**Ambedkar University Delhi**

**Course Outline**

**Monsoon Semester (July to December 2017)**

**School**: Letters

**Programme with title**: MA English

**Semester to which offered**: II and IV

**Course Title**:Women Writing in India

**Credits**: 4 Credits

**Course Code** (new): SOL2EN305

**Course Code** (old): SLS2EN305

**Type of Course**:

Compulsory No

Elective Yes (Open elective for all MA students)

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

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

**Course Coordinator and Team**: Usha Mudiganti

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

**Pre-requisites**: 3rd semester students should preferably have done The Woman Question in Anglo American Literature in their 2nd semester and should have at least 60% attendance in that course. There are no prerequisites for 1st semester students.

**Aim** This course will attempt to study the literary work of women writers in India while also discussing their struggles in overcoming barriers of gender, caste, class and culture.

**Brief description of modules/ Main modules**: This course foregrounds literary expression of women’s hopes, joys, desires and struggles while attempting to read these literary expressions in the larger context of the women’s movement in India. Beginning with the Therigatha of the Buddhist nuns, the course charts women’s writing in India. The course will look into women’s expression of their spiritual journeys and the ways in which these journeys formed their notions of self and womanhood. Women’s experiences of negotiating the changes in the domestic sphere during the colonial times and the changing ideals of Indian womanhood during the freedom movement will be studied through the documentation of the accounts of some women pioneers.

**References**/Readings

**Reading List**:

Primary Reading List

Tharu, Susie and K. Lalita. “Introduction”. *Women Writing in India*.

Niranjana, Anupama. “A Day with Charulata”.

Muddupalani. Verses from *Radhika Santwanam*. Section 1 Verse: 71, Section 2 Verse: 101 and 102

Antal. Verses 13.7 to 13.10

Mirabai. “I am pale with longing for my Beloved”, “The Bhil Woman tasted them…”

Sankavva, Sule. “In my Harlot’s Trade”

Akkamahadevi. “I love the Handsome One…”, “Brother, you’ve come…”

Janabai. “Caste off all shame”, “Jani sweeps the floor”

Therigatha: Mutta. “So free am I”, Ubbiri. “O Ubbiri, wails in the woods”. Sumangalamata. “A woman…”

Sangam. Venmanipputi Kuruntokai 299, Kavar Pentu Purananuru 86

Shinde, Tarabai. Excerpt from *Stri-Purush Tulna*

Pandita Ramabai. Excerpt from *The High-Caste Hindu Woman*

Kanitkar, Kashibai. “My Education”

Hossain, Sakhawat Rokeya. *Sultana’s Dream*

Tilak, Lakshmibai. Part II Chapters 1 and 2 of *Smriti Chitre*

Sen, Haimabati. Excerpt from *Because I am a Woman*

Sorabji, Cornelia. Letter to *The Pioneer Mail* and *The Indian Weekly*

Dasi, Binodini, Excerpt from her Autobiography

Kanuparti, Varalakshmamma, “The Promise”

Kamble, Baby, Chapter 5 of *The Prisons We Broke*

Karve, Iravati. “Kunti” from *Yuganta*

Devi, Mahashweta. ‘Kunti and the Nishadin’

Pritam, Amrita. ‘Waris Shah’

Antarjanam, Lalitambika. ‘Revenge Herself’

Desai, Anita. *Fire on the Mountain*

Das, Kamala. “Relationship”

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

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No** | **Assessment** | **Date/period in which Assessment will take place** | **Weightage** |
| 1 | Mid-term | Mid-September | 30% |
| 2 | Take Home Assignment | Last week in August | 15% |
| 3 | Team Presentation | Through the semester, during class | 20% |
| 4 | End Term | Early December | 30% |
| 5 | Class Participation | Through the semester, during class | 5% |