

STUDYING LITERATURE
(Department of Languages)

LN 552

w.e.f Session 2015-2016

UNIT I: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY RESEARCH

Planning Research. Identifying a topic: formulating a research question; moving from research question to working thesis: determining research design.

Conducting Research. Primary and Secondary sources. Library research: subject-word search; keyword search; catalogue information on books; book indexes; periodical indexes; specialized indexes and abstracts.

Presenting Research: Using the logical patterns of text organization; inductive method; deductive method; cause-effect method; chronological method; problem-solution method.

UNIT II: USING THE INTERNET IN LITERARY RESEARCH

Searching the World Wide Web: E-Libraries; Internet subject directories; search engines; keyword search; discipline-specific online databases; references and indexes available online or on CD-ROM.

Evaluating Online Information: Credibility; author; publisher; sponsor; domain type; Accuracy; timeliness, copyright information.

UNIT III: CRITICAL APPROACHES TO LITERATURE

Author-based Approaches: Biographical approach; Expressive Realism

Reader-based Approaches: Reader-Response Theory

Context-based Approaches: Marxist Criticism; New Historicism; Feminist Criticism; Postcolonial Criticism.

Text-based Approaches: Russian Formalism; New Criticism; Structuralism; Deconstruction.

UNIT IV: PRACTICAL CRITICISM

Close reading of a short poem; Close reading of a short passage from a Novel; Close reading of a short passage from a Play.

Note: Unseen texts will be given for practical analysis for UNIT FOUR

UNIT V: GENERAL ACQUAINTANCE WITH WORLD LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

1. Homer, *The Iliad* (English translation)
2. *The Arabian Nights* (English translation)
3. Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary* (English translation)
4. Khaled Hosseini, *The Kite Runner*

Note: The texts above are not meant for detailed reading.

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