

B.A. Alternative English

The BA Alternative English Course, designed for students who will be from disciplines other than English Literature, offers students a representative selection of texts written in the English language or translated into English, from the major literary genres. It seeks to familiarize students, through these texts, with great ideas, issues of immediate social and cultural concern and also enable them to acquire a facility with the English language. The Course, comprising of four papers, is divided over four semesters in the 1st two years of the TDC programme. 20 percent of marks in each paper is allocated for Internal Assessment. In Semesters I&II internal assessment will be in the form of a 10 mark objective-type test and a home assignment of 5 marks. In Semesters III & IV Internal Assessment will be in the form of an objective-type unit test of 10 marks, and a short write-up (500 words) researched and written by the student on authors or some aspect of background of the prescribed texts (10 marks)

SEMESTER I

Paper 1 Poetry (75 marks: 60[End-Semester Examination]+15[Internal Assessment])

SEMESTER II

Paper 2 Drama (75 marks: 60[End-Semester Examination]+15[Internal Assessment])

SEMESTER III

Paper 3 Fiction (100 marks: 80[End-Semester Examination]+20[Internal Assessment])

SEMESTER IV

Paper 4 Non-Fictional Prose (100 marks: 80[End-Semester Examination]+20[Internal Assessment])

SEMESTER I

PAPER 1

Poetry

Total Marks:75 (60+15); Credits: 6

In this paper, there will be questions of two types as shown below:

Questions requiring essay-type answers (4x10=40) and Explanations (4x5=20)

Students will be required to answer 4 out of 6 questions seeking essay-type answers. The questions will be designed to test the students' appreciation of the prescribed poems, and will involve formal or thematic aspects of the poems. They will also be required to explain 4 extracts with reference to context out of 6 given from the star-marked texts.

Texts:

- William Shakespeare (1564-1616) Sonnets 65* &130
- Alexander Pope (1688-1744) A Little Learning [*An Essay on Criticism*; lines 215-232]
- William Wordsworth (1770-1850) The Solitary Reaper*, Upon Westminster Bridge
- John Keats (1795-1821) To Autumn*, Bright star, would I were steadfast as thou art, A Draught Of Sunshine
- Emily Bronte (1818-48) Remembrance
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-61) A Year's Spinning
- Lord, Alfred Tennyson (1809-92) The Lotos Eaters, Ulysses*
- Gerald Manley Hopkins (1844-1849) Thou Art Indeed Just Lord, Pied Beauty*
- D.H Lawrence (1885-1930) Piano
- T.S. Eliot (1888-1965) Marina*
- Seamus Heaney (1939-) The Tollund Man

SEMESTER II**PAPER 2****Drama**

Total Marks:75 (60+15); Credits: 6

This paper on Drama acquaints students with 3 plays from various periods and different literary cultures. It expects students to study these plays keeping in mind the distinctive features of the dramatic form. They will be required to answer 4 out of 6 questions seeking essay-type answers. The questions will be designed to test the students' understanding and appreciation of the prescribed plays and will focus on representation of character, significance of scenes and dramatic techniques employed. They will also be required to explain 4 extracts with reference to context from the star-marked text

Texts:

- William Shakespeare (1564-1616): *Macbeth**
- Henrik Ibsen(1828-1906): *A Doll's House**
- Vijay Tendulkar (1928-2008): *Ghasiram Kotwal*

SEMESTER III

PAPER 3

Fiction

Total Marks:100 (80+20); Credits: 8

This paper on Fiction introduces the genres of the novel and the short story. Students will be expected to answer four questions of 15 marks each out of six given (4x15=60) and 2 questions of 10 marks each out of four(2x10=20) from the prescribed texts.

Texts:

- Jane Austen (1775-1817): *Pride and Prejudice*
- Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849): "The Gold Bug"
- Mark Twain (1835-1910): *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
- William Golding (1911-1993): *The Lord of the Flies.*
- Vikram Chandra (1961 -): "Shanti"

SEMESTER IV

PAPER 4

Non-Fictional Prose

Total Marks:100 (80+20); Credits: 8

Students will be expected to answer 3 questions of 15 marks each out of five given (3x15=45) and 2 questions of 10 marks each out of four given (2x10=20) from the prescribed texts.

Texts:

- Joseph Addison (1672-1719): Sir Roger at Home
- Samuel Johnson (1709-1784): On Idleness
- William Hazlitt (1778-1830): On Nicknames
- Charles Lamb (1775-1834): Dream Children
- Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894): Pan's Pipes
- Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941): Letter to Gandhi written on the eve of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. April 12, 1919.

- M.K. Gandhi(1869-1948): "The Poet's Anxiety" (published in *Young India*, June 1, 1921)
- G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936): On Lying In Bed
- Bertrand Russell (1872-1970) Can Man Be Rational?

Essay Writing (15 Marks): In this section students will be required to write an essay on a topic which is of contemporary relevance. They will be given three topics to choose from.

B.A. Elective English

The B.A. Elective English Course to be taken over 6 semesters is designed to give students a sense of English Literature, its literary-historical developments and its key generic concerns. As with all courses in the Semester system under the Credit-Grading Scheme, 20 percent of marks in each paper is allocated for Internal Assessment which may be in the form of a short writing assignment and an objective-type test. Papers are spread over the six semesters in the following way;

SEMESTER 1

PAPER 1: English Literary History

SEMESTER II

PAPER 2 : Poetry

SEMESTER III

PAPER 3: Drama

SEMESTER IV

PAPER 4: Fiction

SEMESTER V

PAPER 5: Non-fictional Prose

PAPER 6: Written English

SEMESTER VI

PAPER 7 : Nature

PAPER 8: Other Literatures