Bharati College

**(University of Delhi)**

Janak Puri, Delhi- 100058

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Lesson Plan (CORE, Semester V, July to November 2022)

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| **Name of Teacher** | Dr Sonali Jain | | **Department** | | **English** |
| **Course** | BA (Hons) English | | **Semester** | | V |
| **Paper** | Women’s Writing | | **Academic Year** | | 2022-2023 |
| **Learning Objectives** | | | | | |
| This paper focuses on writings by women, about women. Since women are always defined in  relation to men in a structurally patriarchal society, women writing about their experiences and  identities are almost always writing about their community, since they do not have the privilege to  write about themselves as individuals inhabiting a certain position in society. This paper focuses on  those stories, poems, plays, novels, autobiographies, and theoretical writings that most clearly  articulate the struggle to define experiences, and challenge patriarchal constructs. The texts in this  paper focus on gender and sexuality as related to women, their bodies, their desires, and their  aspirations. However, women do not form a homogenous group and their oppressions and acts of  resistance need to be understood in all their complexities. Therefore, the intersectionality of the  position of womanhood with caste, class, race, disability, education, slavery, etc., need to be  studied with attention to the socio-economic historical location. | | | | | |
| **Learning Outcomes** | | | | | |
| This course aims to  \_ help students understand the social construction of woman by patriarchy;  \_ examine feminism’s concerns of equality with men;  \_ highlight the structural oppression of women;  \_ foreground resistance by women;  \_ discuss women’s writing as an act of resistance and of grasping agency;  \_ facilitate an understanding of the body of woman and its lived experience; and  \_ help students engage with the heterogeneity of the oppression of women in different places,  historically and socially. | | | | | |
| **Lesson Plan** | | | | | |
| **Week No.** | | **Theme/Curriculum** | | **Any Additional Information** | |
| Weeks 1-3 | | Introduction to Paper 11: Women’s Writing  Unit 1 – Novel: Alice Walker, *The Color Purple* | |  | |
| Weeks 4-6 | | Unit 2 -- Short Stories:  (a) Gilman, ‘The Yellow Wallpaper’  (b) Begum Rokeya ‘Sultana’s Dream’  Unit 2 – Drama: Fornes, *Fefu and Her Friends* | |  | |
| Weeks 7=9 | | Unit 3 – Poetry:  (a) Behbahani, ‘It’s Time to Mow the Flowers’  (b) Plath, (i) ‘Lady Lazarus’  (c) De Souza, (i) ‘Bequest’; (ii) ‘Advice to Women’  (d) Dickinson, ‘I cannot live without you’; (ii) ‘I’m wife; I’ve finished with that’ | |  | |
| Weeks 10-11 | | Unit 4 – Autobiography:  (a) Rassundari Debi, Excerpts from *Amar Jiban*  (b) Pandita Ramabai, ‘A Testimony of our Inexhaustible Treasures’  (c) Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* | |  | |
| Weeks 12-13 | | Unit 5 -- Prose Readings:  (a) Showalter, ‘Introduction’, in *A Literature of Their Own*  (b) de Beauvoir, ‘Introduction’, in *The Second Sex*  (c) Irigaray, ‘When the Goods Get Together’  (d) Garland-Thomson, ‘Integrating Disability, Transforming Feminist  Theory’  (e) Sangari and Vaid, ‘Introduction’, in *Recasting Women* | |  | |
| Week 14 | | Concluding lectures; exam issues, etc. | |  | |
| **References**   * Proudfit, Charles L. “Celie's Search for Identity: A Psychoanalytic Developmental Reading of Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*". *Contemporary Literature*, Vol. 32, No. 1 (Spring, 1991), pp. 12-37. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/1208336> * Ross, Daniel W. “Celie in the looking glass: the desire for selfhood in *The Color Purple*". *Modern Fiction Studies*, Vol. 34, No. 1, SPECIAL ISSUE: MODERN BLACK FICTION (Spring 1988), pp. 69-84. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26282404> * Jones, Jacqueline. "Fact and Fiction in Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*".   *The Georgia Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 72, No. 4 (Winter, 1988), pp. 653-669.  <https://www.jstor.org/stable/40581895>   * Lewis, Christopher S. “Cultivating Black Lesbian Shamelessness: Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*". *Rocky Mountain Review*, Vol. 66, No. 2 (Fall 2012), pp. 158-175. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41763555> * Selzer, Linda. “Race and Domesticity in *The Color Purple*.” *African American Review*, Spring, 1995, Vol. 29, No. 1 (Spring, 1995), pp. 67-82. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/3042429> * Hite, Molly. Romance, Marginality, Matrilineage: The Color Purple. In *The Other Side of the Story: Structures and Strategies of Contemporary Feminist Narratives.* Cornell University Press. (1989)   <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.7591/j.ctt207g66s.7>   * Jain, Sonali. “Sylvia Plath: Two poems”. E-lesson written for ILLL, University of Delhi.   **Additional Resources**  1. | | | | | |
| **Online Resources (If Any)** | |  | | | |
| **Assignment and Class Test Schedule for Semester** | | Link the assignment and Test (optional) | | | |