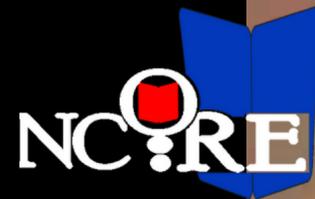




**Sri Gurm Nanak Dev Khalsa College  
University of Delhi**



**Encore**

**The English Literary Society**

Representation Of Identity In  
Literature And Cinema

## Concept Note

# REPRESENTATION OF IDENTITY IN LITERATURE AND CINEMA

When I discover who I am, I'll be free.

-Ralph Ellison

Identity encompasses various relationships that people develop, such as their identities as a child, friend, lover, and parent. Individuality can be impacted by external factors such as body type, race, or class. It is also true that despite external influences one chooses one's identity to define oneself as a person using parameters such as political convictions, moral attitudes, and religious beliefs, all of which influence daily decisions. People who are extremely concerned with their appearance or who believe a vital component of their identity, such as gender or sexuality, is not being adequately expressed, may struggle with their identity. Their identity may feel secluded or sidelined from society. Freedom to create and express one's identity is liberating and can empower the individual.

Literature affects our life socially, mentally, emotionally, and even at times physically. Preference for a particular genre reflects the personality of an individual. From Shakespearean tragedy and comedy approaches to today's Salman Rushdie's controversial approaches, audiences always take a portion of literature that remains a part of them. Likewise, cinema is a crucial element of our lives. It, directly and indirectly, influences our way of life. From a character's psychology to their dressing, everything is inculcated in our day-to-day habits, because we choose to do so. Issues such as the objectification of women's bodies, patriarchy, and misogyny are manifested and represented through item songs and vulgar lyrics with a huge fan base and people enjoy them. In serious cinema, the content has changed with the influence of feminism, social justice, and the upliftment of individual identity.

In Michael Bamberg's words, identity "designates the attempt to differentiate and integrate a sense of self along different social and personal dimensions such as gender, age, race, occupation, gangs, socio-economic status, ethnicity, class, nation states, or regional territory." The word identity itself is a very complicated term, although it does not limit itself to a particular milieu. Literature and cinema as mediums of representation of an individual's identity have thrived over the past few centuries. Be it Charles Dickens' novels or Christopher Nolan's films, the significance of a character's identity is distinctively visible.

- Exploring identity through literature and cinema
- Role of societal influences and expectations in molding an artist's creation
- Analysing prominent works of literature from the perspective of identity
- Effect of cinema on GenZ and their exploration of an individual identity
- Influence of authors on shaping the identity of their readers

**Guidelines for Submission: -**

1. Only Undergraduate students are allowed to be a part of the event.
2. Students are allowed to present their papers either individually or in a **group of two**.
3. After submitting abstracts, shortlisted participants will be notified via email about their selection upon which they will have to submit their papers by the deadline mentioned below.
4. All submissions shall only be made in .doc or .docx formats.
5. Submissions have to be made via email to [encore@sgndkc.du.ac.in](mailto:encore@sgndkc.du.ac.in).
6. Subject for the mail: Student Seminar 2023

**Important Dates: -**

1. Deadline for paper submission: 6th February 2023
2. Intimation of selection of paper: 8th February 2023
3. Paper Presentation: 16 February 2023

**Mail your queries to us:** [encore@sgndkc.du.ac.in](mailto:encore@sgndkc.du.ac.in)