# **Course Syllabus**

## **Instructor Information:**

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**Office Hrs:** The students can visit the instructor in the office during the office hours

posted on the office door. (also available by appointment)

Office No.: E-118

## **Course Information:**

Course No.: ENGL 407

Course Title: Pakistani Literature: Contemporary Political Context

Credit Hrs: 3

**Course Duration:** 15 weeks semester system (3\*15=45)

**Prerequisites:** ENGL 220 (Partition Fiction)

**Course Requirement:** In order to appreciate *Pakistani Literature: Contemporary* 

Political Context, the students are required to have the following:

- (i) The students should have a fairly good level of proficiency in oral as well as written English.
- (ii) The students must be willing to work hard and read the relevant text before attending the class.
- (iii) The students must be familiar with the fundamentals of literary appreciation.
- (iv) The students must be adept in the usage of basic analysis skills.
- (v) A vast reading of Pakistani literature and literary criticism shall serve as a good background and help understand the concepts discussed in/ for this course.
- (vi) Students opting for this course must have some understanding of literature and literary criticism. If they have already taken a course on the classical literary criticism, it should help.

#### Text:

• The prescribed course pack.

Literary texts selected from the works of the representative Pakistani writers belonging to contemporary times, reflecting diversity in style, form, thought and genre.

**Course Description:** This course will focus on the Pakistani Literature produced in the past three decades. The overlapping themes and concerns related to diaspora, hybridity, culture, and gender will be discussed. Emerging political issues such as the Kashmir crises, post 9/11 responses from Pakistan, neo colonialism within the independent states, and marginalization of minorities will be explored.

### **Course Objectives:** Some broad-based learning goals for this course are to:

- Familiarize Students to some of the latest trends in Pakistani literary and critical theories
- Enhance Student's reflective thinking order based on their critical readings by a special focus on the overarching thematic focus of the writers
- Generate an interdisciplinary interest by comparing and contrasting different critical approaches towards contemporary political context developed in Pakistani Literature
- Motivate Students to contribute original ideas by connecting their readings to their research by relating political context with creative literary inputs
- Train Students to share their strengths and weaknesses in the field with their peers
- Have an appreciable knowledge of the shaping influences of the different literary eras in the history of Pakistani Literature to find a connection between Pakistani Literature and history, identity and citizenship
- Explore the critical possibilities of the use and meaning of the words in different texts.

#### **Learning Outcomes:** At the end of the course, the students should be able to:

- Present their views on historical development of Pakistani Literature;
- Discuss relationship between literary and political texts;
- Develop an understanding of contemporary and thematic trends;
- Understand the impact of political context on creative sensibility of Pakistani writers:
- Value the local context (through literature) to be able to engage with broader understanding of literature;
- Express in writing the fundamental ideas of particular theories and schools in Pakistani Literature;
- Exchange their perspectives on works by selected philosophers, psychologists, sociologists, theorists and critics in the relevant field;
- Apply literary theory on the selected literary texts in Pakistani Literature
- Our major learning outcome for the course by the end of the semester is to produce a standard research paper (approx 12-15 pages) in the areas of interest (theory based, genre-based or author-based readings) by making use of a theoretical frame work and relevant apparatus. Details to be discussed and forwarded. (as per MLA)

#### **Primary Political Contexts:**

Partition
Kashmir Conflict
Separation East / West Pakistan
Post 9/11 Scenario / Talibanization
Pandemic Crisis
Feminism

#### **Course Content:**

#### Novel

The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid

#### Drama:

- Dukhini by Shahid Nadeem
- The Domestic Crusaders by Wajahat Ali
- The Odyssey by Usman Ali

## **Poetry**

- Alamgir Hashmi
- Kishwar Naheed
- Fehmida Riaz
- Yasmeen Hameed
- Rizwan Akhtar
- Daniyal Mueenuddin
- Hasina Gul

#### **Short Stories**

Selected stories from the following:

- The Barbarians & the Mule by Moazzam Sheikh
- Jungle by Ikramullah
- The Buffalo by Sorayya Khan
- Hieroglyphics by Fahmida Riaz
- Leila in the Wilderness by Nadeem Aslam
- Kashmir's Forever War by Basharat Peer
- Pop Idols by Kamila Shamsie
- Restless by Aamer Hussein
- Ice, Mating by Uzma Aslam Khan
- Mangho Pir by Fatima Bhutto
- The Sins of the Mother by Jamil Ahmad
- The Fourth Day by Navid Shahzad
- The War Zone by Sana Munir
- Pandemic by Illona Yusuf

