



SRI VENKATESWARA UNIVERSITY, TIRUPATHI
English in consonance with Curriculum framework w.e.f. AY 2025-26

COURSE STRUCTURE

YEAR	SEMESTER	COURSE	TITLE	No. Hrs/Week	No. of Credits
I	I	1	An Introduction to English Literature (600-1500)	4	4
		2	An Introduction to Elizabethan Literature (1558-1603)	4	4
	II	3	An Introduction to Jacobean Literature (1603-1625)	4	4
		4	An Introduction to Restoration Literature (1660-1689)	4	4

SEMESTER-I

COURSE 1: AN INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH LITERATURE (600–1500)

Theory

Credits: 4

4 hrs/week

Course Objectives

- Introduce students to the foundational periods of English literature – Old English, Middle English, and Renaissance.
- Enable learners to understand major literary genres, forms, and movements of the early English period.
- Provide critical insights into key texts of the age and develop literary appreciation.
- Lay the foundation for the historical, cultural, and philosophical growth of English literature.

Learning Outcomes

- Identify the major phases and features of English literature from 600 to 1500 CE.
- Demonstrate knowledge of major genres like poetry, drama, ballad, and criticism from early English literature.
- Critically analyse selected literary texts from Chaucer, Spenser, Marlowe, and Sidney.
- Appreciate the historical, thematic, and stylistic dimensions of early English literature.

Unit I

- Overview of the Old English (Anglo-Saxon) Period
- Features of the Middle English Period
- Renaissance and Humanism – Early stirrings of literary revival

Unit II

- Poetry, Drama, Ballad, Epic
- Literary Devices: Alliteration, Elegy, Sonnet
- Medieval Drama: Mystery Plays, Miracle Plays, Morality Plays

Unit III

- Geoffrey Chaucer – Controlling the Tongue (excerpt)
- Edmund Spenser – Sonnet 73 (Lyke as a Byrd) from Amoretti

Unit IV

- Christopher Marlowe – The Jew of Malta (selected scenes or full play)

Unit V

- Sir Philip Sidney – An Apology for Poetry (selected passages)

Suggested Classroom Activities

- Prepare a historical timeline of literary periods from 600–1500
- Group discussion on the cultural and linguistic evolution
- Literary genre chart-making by student groups
- Audio-visual presentations on medieval drama and its enactment
- Group poetry recitations with meaning explanations
- Write a modern version of a medieval sonnet or ballad
- Enactment of selected scenes from *The Jew of Malta*
- Debate on the moral dilemmas and character traits in Marlowe's play
- Role play: Philip Sidney justifying poetry to critics of his age
- Pair activity: Identify and interpret literary terms in critical writing

References

- Core Textbooks:
- David Daiches. *A Critical History of English Literature*. Allied Publishers.
- H.J.C. Grierson. *A History of English Poetry*. Cambridge University Press.
- M.S. Naagarajan. *English Literary Criticism and Theory*. Orient Blackswan.
- M.H. Abrams. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. Cengage Learning.
- Additional Readings:
- Peter Barry. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*. Manchester University Press.
- Terry Eagleton. *How to Read a Poem*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Stephen Greenblatt. *Renaissance Self-Fashioning: From More to Shakespeare*. University of Chicago Press.
- Online Resources:
- BBC History of English Literature (Interactive Timelines)
- Open Learn & NPTEL Lectures on Medieval English Literature
- British Library Archives – Early English Manuscripts

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**4- Year UG Honours, Major
Syllabus
(2025-26)
Semester-I**

Model Question Paper

Time : 3hrs

Marks:75

Part-A

Answer any Five Questions. Each Question carries 3 Marks.

5x3=15

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Answer the following questions. Each question carries 12 Marks

5x12=60

11. a) Unit-I
(Or)
b) Unit-I

12. a) Unit-II
(Or)
b) Unit-II

13. a) Unit-III
(Or)
b) Unit-III

14. a) Unit-IV
(Or)
b) Unit-IV

15. a) Unit-V
(Or)
b) Unit-V