



SRI VENKATESWARA UNIVERSITY, TIRUPATHI
Special English in consonance with Curriculum framework w.e.f. AY 2026-27

COURSE STRUCTURE
Semester-III

YEAR	COURSE	TITLE	No.Hrs/Week	No.of Credits
II	5	An Introduction to Augustan Literature (1700-1750)	4	4
	6	An Introduction to Romantic Literature (1798-1837)	4	4
	7	History of English Language	4	4


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Syllabus
SEMESTER-III
COURSE 5: AN INTRODUCTION TO AUGUSTAN LITERATURE (1700-1750)

Theory

Credits: 4

4 hrs/week

Course Objectives

- ❖ Introduce students to the historical, cultural, and literary background of the Augustan Age.
- ❖ Familiarise learners with major writers, genres, and themes of the period.
- ❖ Develop a critical understanding of Augustan prose, poetry, drama, and literary criticism.
- ❖ Enable students to appreciate the satirical and moral tone of Augustan literature.
- ❖ Equip learners to relate literary texts to contemporary political and social developments.

Learning Outcomes

- ❖ Explain the salient features and socio-political influences of the Augustan Age.
- ❖ Identify and interpret key literary devices used in Augustan poetry and prose.
- ❖ Analyse selected texts for their satirical content and philosophical depth.
- ❖ Develop academic presentations and discussions based on the readings.
- ❖ Recognise the legacy and transition towards neoclassical and modern sensibilities.

Unit I

- Characteristics of Augustan Literature
- Major Themes: Rationalism, Satire, Morality, Political Commentary
- Writers: Jonathan Swift, Alexander Pope, Joseph Addison, Samuel Johnson
- Literary Genres: Mock Epic, Heroic Couplet, Satire, Periodical Essay, Pastoral

Unit II

- Alexander Pope: The Rape of the Lock (Canto I)
- Samuel Johnson: On the Death of Dr. Robert Levet

Unit III

- Jonathan Swift: A Modest Proposal
- Joseph Addison: Sir Roger at Church (from The Spectator)

Unit IV

- John Gay: The Beggar's Opera (selected scenes)

Unit V

- Alexander Pope: Essay on Criticism (Selected Lines)

Suggested Classroom Activities

- Timeline Chart: Augustan Literary Events
- Group Discussion: Comparison of Elizabethan and Augustan theatre
- Recitation of Heroic Couplets
- Analysis of Satirical Techniques in Pope's poetry
- Role Play: Jonathan Swift's A Modest Proposal in modern context
- Debate: Satire as a tool for social reform
- Scriptwriting: Adapting The Beggar's Opera for a local context
- Group enactment of selected scenes
- Critical Appreciation: Dissecting Pope's poetic theories
- Quiz: Key literary terms and critics from the period

References

Print Sources

- Daiches, David. A Critical History of English Literature. Allied Publishers.
- Abrams, M.H. A Glossary of Literary Terms. Cengage Learning.
- Ian Jack. Augustan Satire: Intention and Idiom in English Poetry, 1660–1750. Clarendon Press.
- Paul Baines, Julian Ferraro, and Pat Rogers. The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Eighteenth-Century Writers and Writing. Wiley.

Online Resources:

- <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>
- <https://www.gutenberg.org/>
- <https://literariness.org/>
- <https://lithub.com/>

SEMESTER-III

COURSE 5: AN INTRODUCTION TO AUGUSTAN LITERATURE (1700–1750)

Time : 3 Hours

Marks :75

Section- A

Answer any Five of the following.

5x3=15M

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

Section- B

Answer all the questions

5x12=60M

11. (a)
Or
(b)
12. (a)
Or
(b)
13. (a)
Or
(b)
14. (a)
Or
(b)
15. (a)
Or
(b)