

Institute of Humanities & Arts

Modern Poetry

Course Code: ENGL-3117

Credit hours: 3

Aims & Objectives:

- Modern poetry marks a departure from early poetry. It is therefore important that students be introduced to this new genre.
- To introduce the students with the trend of English poetry in the early twentieth century in respect of subject matter and style.
- To develop an understanding about W. B. Yeats' concept of Irish Nationalism
- To help students comprehend T.S. Eliot's perception of the ills of the modern civilization
- To develop an understanding of variations in the themes and techniques of the major Modern Poets

Course Outline

UNIT 1

- Detailed reading with critical analysis of any 3 of the following poems:
- *The Lake Isle of Innisfree*
- *The Wild Swans at Coole*
- *When You are Old*
- *The Second Coming*
- *Among School Children*
- *Easter 1916, Sailing to Byzantium*
- *The Tower*

UNIT 2

- W.B. Yeats as the last Romantic poet
- Various phases of Yeats' poetic career

UNIT 3

- Irish nationalism in Yeats' poetry
- Symbolism
- Critique of Modern civilization

UNIT 4

- Detailed reading with critical analysis of the following poems:
- *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*
- *The Waste Land*.

UNIT 5

- T.S. Eliot as a Modern poet
- Eliot's poetic techniques
- Theme of appearance and reality
- Historical allusions in *The Waste Land*

UNIT 6

- *The Waste Land* as a period piece
- Significance of the title
- Tiresias as a unifying figure in the poem
- Themes

- Remedies for the modern ills in *The WasteLand*
- Influence of Buddha in *The Waste Land*

UNIT 7

- Detailed reading with critical analysis of any 3 of W. H Auden's poems:
- *PaysageMoralise*,
- *MissGee*
- *Victor*
- *In Memory of W.B Yeats*
- *The UnknownCitizen*
- *Diaspora*
- *Musee des BeauxArts*

UNIT 8

- Difference in the vision of Eliot and Auden
- Auden's contribution as a poet

Recommended Reading

1. Cox, C.B, Arnold P. Hinchliffe (eds). *The Waste land* (Casebook series). London: Palgrave Macmillan, 1968.
2. Southam, B.C (ed). *Prufrock, Gerontion; Ash Wednesday and other Poems* (Casebook series). London: Faber & Faber, 1981.
3. Drew, Elizabeth. *T.S. Eliot: The Design of his Poetry*. New York: Scribner, 1949.
4. Gardener, Helen. *The Art of T.S Eliot*. London: Faber & Faber, 1980.
5. Leavis, F.R. *New Bearings in English Poetry*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1955.
6. Maxwell. D.E.S. *The Poetry of T.S Eliot*. London: Routledge, 1961.
7. Stock, A.G.W.B. *Yeats: His poetry and Thoughts*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1961.
8. Henn, T.R. *The Lonely Tower*. London: Methuen, 1952.
9. Spears, Monroe K. *The Poetry of W. H. Auden*. New York: [Oxford University Press](#), 1963.
10. Replogle, Justin. *Auden's Poetry*. London: Methuen Publishing LTD., 1969.