



Indraprastha College for Women

University of Delhi

Work Plan for ODD SEMESTER – 2026

Course Name:	B.A. Program
Paper Title:	Twentieth Century Poetry and Drama (Unit 1 and 3)
Unique Paper Code:	
Semester:	V
Faculty(s):	Dr. Anisha Kaul
Year:	2026

Work Plan			
Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be Covered
1	Introduction to the 20th Century	1.	Historical, social and intellectual context; World Wars, industrialisation, urbanisation and changing notions of identity and society.
1	Introduction to Modernism	2.	Modernist literature, arts and aesthetics; fragmentation, uncertainty, alienation and experimentation with literary form.
1	Introduction to T. S. Eliot	3.	Eliot's literary career, modernist aesthetics and major concerns of his poetry.
1	'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock'	4.	Modern consciousness, alienation, indecision, urban experience, imagery, symbolism, dramatic monologue and poetic technique.
1	'The Hollow Men'	5.	Spiritual crisis, disillusionment, fragmentation, emptiness, post-war anxiety, symbolism and allusion.
1	T. S. Eliot: Comparative Discussion	6.	'Prufrock' and 'The Hollow Men'; alienation, fragmentation, paralysis and the modern self.
1	Introduction to W. B. Yeats	7.	Yeats, twentieth-century Ireland, politics, history, mythology and modernism.

1	‘The Second Coming’	8.	Historical crisis, disorder, apocalypse, violence, symbolism and Yeats's conception of history.
1	‘Leda and the Swan’	9.	Greek mythology, violence, power, history, sexual politics, imagery and poetic form.
1	W. B. Yeats: Comparative Discussion	10.	‘The Second Coming’ and ‘Leda and the Swan’; history, violence, mythology and cyclical conceptions of time.
1	Eliot and Yeats: Comparative Modernism	11.	Fragmentation, history, mythology, crisis, spirituality and responses to the modern world.
		12.	IA/CA
3	Introduction to 20th Century Drama	13.	Changing conventions of drama; modern theatre, realism, experimentation and the crisis of traditional dramatic forms
3	Introduction to Samuel Beckett	14.	Beckett, post-war literature and the emergence of the Theatre of the Absurd.
3	The Theatre of the Absurd	15.	Absurdity, meaninglessness, existential uncertainty, repetition and breakdown of communication.
3	Samuel Beckett: <i>Waiting for Godot</i>	16.	Plot, characters, structure, setting and dramatic situation.
3	Structure and Dramatic Form	17.	Two-act structure, repetition, circularity, pauses, silences and absence of conventional plot progression.
3	Character analysis: Vladimir and Estragon	18.	Friendship, dependence, memory, identity and the human condition.
3	Character analysis: Pozzo and Lucky	19.	Power, domination, dependence, performance and changing relationships.
3	Godot and the Problem of Waiting	20.	Absence, expectation, hope, uncertainty and deferred meaning.
3	Language, Silence and Communication	21.	Repetition, pauses, meaningless dialogue, misunderstanding and breakdown of communication.
3	Symbolism and Motifs	22.	The tree, road, boots, hats, moon, messenger and other recurring motifs.
3	Existentialism and the Human Condition	23.	Meaning, mortality, suffering, freedom, choice and uncertainty.
3	Comparative Discussion	24.	Eliot, Yeats and Beckett: crisis, fragmentation, uncertainty, alienation and the search for meaning.
3	Critical Reception and Contemporary Relevance	25.	Major critical approaches and the continuing relevance of twentieth-century poetry and drama.

3	Revision and Discussion	26.	Close reading, comparative questions and synthesis of major themes, techniques and contexts.
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Unit	Contents/Syllabus
I	1. T.S. Eliot: (i) 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock' (ii) 'The Hollow Men' 2. W.B. Yeats: (i) 'Leda and the Swan' (ii) 'The Second Coming'
II	Shared
III	Samuel Beckett: <i>Waiting for Godot</i> (1952)
S. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers
1.	1. T.S. Eliot: (i) 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock' (ii) 'The Hollow Men' 2. W.B. Yeats: (i) 'Leda and the Swan' (ii) 'The Second Coming'
2.	Samuel Beckett: <i>Waiting for Godot</i> (1952)

Paper Components			
Credits	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)
4	2L	shared	NA
Assessment Scheme			
S.No.	Component	Marking Scheme	Total Marks
1	Internal Assessment - Assignment/Quiz/Project/Presentation - Class Test - Attendance	24	
		12	
		12	
		6	
2.	Continuous Assessment (Tutorial)	35	

	- Activity 1 - Activity 2 - Attendance	20	
		15	
3.	Practical - Continuous Assessment - End Term Written/Practical Exam - Viva	NA	
4.	End Semester Examination		