

Out of Syllabus Reading List

I. Starting Off (November'21 - January'22)

Session 1

Dipesh Chakrabarty, *The Climate of History: Four Theses* (2009), and Sandeep Banerjee, *Beyond the Intimations of Mortality* (2017)

Session 2

Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition* (1958)

Session 3

Mahasweta Devi, *Draupadi* (1981)

II. The Muslim Question (March'22 - May'22)

Session 1

Darryl Li, *The Universal Enemy: Jihad, Empire, and the Challenge of Solidarity* (2019)

Session 2

Darren Byler, *Terror Capitalism: Uyghur Dispossession and Masculinity in a Chinese City* (2021)

Session 3

Saaed Naqvi, *The Muslim Vanishes* (2022)

III. Production of Space (July '22 - September '22)

Sessions 1-5

Henri Lefebvre, *The Production of Space* (1974)

Two-Term Series: History of Ideas

IV. Emergence of the West (November '22 - January '23)

Session 1 - The Birth of Christianity

The Bible, New Testament, Paul's Epistle to the Romans (55 CE)

Session 2 - A New Ethics and Politics

St. Augustine, City of God (426 CE)

Session 3 - On Just Rule

St. Francis of Assisi, The Six Letters (1181 – 1226 CE)

Session 4 - Universalism and the Human Condition

John Locke, An Essay Concerning Human Understanding (1689 CE)

Session 5 - Progress of History

Hegel, The Philosophy of History (1837 CE)

V. On the Postcolony (March '23 - May '23)

Session 1 - The Other Within I

Karl Marx, The Jewish Question (1844)

Session 2 - The Other Within II

Antonio Gramsci, The Southern Question (1926)

Session 3 - Guilt, Repression and Civilization

Sigmund Freud, Civilization and its Discontents (1930)

Session 4 - Race and the Education of Desire

Franz Fanon, Black Skin, White Masks (1952)

Session 5 - The Mind Colonised

Ngugi wa Thiongo, Decolonising the Mind (1986)

Session 6 - Possibility after Colonization

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Americanah (2013)

Two-Term Series: History of Meaning

VI. On Structuralism (July '23 - September '23)

Session 1 - Signs, Symbols and Words

Terry Eagleton, *Literary Theory: An Introduction, Structuralism and Semiotics* (1983)

Session 2 - A World Filled with Signs

Ferdinand de Saussure, *Course in General Linguistics* (1916)

Session 3 - A World Filled with Signs (contd.)

Roman Jakobson, *The Metaphoric and Metonymic Poles* (1956)

Session 4 - Structure in Social Imagination

Claude Lévi-Strauss, *Four Winnebago Myths* (1960)

Session 5 - Connections

Edmund Leach, *Culture and Communication: The Logic by which Symbols Are Connected* (1976)

Session 6 - After Structure

Roland Barthes, *The Death of the Author* (1967)

VII. After Structure (November '23 - January '24)

Session 1 - Reason

Jacques Lacan, *The Agency of the Letter in the Unconscious, or Reason Since Freud* (1957)

Session 2 - Inside/Outside

Jacques Derrida, *Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences* (1966)

Session 3 - Subjectivation

Michel Foucault, *The Hermeneutics of the Subject* (1981-82)

Session 4 - Abjection

Julia Kristeva, Powers of Horror: An Essay on Abjection (1980)

Session 5 - Speech/Performance

Judith Butler, Excitable Speech: Politics of the Performative (1997)

Session 6 - Possibility

Anand Pandian, A Possible Anthropology: Methods for Uneasy Times (2019)

VIII. Vita: Life Force (March '24 - May '24)**Session 1 - Life Force**

João Biehl and Torben Eskerod, Vita: Life in a Zone of Social Abandonment (2013)

Session 2 - Interiority

Stefania Pandolfo, Knot of the Soul: Madness, Psychoanalysis, Islam (2018)

Session 3 - Pain

Veena Das, "Language and Body: Transactions in the Construction of Pain" (1997)

Session 4 - Alienation

E. Valentine Daniel, "Suffering Nation and Alienation" (1997)

Session 5 - Varuna-Mitra

Bhri Gupta Singh, Poverty and the Quest for Life: Spiritual and Material Striving in Rural India (2015)

Session 6 - Closing

Naisargi Dave, Indifference: On the Praxis of Interspecies Being (2023)

IX. Death (July '24 - September '24)**Session 1 - Introduction**

Leo Tolstoy, The Death of Ivan Ilych (1886)

Session 2 - Dying is an Art

Michael Taussig, "Dying Is an Art, like Everything Else" (2001)

Session 3 - Grief

Renato Rosaldo, The Day of Shelly's Death: The Poetry and Ethnography of Grief (2013)

Session 4 - Pain

Talal Asad, "Notes On Body Pain And Truth In Medieval Christian Ritual" (1983)

Session 5 - Remains

Ravi Nandan Singh, Dead in Banaras: An Ethnography of Funeral Travelling (2023)

Session 6 - End

Vivek Narayanan, After (2023)

X. In Defence of Poetry (November '24 - January '25)

Session 1 - Selections

William Shakespeare, Sonnet 30; Pablo Neruda, Finale; Rainer Maria Rilke, People at Night; Anna Akhmatova, The Muse; W H Auden, The More Loving One

Session 2 - Poetics

Aristotle, Poetics (335 BCE)

Homer, Iliad (Trans. Caroline Alexander)

Session 3 - A Defence of Poetry

Percy Shelley, A Defence of Poetry (1821)

William Blake, The Marriage of Heaven and Hell

Session 4 - The Ancient Indian Tradition

Sheldon Pollock, A Rasa Reader (2016)

Īśa Upaniṣad (Trans. Andrew Schelling); Nammalvar (Trans. AK Ramanujan); Lal Ded (Trans. Andrew Schelling)

Session 5 - The Indian Modern

Arvind Krishna Mehrotra, Looking for AK Ramanujan (2004)

Arun Kolatkar, A Low Temple; Jayanta Mahapatra, Dawn at Puri

Session 6 - The Contemporary

Louise Glück, The Nobel Lecture (2023)

Fady Joudah, National Park; Ilya Kaminsky, I Ask That I Do Not Die; Natalie Diaz, Postcolonial Love Poem; Dong Li, Event; Samar Sen (trans. Sandeep Banerjee), Farewell To Paradise

XI. In Praise of Love (March '25 - May '25)

Session 1 - Seeking

Plato, Symposium (trans. MC Howatson) (c. 385 – 370 BC)]

Jayadeva, Gita Govinda (trans. Barbara Stoler Miller) (c. 12th century CE)

Session 2 - Virtue

Soren Kierkegaard, Works of Love (trans. David F Swenson and Lillian M Swenson) (1847)

Amir Khusrau (from In the Bazaar of Love, trans. Paul Losensky) (c. 13th-14th century CE)

Session 3 - Force

Herbert Marcuse, Eros and Civilization (1955)

Surdas (from Sur's Ocean, trans. J S Hawley) (c. 16th century CE)

Session 4 - Loss

Shrivatsa Goswami, "Radha: The Play and Perfection of Rasa" in Finding Radha: The Quest for Love, edited by Malashri Lal and Namita Gokhale (2018)

Faiz, My Heart, My Traveler (trans. Hamid Rahim Sheikh) (1978); Tagore, Meghduta (trans. William Radice) (1882-1913)

Session 5 - Love after Love

Byung-Chul Han, The Agony of Eros (2012)

Derek Walcott, Love After Love (1986)

Session 6 - Love's Work

Gillian Rose, Love's Work (1995)