- Fertility & Fecundity by Iffat Sayeed
- Those Lonely Lock Down Days by Taha Kehar
- The Dying Sun by Syed Azal Haider
- Butt and Bhatti by Mohammed Hanif
- Feeqa's Death by Nadir Ali

#### **Course Evaluation:**

Grading will be based on a combination of mid-term and final Examinations, assignments, quizzes, attendance and class participation. The break up is as follows:

Evaluations	Percentage
Class participation	25%
Presentation	15%
2 Assignments	20%
Mid-term Examination	15%
Final Examination	25%
Total	100%

The Grading system for the course is as follows:

<u>Grades</u>	Quality pts	Numerical Value	Meaning
A	4.00	93 –100	SUPERIOR
A-	3.70	90—92	
B+	3.30	87—89	
В	3.00	83—86	GOOD
B-	2.70	80—82	
C+	2.30	77—79	
С	2.00	73—76	SATISFACTORY
C-	1.70	70—72	
D+	1.30	67—69	
D	1.00	60—66	PASSING
F	0.00	59 or below	FAILING

## **Attendance Policy:**

80% of the attendance is mandatory for eligibility to sit in the final exam. In case of uninformed absence from the class for four consecutive days a student shall have to submit a written application along with a medical certificate, if applicable. Also, the students are expected to be regular and in time for their class.

**Missed Exam Policy:** The students should not miss the mid-term or final-term Exams on dates due as no re exam would be arranged for them. A chance, however, may be given to the students who have genuine reasons along with the proof. In such a case, the students must come up with a formal application supplemented by the required certificates. The

decision will be made in accordance with the student's attendance and conduct in the class room.

## **Guidelines on Paper Assignments:**

- Assignments have to be neatly typed, double-spaced in font 12, on A4 sized paper.
- Title page of the assignment should carry name, roll number, class, section and date of submission of the assignment.
- Assignment should be submitted strictly in terms of the specified dates. No relaxation in this respect will be viewed.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is unacceptable. Any papers submitted in this class that contain examples of plagiarism will not be given credit.

## Guidelines on Class Participation: The students are advised to:

- Be regular in the class.
- Be active and attentive in the class.
- Write class notes, revise and edit them at home.
- Respond in written as well as oral form.
- Ask questions in the class.
- Be ready to seek extra help.
- Avoid plagiarism and cramming.
- Be original.

## **Course Schedule:**

Week	Class	Topics	Evaluation Mode
1.	1.1	Introduction to the Course	
	1.2	Introduction to Pakistani Literature	Discussion
2.	2.1	The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid	Discussion
	2.2	Introduction	
3.	3.1	Critical Analysis	Discussion
	3.2	Main Themes and Characters and political	
		context	
4.	4.1	Dukhini by Shahid Nadeem	Assignment No.1
	4.2	Themes, Characters, Political Context	
5.	5.1	The Domestic Crusaders by Wajahat Ali	
	5.2	Themes, Characters, Political Context	Discussion
6.	6.1	Alamgir Hashmi	
		Yasmeen Hameed	Discussion
		Rizwan Akhtar	
	6.2	Kishwar Naheed	
		Fehmida Riaz	

		Daniyal Mueenuddin	
		Hasina Gul	
7.	7.1	General Discussion, Comments & Questions	
	7.2	MID-Term	Discussion
8.	8.1	The Barbarians & the Mule by Moazzam Sheikh	
	8.2	Jungle by Ikramullah	Discussion
9.	9.1	The Buffalo by Sorayya Khan	Discussion
	9.2	The War Zone by Sana Munir	
10.	10.1	Hieroglyphics by Fahmida Riaz	Presentation
	10.2	Leila in the Wilderness by Nadeem Aslam	
11.	11.1	Kashmir's Forever War by Basharat Peer	Assignment No.
	11.2	Pop Idols by Kamila Shamsie	2
12.	12.1	Restless by Aamer Hussein	
	12.2	Ice, Mating by Uzma Aslam Khan	Discussion
13.	13.1	Mangho Pir by Fatima Bhutto	
	13.2	The Sins of the Mother by Jamil Ahmad	Discussion
14.	14.1	The Fourth Day by Navid Shahzad	
	14.2	Pandemic by Illona Yusuf	Reviews
15.	15.1	General Comments, Discussion & Observations	
	15.2	Final Term	