

AC – 20.04.2024
Item No. – 5.10 (N) Sem I (14b)

As Per NEP 2020

University of Mumbai



Syllabus for Basket of OE	
Board of Studies in English	
UG First Year Programme	
Semester I	
Title of Paper	Credits 2/ 4
Science and Fantasy Fiction	2
From the Academic Year	2024-2025

Sr. No.	Heading	Particulars
1	<p>Description the course :</p> <p>Including but Not limited to :</p>	<p>Science and Fantasy Fiction</p> <p>Science and fantasy fiction in an academic program for non-literature students can serve various purposes such as developing critical thinking skills, encouraging imagination and creativity, create cultural and social awareness, reflect on scientific concepts and ethical considerations, developing communication skills, and cross-disciplinary connections, and enhance literacy.</p> <p>This course introduces science and fantasy fiction (SFF) through reading American, European and Asian short stories and novellas.</p> <p>The course partly examines the interaction between scientific change and the resulting ethical questions as depicted in fictional texts. It looks at the fantasy fiction in social, critical and literary contexts.</p> <p>The course is aimed at honing their cognitive, analytical, linguistic and creative skills. It is hoped that by the end of the semester, the learners will have developed the ability to critically reflect on issue of larger socio-cultural and ethical issues through the appreciation of science and fantasy fiction. This course with its 30:20 pattern will also help in accomplishing this goal.</p>
2	Vertical :	Open Elective
3	Type :	Theory
4	Credit:	2 credits (1 credit = 15 Hours for Theory or 30 Hours of Practical work in a semester)
5	Hours Allotted :	30 Hours
6	Marks Allotted:	50 Marks

7	<p>Course Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To cultivate a sound understanding of key themes in Science and Fantasy Fiction in English 2. To train in identifying and appreciating the constituent elements of Science and Fantasy Fiction 3. To familiarize learners with a diverse range of literary narratives in Science and Fantasy genres. 4. To develop close reading skills and learn methods of textual analysis and critique.
8	<p>Course Outcomes: At the end of the course, learners will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulate an understanding of key themes in Science and Fantasy Fiction • Exhibit the ability to identify and appreciate the constituent elements of Science and Fantasy Fiction. • Show competence in delivering compelling presentations and engage in articulate and effective discussion on ethical, socio-cultural and innovative dimensions of prescribed texts. • Display academic writing skills through the textual analysis of the prescribed/recommended fictional works.
9	<p>Modules:- Per credit One module can be created</p> <p>Module 1: (15 Lectures)</p> <p>A) Introduction to Science Fiction (SF)</p> <p>Key themes in Science Fiction: Time Travel, Alien Life Forms, Space Travel, Parallel Universes, Teleportation, Mind Control, Artificial Intelligence, End of Humanity, Dystopia/ Utopia, Colonization, Climate Change</p> <p>Key Elements in Science Fiction: “What If” Question, An Unfamiliar Setting, Innovative Technology, Relatable Characters, Themes about Humanity</p> <p>B) SF Short Stories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ‘A Sound of Thunder’ by Ray Bradbury <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray Bradbury, "A Sound of Thunder," in <i>R is for Rocket</i>, New York: Doubleday, 1952. • https://www.astro.sunysb.edu/fwalter/AST389/ASoundofThunder.pdf 2. ‘The Pain Merchant’ by Manjula Padmanabhan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padmanabhan, Manjula. ‘The Pain Merchant’. <i>Manoa</i>, Volume 34, Number 2, University of Hawai'i Press, 2022, pp. 130-137 • https://muse.jhu.edu/article/876656/pdf 3. 'The Machine Stops' by E.M Forster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forster, Edward Morgan. <i>The machine stops</i>. Phoemixx Classics Ebooks, 2021. • https://www.cs.ucdavis.edu/~koehl/Teaching/ECS188/PDF_files/Machine_stops.pdf 4. ‘Spider the Artist’ by Nnedi Okorafor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nnedi Okorafor. “Spider the Artist” in <i>Seeds of Change</i> ed. John Joseph Adams. 2008 • https://www.lightspeedmagazine.com/fiction/spider-the-artist/

