churches and places in Kerala, South India, display an abounding tradition of mural paintings mostly dating back between the 9th to 12th
centuries CE when this form of art enjoyed Royal patronage. Learning Mural painting through the theory and practice workshop is the objective of this course.

Practicing Organic Farming
Life and nature are closely linked through the healthy practices of society for maintaining sustainability. When modern technological knowhow on microorganisms is applied in farming using the traditional practices we can avoid damage to the environment. The course will train the youth on modern practices of organic farming. Amma says "we have to return this land to the coming generations without allowing even the slightest damage to happen to it". Putting this philosophy to practice will bring about an awakening and enthusiasm in all to strive for good health and to restore the harmony in nature.

Ancient Indian Science and Technology
Science and technology in ancient and medieval India covered all the major branches of human knowledge and activities, including mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, medical science and surgery, fine arts, mechanical, civil engineering, architecture, shipbuilding and navigation. Ancient India was a land of sages, saints and seers as well as a land of scholars and scientists. The course give an awareness on India's contribution to science and technology.

15ELL701  RESEARCH METHODOLOGY  4 0 0 4

Objectives: To introduce scholars to the philosophy and mechanics of research; to train scholars in the use of language, style and discourses suitable for thesis-writing; to expose scholars to theories of literature, and help them acquire both a theoretical thrust and hands-on experience in writing research proposals before they embark on the execution of the thesis proper.

Unit 1 Introduction to Research
The Meaning, Definition and Objectives of Research - Research in Language and Literature. (Types of Literary Research, Different approaches to Research)

Unit 2 Research Process
Materials and Tools of Research (Primary and Secondary sources, Library and Electronic sources) - Collection and organization of materials - Research format - Compiling a bibliography - Writing drafts - Plagiarism check.

Unit 3 The Mechanics of Research Writing

Unit 4 Language, Style and Types of Discourses

Unit 5 Theory of Literature
Extrinsic and Intrinsic Approaches (Wellek & Warren) - Modern Literary Theory (Lodge, David) - Theory of Comparative Literature (Weisstein, Ulrich).

REFERENCES:
2. Thesis and Assignment Writing - Anderson
3. Thesis Writing (Prentice Hall) - Iverson
4. Thesis Writing - C.J. Parsons
6. Wellek, Rene and Warren, Austin: Theory of Literature
7. Lodge, David, Modes of Modern Writing
8. Weisstein, Ulrich. Comparative Literature and Literary Theory

15ELL702  CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND THEORY  4 0 0 4

Objectives: To acquaint with the latest literary theories

Unit 1 Introduction
1. Liberal Humanism - Literary theory from Aristotle to F. R. Levis
2. Transition of Liberal Humanism to Theory

Unit 2 Structuralism, Post-Structuralism, Deconstruction
1. Ferdinand de Saussure - The Object of Study
2. Jacques Derrida - Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Science
3. Paul de Man - Semiology and Rhetoric

Unit 3 Feminism Psychoanalysis, Marxism, Post Colonialism
2. Elaine Showalter - Towards the Feminist Poetics
3. Edmund Wilson - Marxism and Literature
SYLLABUS

M. Phil. - English Language and Literature

2016 admissions onwards

Unit 4 New Historics, Reader Response, Narratology
1. Cleanth Brooks - The Primacy of the Reader
2. Stanley Fish - Is there a Text in this class?
3. Gerald Gennet - Structuralism and Literary Criticism

Unit 5 Literature
1. Amitav Ghosh - In an Antique Land
2. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - Half of a yellow sun
3. Mahesh Dhattani - Tara

REFERENCE BOOKS

15ELL731 ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING 4 0 0 4

Objective: To enable students to develop the analytical skills required in Second Language Learning; to familiarize students with the empirical and conceptual issues that arise in the study of Language.

Unit 1 Introduction and Major Trends
ELT: an introduction (History, Place, Position, Problems, Prospects and Future)
Approaches, Methods and Techniques in English Language Teaching.
First and Second Language Acquisition.

Unit 2 English Language Teaching in India
Content of Language Teaching:
English as Second Language (ESL) - Acquisition and Causative Factors
English for Specific Purpose
The Problems of Teaching English

Unit 3 Language Tests and Tools
Types of Tests
Characteristics of a Good Language Test
Purposes and types of Tests
Objective and Subjective Test
Tools of Evaluation
Remedial Teaching

Unit 4 Phonetics
Phonology and Morphology of English
Syntax
Semantics and Pragmatics

Unit 5 Psychology of Language Processing and Learning (Spoken Word Recognition, Speech Production, Rules and Exceptions: Reading and Morphology).

