

## B. Com. Semester III

### World Classics in Literature - Syllabus

Unit	Title	Details of Topic
Unit I	<b>Why do we study literature?</b>	Explanation of the rationale for studying this paper. Exploring how literature is relevant today and how it can benefit the human society.
Unit II	<b>Conventions of Epic</b>	Introducing the genre of epic and discussion of its conventions. Examples from world epics.
Unit III	<b>Mahabharat as epic and its story line</b>	Authorship of Mahabharat, its different versions, genealogy in the text, grandeur of the epic.
Unit IV	<b>Chapter one Gita</b>	Gita as literary classic, vishad yoga of Arjuna, concepts of psychology with reference to Gita, theme of death and valor.
Unit V	<b>Chapter two Gita</b>	Sankya Yoga and karma yoga. Different ways of reaching to truth, philosophy of death, themes of death as a liberator in world literature.
Unit VI	<b>Greek Mythology</b>	Introduction to Greek mythology and mythical characters.
Unit VII	<b>Iliad Book 1</b>	Common points between Gita and Iliad. Concept of Homeric heroic code. Characters of Hector and Achilles. Theme of death.
Unit VIII	<b>Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe</b>	To become familiar with African Literature and traditions of Igbo society; to be acquainted with the concept of post-colonialism; Narrative perspective as culturally-positioned account; Understanding the use of language; Things fall Apart as a response to Heart of Darkness; learn to be able to differentiate historical accounts and fictional accounts of history.
Unit IX	<b>Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad</b>	To re-visit the European text from the colonial point of view; Art of narration; understanding the concept of 'Othering'; use of language; awareness to what is moral and ethical dilemma.
Unit X	<b>Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte</b>	To introduce students to the beginning of feminist thinking; to make them aware of the socio-cultural background of the times; equip them with the inputs of institution of marriage, conflicts of love, aspirations from the workplace; lessons in adaptation in various situations in life and importance of upholding ethical, moral, social and personal value system.
Unit XI	<b>The Scarlet Letters by Nathaniel Hawthorne</b>	To give a new perspective to the functioning of a woman's inner world; to teach art of narration; to develop drama and mystery through words; to show the hypocrisy of the society and its unreasonable demands and judgments on the 'weaker sex'; the frailty of the male; the evil which pervades the psychology of the human soul;

		innocence and purity of the child's heart; and the fight to uphold one's love despite societal challenges.
Unit XII	<b>Acquaintances</b>	To make students acquaint with the texts those are considered classics around the globe. The list is given below for the reference.

**Books Recommended:**

1. Robert J. C. Young. Post Colonialism: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford.
2. Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin. The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures. Taylor and Francis.

[www.bhagavad-gita.org/](http://www.bhagavad-gita.org/)

[www.classics.mit.edu/Homer/iliad.html](http://www.classics.mit.edu/Homer/iliad.html)