

Department of English 2019-20

Teacher in Charge: Dr. Gauri Mishra

Name of Workshop/Seminar/Conference	No. of participants	Date
Greek Culture and Drama	50+	22.08.2019
Women's Writing	35	20.09.2019
British Poetry and Drama: 17th-18th Century - An Overview	40	01.11.2019
FDP on Literature and Cinema	55+	03.01.2020
Indian Writing in English: An Overview	38	28.02.2020

Seminar- Greek Culture and Drama



The Department of English in collaboration with the Indo-Hellenic Friendship League organized a one day seminar on Greek Culture and Drama on the 22nd August, 2019 in the Conference

room. The keynote address was by **Dr. Bharat Gupt**, one of the most illustrious names in the field of European and Indian Classical Studies. He traced the evolution of Classical drama and discussed the relevance of Indian philosophy and religion in the growth of world drama. The other speaker was **Dr. Lalit Kumar** who gave an overview of European Classical literature. The film Oedipus Rex was screened for the audience in the afternoon.

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Lecture - Women's Writing

Speaker: Dr. Meenakshi Malhotra



The English Department of The College of Vocational Studies organized a lecture on the subject of Women's Writing by Dr. Meenakshi Malhotra especially for the final year English Hons. students on 20th September, 2019. Dr. Malhotra discussed the biases against women and how these are embodied in past and present philosophies of feminism. She presented a clear insight of the growth of Feministic waves over a century and how fluidity of gender and sexuality, "the unspeakable taboo" influenced writings of women of the 20th century. The session also touched upon some of the most feminist texts like 'Draupadi' and confessional poetries of 20th century.

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Talk on “British Poetry and Drama: 17th-18th Century - An Overview.”

Speaker: Dr. Rudrashish Chakraborty



The Department of English organized a talk by Mr. Rudrashish Chakraborty as the second talk in the series of Speaker Sessions on 1st November, 2019; especially arranged for the students of third semester of English Honors. The subject of the session was “British Poetry and Drama: 17th-18th Century - An Overview.” Dr. Chakraborty gave poignant insights into the background of the 17th century and the ruptures in the periodization, yet the coherence created as a result of ideological unification. He talked about seminal texts as well as the ones included in the course

as entry points into the discussion, establishing their relevance. The session culminated in a fruitful discussion and question-answer session, drawing equal participation from the students as well as the faculty members.

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FDP on Literature and Cinema



The Department of English, College of Vocational Studies in collaboration with IQAC, organized a Faculty Development Program 'Literature and Cinema', on 3rd January, 2020. It

was the first FDP in College under the Convenorship of Teacher-in-charge and Associate Professor, Department of English Dr. Gauri Mishra.

The program began with a welcome note by the Convenor, Dr. Gauri Mishra which was followed by the welcome address delivered by the Principal, Dr. Inderjeet Dagar. The keynote address followed this. The speaker, Dr. Anuradha Ghosh, Associate Professor in the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, engaged in a fruitful discussion on literature versus cinema, as opposed to the two being in conjunction with each other, and also the art of adaptation and the forces behind it. This was done with specific reference to the films of Satyajit Ray and the works of Tagore, and other seminal Bengali literary texts and films which served as lucid examples.

The following speaker, Dr. Nirmalya Samant, Associate Professor in the Department of English, Ramanujan College, gave the participants valuable insights into the language of cinema, with recourse to the landmark text of James Monaco (How to Read a Film) and utilising illustrative clips of the Lumiere brothers and Battleship Potemkin. He also commented on aspects such as shooting, showing, and the syntax of a film, its semiotics and montage.

The post-lunch session by Anirudh Deshpande, Associate Professor in the Department of History, Faculty of Arts, University of Delhi on 'Partition Literature and Cinema' examined the historical conjunctures where a particular film is posited at, and why myth has more often than not been passed off as history in mainstream Bollywood films. He also commented on the portrayals of history in 'Pinjar' and '1947: Earth': films whose literary equivalents too, are a part of the course designed by the university.

The final session by Sajan Nair, visiting faculty at the Delhi School of Communications, illustrated the power of the visual medium that cinema is, and how it has tremendous power and potential to be able to project with greater effectivity the printed word. Using varied and multifarious audio-visual clips, he drove his points home effectively. The program was successfully concluded with a vote of thanks by IQAC Convener Anuradha Bawa Singh and distribution of certificates followed.

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Indian Writing in English: An Overview

Speaker: Dr. Nandini Sen



A lecture on “Indian Writing in English: An Overview” was organized by English Literary Society in collaboration with IQAC on 28th February, 2020. The resource person, Dr. Nandini Sen, Associate Professor at Bharti College, DU, traced the historical trajectory of Indian writing in English and touched upon concepts as diverse as “language politics” in colonies, the elitism associated with the English language in India, and Indian feminism. She presented a linear chronology of Indian poetry in English, beginning with Henry Derozio in 1827, which included poets such as Toru Dutt and Sarojini Naidu. She gradually moved to a thematic study of Amitav Ghosh’s novel *The Shadow Lines*, interspersed with critical insights from Homi Bhabha, Suvir Kaul, and other postcolonial theorists. Her focus was on the analysis of the important characters within the novel, ideas of nation, nationalism and colonial boundaries.

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This is to certify that the activity report (Teacher/Department/Society/Association) has been submitted for documentation to Internal Quality Assurance Cell, College of Vocational Studies, University of Delhi.

Anu Satyal

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