

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

RABINDRANATH TAGORE UNIVERSITY

SYLLABI FOR UNDERGRADUATE COURSE (FYUGP)
(AS PER NEP 2020)

*(Syllabi for **Minor II**, Semester V and Semester VI,*

for Non-Major Students of the Affiliated Colleges)

(W.e.f. the Academic Session: 2026-2027)

SEMESTER	CATEGORY OF COURSE	HONOURS	CREDITS
V	MINOR -5 (II)	Drama: 16 th and 17 th Century	4
VI	MINOR -6 (II)	Rhetoric & Prosody	4

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (DSE): MINOR (MIN)

SEMESTER V

MINOR 5 (II)

Course Title: Drama: 16th and 17th Century

Course Code : MIN-ENG- 5.2

Nature of Course : Minor

Total Credits : 4

Distribution of Marks: 60 (End -Sem) +40 (Internal)

Objectives

- This course seeks to introduce the students to British Drama in terms of the context, the form, the stage, etc
- The selected texts will also help students in exploring the British society, culture and politics

Learning Outcomes

- On completion of the course, the students are expected to be in a position to appreciate the state of affairs as has prevailed in Britain during the 16th and 17th century.
- The students, through an engagement with the selected texts, will also gain an understanding of the British life and society in their wider historical context.

Plays

- ❖ *Othello*- Shakespeare
- ❖ *The Merchant of Venice*- Shakespeare
- ❖ *Doctor Faustus*- Marlowe
- ❖ *The White Devil*- Webster

Recommended Readings:

Adelman, Janet. *Suffocating Mothers: Fantasies of Maternal Origin in Shakespeare's Plays, Hamlet to The Tempest*. New York and London: Routledge, 1992.

Black, Jeremy Black. *England in the Age of Shakespeare*. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 2019.

Cole, Douglas. *Suffering and Evil in the Plays of Christopher Marlow*. Princeton UP, 1962.

Dollimore, Jonathan and Alan Sinfield eds. *Political Shakespeare*. Ithaca and London: Cornell UP, 1985.

Greenblatt, Stephen. *Shakespearean Negotiations: The Circulation of Social Energy in Renaissance England*. Oxford: Clarendon P, 1988.

Leggatt, Alexander. *English Drama: Shakespeare to The Restoration 1590- 1660*. Longman: Literature in English Series, 1988.

SEMESTER VI

MINOR 6 (II)

Course Title: Rhetoric & Prosody

Course Code : MIN-ENG- 6.2

Nature of Course : Minor

Total Credits : 4

Distribution of Marks: 60 (End -Sem) +40 (Internal)

The paper is designed to familiarize the learners with the basic ideas, concepts of Rhetoric and Prosody. This course aims to introduce learners to the key aspects of the major literary types in Literature. The paper will help students acquire domain knowledge on the discipline. It will help develop a general understanding of English Language and Literature and its tools as a distinct subject of study and its inter-disciplinary character as well.

Objectives

- To create effective speakers and writers by helping learners to improve their command over English language.
- To provide a comprehensive study of figure of speech and elements of prosody for a better understanding of the language and literature.

Learning Outcomes

- Develop the sense of close reading of verse and prose passages.
- Students will be able to apply the rhetorical elements into practice in a range of situations.
- Learners will recognize persuasion and develop critical thinking skills.

SECTION 1: RHETORIC-FIGURES OF SPEECH

- Figures based on similarities: Metaphor, Allegory, Parable, Simile, Fable,
- Figures based on association: Metonymy, Synecdoche, Hypallage, Allusion.
- Figures based on differences: Antithesis, Epigram, Climax, Anti-climax, The condensed sentence
- Figures based on imagination: Personification, Apostrophe, Vision, Hyperbole
- Figures based on indirectness: Innuendo, Irony, Periphrasis, Euphemism,
- Figures based on sound: Paronomasia, Onomatopoeia.
- Figures based on construction: Erotesis, Exclamation, Chiasmus, Zeugma,
- Words
- Sentences
- Paragraphs
- Qualities of composition

SECTION 2: PROSODY

- Quantity and Accent
- Rhythm and Meter
- Measures or Foot
- Version
- Scansion
- Pauses

- Rhyme
- Metrical Ornaments: Alliteration, Assonance, Line rhyme
- Stanzas

Recommended Readings:

Abercrombie, Lascelles. *Principles of English Prosody*. M. Secker, 1923.

Barilli, Renato. *Rhetoric*. Vol. 63. U of Minnesota Press, 1989.

Davitz, J. R. 1964. *The Communication of Emotional Meaning*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Dehé, Nicole, and Bettina Braun. "The prosody of rhetorical questions in English." *English Language & Linguistics* 24.4 (2020): 607-635.

Herrick, James A. *The history and theory of rhetoric: An introduction*. Routledge, 2020.

Kleinhans, Janine, et al. "Using prosody to classify discourse relations." *Proceedings of the 18th Annual Conference of the International Speech Communication Association (INTERSPEECH 2017); 2017 Aug. 20-24; Stockholm, Sweden.[place unknown]: ISCA; 2017. p. 778-81*. International Speech Communication Association (ISCA), 2017.

Saintsbury, George. *Historical manual of English Prosody*. Macmillan and Company, Limited, 1914.

Sutherland, Ronald. "Structural linguistics and English prosody." *College English* 20.1 (1958): 12-17.

Whately, Richard. *Elements of Rhetoric*. Longmans, Green, Reader and Dyer, 1870.

(Approved by the Board of Studies in English (UG), RTV, on 5th August, 2026, subject to approval of the Academic Council)

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Chairperson
Board of Studies in English, RTV