Module 2: (15 Lectures)		
<p>A) Introduction to Fantasy Fiction</p> <p>Key themes in Fantasy Fiction:</p> <p>Magic, Quests and Journeys, Good vs. Evil, World-building, Mythology and Legends, Coming-of-Age, Redemption, Nature and Environment, Political Intrigue, Identity and Chosen Ones</p> <p>Key Elements in Fantasy Fiction:</p> <p>A magic system, A well-developed setting, A cast of complex characters, A central conflict, A power structure/system of government</p> <p>B) Fantasy Fiction: <i>Harry Potter and the philosopher's stone</i>. Vol. 1. By J.K. Rowling</p>		
10	Text Books:	Rowling, Joanne K. <i>Harry Potter and the philosopher's stone</i> . Vol. 1. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2015.
11	References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armit, Lucie. <i>Fantasy fiction: an introduction</i>. A&C Black, 2005. • Abrams, Meyer Howard, and Geoffrey Harpham. <i>A glossary of literary terms</i>. Cengage learning, 2014. • Booker, M. Keith, and Anne-Marie Thomas. <i>The science fiction handbook</i>. John Wiley & Sons, 2009. • Csicsery-Ronay, Istvan. <i>The seven beauties of science fiction</i>. Wesleyan University Press, 2012. • James, Edward, and Farah Mendlesohn, eds. <i>The Cambridge companion to science fiction</i>. Cambridge University Press, 2003. • James, Edward, and Farah Mendlesohn, eds. <i>The Cambridge companion to fantasy literature</i>. Cambridge University Press, 2012. • Laetz, Brian, and Joshua J. Johnston. "What is fantasy?." <i>Philosophy and Literature</i> 32.1 (2008): 161-172. • Parrinder, Patrick. <i>Science fiction: a critical guide</i>. Routledge, 2014. • Seed, David. <i>Science Fiction: A very short introduction</i>. Vol. 271. Oxford University Press, USA, 2011. • Stableford, Brian. <i>The A to Z of fantasy literature</i>. Vol. 46. Scarecrow Press, 2009. • Vint, Sherryl. <i>Science fiction: A guide for the perplexed</i>. A&C Black, 2014. <p>Web link Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sterling, Bruce. "science fiction". Encyclopedia Britannica, 25 Jan. 2024, https://www.britannica.com/art/science-fiction. Accessed 1 February 2024. • Andrew Watson. "The Ultimate Top 10 Fantasy Book Must Reads." <i>YouTube</i>, 5 Sept. 2023, www.youtube.com/watch?v=unk2e3I0OG4. • Philip Chase. "The Origins and Development of the Fantasy Genre." <i>YouTube</i>, 22 Aug. 2020, www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0ieFurt1n8.
12	Internal Continuous Assessment: 40%	Semester End Examination: 60%

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Continuous Evaluation through:

Continuous Evaluation through:

- Written Assignment
Critical Review of Short Science/Fantasy Fiction/novel/film involving aspects covered in Module 1 A and or Module 2 A. (10 marks)
- Participation in classroom activity involving presentation or group discussion.
(The class may be divided into batches to participate in Group Discussion or presentation by creating formal schedule for the same before the semester End Examination.)
(05 marks)
- Overall attendance
(05 marks)(Percentage of learners' attendance in class to be considered)

Suggested literary/ film texts for internal assessment and Presentation:

Literary Texts:

- Butler, Octavia. 'Speech Sounds'
- Menon, Anil "Shit Flower"
- Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*.
- Wells, H.G. *The Time Machine*
- Asimov, Isaac, "Robbie."
- Bradbury, Ray. "There Will Come Soft Rains"
- Butler, Octavia, "Bloodchild."
- Kurt Vonnegut "2BR02B"
- Anonymous. 'Sinyushka's Well'/
The Blue Crone's Spring
- Ray, Satyajit. *The Final Adventures of Professor Shonku*
- Narlikar, Jayant. *The Return of Vaman*
- Soyeon Jung. "The Flowering"
- Kim Boyoung. "I'm Waiting for You"
- Lewis, Carroll. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lewis, Carroll. <i>Through the Looking-Glass</i> • Tolkien, J.R.R. <i>Lord of the Rings</i> (Trilogy) • Lewis C.S. <i>Chronicles of Narnia</i> • Tripathi, Amish. <i>The Immortals of Meluha</i> • Tripathi, Amish. <i>The Secret of the Nagas</i> • Haruki Murakami. "Confessions of a Shinagawa Monkey" • Bora Chung. "Home Sweet Home" <p>Film Text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Si-Fi) I, Robot; Independence Day; Men in Black; E.T.; Avatar; I Am Legend; The Day After Tomorrow; Jurassic Park; Contagion; Minority Report; Koi Mil Gaya; Interstellar; The Martian; The Moon (Korean). • (Fantasy) Apocalypse Now; Lord of the Rings; Chronicles of Narnia; Avengers, Along with the Gods; Mowgli: The Legend of the Jungle; Paheli; Bahubali, Bhoothnath. <p><u>Students are encouraged to consult their respective teaching faculty to select other texts.</u></p>	
14	<p>Format of Question Paper: for the final examination</p> <p>Q.1. Short notes (2 out of 4) – On Module 1 (A) and Module 2 (A) 10 marks</p> <p>Q.2. Long Answer (1 out of 2) (on Module 1 B) 10 marks</p> <p>Q.3. Long Answer (1 out of 2) (on Module 2 B) 10 marks</p>	

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