

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE- (DSE-16): Twentieth Century European Fiction

No. of hours- 60 (Theory- 45 hrs.+Tutorials-15 hrs.)

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course	Department offering the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice			
DSE-16 Twentieth Century European Fiction	4	3	1	0	Passed Class XII	NIL	English

This paper is aligned with Sustainability Development Goals 2030: #5 – Gender Equality, , 10 – Reduced Inequality and #16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Learning Objectives

- To introduce students to key literary movements of 20th century European fiction—such as modernism, existentialism, and postmodernism—through texts that exemplify diverse narrative styles and thematic concerns.
- To develop critical reading and analytical skills by interpreting literary texts, exploring narrative techniques, and engaging with key discussions on authorship, identity, and historical context in 20th-century European fiction.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course:

- Students will develop an understanding of European literary imaginings by exploring key themes, styles, and movements in 20th-century fiction.
- Students will enhance their analytical skills by engaging with the specific narrative techniques and cultural contexts of European writings.

SYLLABUS OF DSE-16

UNIT – I (15 weeks-1 hour/week)

Italo Calvino: *If on a Winter's Night a Traveller* (1979)

UNIT – II (15 weeks-1 hour/week)

Franz Kafka: *Metamorphosis* (1915)

Isaac Babel: "The Story of My Dovecote"

UNIT – III (15 weeks-1 hour/week)

Camus, Albert. *The Stranger* (1961)

Natalia Ginzburg. "The Mother"

UNIT – IV (15 weeks-1 hour/week)

Jose Saramago. *Blindness*. Vintage Classics, 2013.

Suggested Readings:

1. Calvino, Italo, et al. *Italo Calvino: A Journey Toward Postmodernism*. United States: University Press of Florida, 1999.
2. Blanchot, Maurice. 'Reading Kafka', *The Work of Fire*. trans. Charlotte Mendel, California: Stanford University Press, 1995. pp 1-11
3. Kundera, Milan. 'The Depreciated Legacy of Cervantes', *The Art of the Novel*. trans. David Belos, UK: Penguin, 2004. pp 3-20
4. Judt, Tony. 'The past is another country: myth and memory in post-war Europe', *Memory and Power in Post-War Europe: Studies in the Presence of the Past*. United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press, 2002. pp 157-183
5. Bauman, Zygmunt. 'Dream of Purity', *Postmodernity and Its Discontents*. United Kingdom: NYU Press, 1997.
6. Dubravka Ugrešić: "The Writer in Exile"
https://cudzoziemki.weebly.com/uploads/2/6/3/4/26347577/dubravka_ugresic_writer_in_exile.pdf