



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 2: AN INTRODUCTION TO ELIZABETHAN LITERATURE (1558–1603)

Theory

Credits: 4

4 hrs/week

Course Objectives

- Introduce the students to the rich literary landscape of the Elizabethan period.
- Familiarize them with important literary forms, themes, and critical terminology.
- Enable critical appreciation of Elizabethan poetry, drama, and literary criticism.
- Encourage a deeper understanding of Shakespearean and Aristotelian literary excellence.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the historical, cultural, and literary significance of the Elizabethan age.
- Demonstrate knowledge of major genres like tragedy, comedy, masque, allegory, and personification.
- Critically appreciate key texts by Shakespeare and Aristotle.
- Analyse and present the core aesthetic features of Elizabethan drama and poetic tradition.

Unit I

- Literary Characteristics of the Elizabethan Age
- Major Themes and Notable Writers
- Growth of Elizabethan Theatre – Companies, Audience, Performance Style

Unit II

- Figures of Speech: Simile, Metaphor, Allegory, Personification
- Drama Forms: Tragedy, Comedy, Tragi-Comedy, Chronicle Play
- Dramatic Conventions: The Three Unities, Masque

Unit III

- William Shakespeare – Sonnet 116 (“Let me not to the marriage of true minds”)
- William Shakespeare – “All the World’s a Stage” (from As You Like It)

Unit IV

- William Shakespeare – Hamlet (selected scenes or full play)

Unit V

- Aristotle – Poetics (Elements of Tragedy)

Suggested Classroom Activities

- Timeline chart of major writers and events in Elizabethan Literature
- Group discussion on themes like power, love, revenge, and renaissance ideals
- Identify literary devices in selected texts
- Write a short masque or personified allegory in groups
- Group recitation and meaning interpretation of Shakespeare's sonnets
- Enact the "Seven Ages of Man" with visuals
- Stage selected scenes from Hamlet
- Debate: Hamlet – Procrastinator or Philosopher?
- Concept mapping of Aristotle's theory of tragedy
- Create posters of tragic elements in Hamlet matching Aristotle's Poetics

References

• Core Textbooks:

- M.S. Naagarajan. English Literary Criticism & Theory. Orient Blackswan.
- M.H. Abrams. A Glossary of Literary Terms. Cengage Learning.
- E.K. Chambers. The Elizabethan Stage. 4 Vols., Oxford: Clarendon Press.

• Additional Readings:

- Peter Barry. Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory. Manchester University Press.
- David Daiches. A Critical History of English Literature. Allied Publishers.
- Andrew Sanders. The Short Oxford History of English Literature. Oxford University Press.

• Online Resources:

- British Council Shakespeare Resources
- MIT Shakespeare Archive – Full Texts and Study Guides
- BBC Bitesize on Elizabethan Drama

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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