

**Ambedkar University Delhi**

**Course Outline**

**Winter Semester (July- December 2018)**

**School:** School of Human Sciences

**Programme with title:** MA Gender Studies

**Semester to which offered:** Semester-1

**Course Title:** **Reading Feminist Texts**

**Credits:** 2

**Course Code (new):**

**Course Code (old):** SHS202807

**Type of Course:** Core

**For SUS only (Mark an X for as many as appropriate):**

1. Foundation (Compulsory)
2. Foundation (Elective)
3. Discipline (Compulsory)           X
4. Discipline (Elective)            X
5. Elective

**Course Coordinator and Team:** Dr. Shelly Pandey

**Email of course coordinator:** shellypandey@aud.ac.in

**Pre-requisites:** Any Post graduate student in AUD, IVth Semester if M.A. Gender Studies

**Aim:** This course aims to familiarize students with the politics of reading- who reads and what is being read? What are the ways in which a text might be read- is there a universal approach or method of reading? Following this would be the debate on what constitutes a text- is there a privileged canon of texts- even feminist texts? The other significant question the first module would discuss is 'what is a text'?

The second section of the course would focus on certain themes. This thematic exposition would be done through some sample feminist texts.

**Brief description of modules/ Main modules:**

**Module 1**

***The Politics of Reading***

**Module 2**

***On Education***

**Module 3**

***On Science and Technology***

**Module 4**

***On Religion***

**References:**

Module 1

- Mary Eagleton edited A Concise Companion to Feminist Theory. Blackwell Publishing. 2003. Chapters 8- Literature by Mary Eagleton and Chapter 10- Feminist Philosophies by Rosi Braidotti.
- [Catherine Belsey](#), [Jane Moore](#)-The Feminist Reader- Essays in Gender and the Politics of Literary Criticism. Palgrave. 1997.
- Edward W. Said- The Text, the World, and the Critic by. The Bulletin of the Midwest Modern Language Association, Volume 8, No. 2 (Autumn 1975) pages 1-23.
- Karin Littau - Theories of Reading. Polity. Chapter 8- Sexual Politics of Reading
- M. A.R. Habib- Modern Literary Criticism and Theory. Blackwell. 2008. Pages 42-54, 113- 145.
- Richard Whatmore and Brian Young ed. Palgrave Advances in Intellectual History. 2006. Chapter 11- Gender and Intellectual History. Chapter 12- Politics of Intellectual History in Twentieth Century Europe.
- Reinhart Kosellek- The Practice of Conceptual History- Timing History, Spacing Concepts. Stanford. 2002.

Modules 2,3, and 4

- Mary Wollstonecraft- From A Vindication of the Rights of Women ( chapter 3)
- Krupa Sattianandan- from Saguna (Women's Writing in India Volume I edited by Susie Tharu and K. Lalitha) Oxford University Press. 1993. 277-280.

- Adrienne Rich Valedictory Speech “Claiming An Education” The Cambridge Guide to Women's Writing in English By Lorna Sage, Germaine Greer, Elaine Showalter. 1999.
- Film- Mona Lisa Smile, 2003
- Angela Y. Davis- Outcast Mothers and Surrogates: Racism and Reproductive Politics in the Nineties.
- Evelyn Fox Keller- Making Gender Visible in the Pursuit of Nature’s Secrets.
- Vandana Shiva- Democratizing Biology: Reinventing Biology from a Feminist, Ecological and Third World Perspective. From Gender and Science Reader. Edited by Muriel Lederman and Ingrid Bartsch. Routledge. 2001.
- Documentary -CODE- Debugging the Gender Gap
- Science it’s A Girl Thing- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zj--FFzngUk>
- Fatima Mernissi- From Beyond the Veil: Male –Female Dynamics in Modern Muslim Society.
- Mutta and Sumgalamata – From the Therigatha
- Avvaiyar, Karaikal Ammiyar and Andal- Bhakti Poetry
- Sister Mary Bengina (Mary John Thottam) - Lokame Yatra.

**Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:**

<b>Weightage</b>	<b>Date/period in which Assessment will take place</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>S.No</b>
20%	August to December	Attendance and class participation	1
40%	Second week, September	Assessment -1	2
40%	Second week, November	Assessment-2	3