SUGGESTED READINGS:

15ELL732 MEDIA, CULTURAL THEORY AND VISUAL SEMIOTICS 4 0 0 4

Objectives: To familiarize students to the various aspects of cultural theory and culture studies; to highlight intertwining of cultural facets and dissemination of media messages; to provide an analytical framework through which communication emanating from various media channels may be studied and understood.


Unit 2 Media and audience identity - Media influence and power: Media Effects - Types of Texts - Media Effects theories and Models - Audience demography and distinctions, etc. - Reception/Audience Studies - The Circuit of Culture.
SYLLABUS
M. Phil. - English Language and Literature
2016 admissions onwards

Unit 3
Methods / Methodologies in Cultural Studies - Language, Discourse, Identity, etc. – Post-Colonialism and Cultural Studies, Media and Cultural Studies.

Unit 4
Semiotics: Signs, Modality and Representation, Paradigm and Syntagm, Denotation, Connotation, Myths, Metaphor, Metonymy, Code.

Unit 5

REFERENCES:
1. Understanding Media Culture, Jostein Gripsrud, Arnold, London
3. A Companion to Cultural Studies, Edited by Toby Miller, Blackwell
4. Media and Cultural Studies, Key Works, Edited by Meenakshi Gigi Durham and Douglas M. Kellner, Blackwell
5. An Introduction to Cultural Studies, Pramod K. Nayar, Viva Books

15ELL733 MODERN INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION 4 0 0 4

Objectives: To familiarize students with the translated works of great writers; to encourage students in translation practice; to motivate students to translate works.

Unit 1 Translation as an Art and Science

Unit 2 Fiction
Munshi Premchand - Godaan
U R Ananda Murthi - Bharathipura
O V Vijayan – Legends of Khazak.

Unit 3 Poetry
Gulam Muhammed Sheikh – Jaisalmer I
B S Maedhekar – In these Waters of the Ganges
Mahadevi Verma – Adhikar
Balamani Amma - The Pen
Arun Kolatkar – Jejuri

Unit 4 Drama
Vijay Tendulkar – Silence! The Court is in Session
Girish Karnad – Hayavadana

Unit 5 Short Stories
Mulk Raj Anand – A Barber’s Trade Union
Anita Desai – A Devoted Son
Bharati Mkhерjee – Nostalgia
R K Narayan – Another Community
Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai – A Blind Man’s Contentment

REFERENCE BOOKS
2. Christeva, Julia: Desire in Language.

15ELL734 POST-COLONIAL STUDIES 4 0 0 4

Objective: To apply the theoretical aspects in the prescribed works.

Unit 1
Edward Said - Orientalism
Franz Fanon - Wretched of the Earth
Homi Bhabha - Location of Culture
Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak - Can the Subaltern Speak?

Unit 2
B. Ashcroft, G Griffiths & H. Tiffin - The Empire Writes Back
Partha Chatterjee - The Nation and its Fragments

Unit 3
E. M. Forster - A Passage to India
Sashi Deshpande - That Long Silence
V. S. Naipaul - A House of Mr. Biswas

Unit 4
Chinua Achebe - A Man of the People
Ngugi wa thiongo - Petals of Blood
J. M. Coetzee - Disgrace

Unit 5
Bankim Chandra Chatterjee - Anand Math
Bapsi Sidwa - Ice Candy Man
Michael Ondtaje - The English Patient

15ELL796 DISSESSATION 12 cr

M.Phil. dissertation will be prepared by the students on a topic chosen by them in consultation with the supervising teacher. They are expected to undertake research by getting recourse to contemporary literary and cultural theories. The length of the dissertation should be 70/80 pages. The dissertation has to be finalized within the time frame stipulated by the University and submitted on the date fixed for that purpose.

15ELL797 VIVA-VOCE 5 cr

There will be an external examiner appointed by the University for the M.Phil. viva-voce. The viva will be based on the dissertation submitted by the students. They are expected to justify their work, i.e., theory, analysis methodology and conclusion. Marks will be awarded on the basis of their performance at the viva.