



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE – MUMBAI
(Est. 1869)

(An autonomous college affiliated to The University of Mumbai)

Syllabus for the B.A.
Subject: English

**(Credit Based Semester and Grading System with
effect from the academic year 2020-2021)**

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5th Revision -31st August 2020

This 5th revision of the syllabus for English incorporating modifications in FY, SY, TYBA course contents was proposed by the Board of Studies in English at its meeting held on 31st August 2020, for approval by the Academic Board of the College.

Composition of the Board of Studies in English 2019 – 2020

**Chairman: Dr. Pearl Pastakia, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English,
St. Xavier's College, Mumbai**

External Members:

Academic members-

**Professor Dr. Rajshree Trivedi, Principal and Head, Department of English,
Maniben Nanavati Women's College, (SNDT).**

**Professor Dr. Kamal Mehta, Department of English, Saurashtra University,
Rajkot.**

Industry representatives-

Ms. Pervin Saket, writer, editor.

Ms. Rochelle Potkar, writer.

University representative

**Professor Dr. Nilakshi Roy Department of English, V. G. Vaze College
(Autonomous) Mumbai.**

Internal members (Members of the English Department teaching faculty)

Dr. Rashmi Lee George, Assistant Professor.

Dr. Prasita Mukherjee, Assistant Professor.

Revision History:

1st Revision: September 2013 (FY English and EES; SY)

2nd Revision: March 2015 (FY, TY)

3rd Revision: March 2016 (TY, SY)

4th Revision: September, 2017 (SY)

5th Revision: August 2020 (FY and TY)

The Rationale:

1st Revision: September 2013

The texts prescribed for FYBA (AENG0101 and 0201) were difficult for the novices to relate to and were substituted with modern texts.

The text prescribed for SYBA (AENG0401) was moved into the category of excerpts from longer works for background reading.

The text on multicultural reading (FYEES0201) was substituted with a set of post-colonial readings.

2nd Revision September 2015

The texts prescribed for FYBA (AENG0201) and TYBA (AENG0501) were changed so as to allow the classes to discover a different author / genre by rotation

3rd Revision - March 2016

The scheme of papers was changed so as to allow all English majors to read Literature and the Self. Tales of the City would be taught as Inter-disciplinary Applied Component; it has a wider proportion of visual texts which draws students from diverse backgrounds. Vital elements of Visual Culture were assimilated into SYBA (Mass Media) and TYBA (AENG0505 Popular Culture). In its stead, was taken up a new paper, 'Satire' (AENG0503) as exploration of a genre.

4th Revision 2017

Some readings were added to AENG0402 (Contemporary Indian Writing in English)

5th Revision August 2020

It was discussed that the number of lectures actually available to do the present syllabus never seem to be enough. During the pandemic this was particularly known to be the case. Both during the extraordinary situation of the pandemic and thereafter, the BOS recommended that all the courses could have the syllabi truncated by about 20 per cent at the discretion of the teacher.

FYBA – Substitution of George Orwell's *Animal Farm* was advised, instead of *1984*, by the same writer (AENG0101).

SYBA – In AENG0401, instead of a number of readings in Unit 3, Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* OR August Wilson's *Fences* to be introduced.

TYBA – George Eliot's *Silas Marner* to be introduced as an optional text for Thomas Hardy's *The Return of the Native* (AENG0501).

Why study English?

Are you interested in understanding how we perceive the worlds within and without us? Are you curious to learn from the perceptions of people who are sensitive to self and others? Do you care to know how life is perceived by people who have thought long and deeply about things? Are you keen to build a better future for all?

The writer, creative genius or literary critic studies literary and artistic traditions. They explore the way the visionaries, Masters and Adepts have imagined a finer universe to inhabit. They critique the present and shine the light on the path, the sunlit path towards a golden future.

Learners who enjoy working with words and are enthusiastic about trekking through the adventurous terrain of language and expression, unearthing the creative forces within the self, fascinated by the healing potential of good literature and have a love of the true and the sublime will find this major branch of the humanities a rewarding area of study.

What will I study?

Literature is an evolving field that integrates an understanding of the processes of societal and political change, historical and philosophical development and religious conditions. Literary critics are sought after for their insightful understanding of life and ability to express their evolutionary vision for the future. They are seen as the trailblazers for social, political, economic and religious movements, those who provide direction, optimism and progress.

Why should I choose English at Xavier's?

Our three - year (six semester) English degree course covers all major aspects of this discipline; it is ideal if you want to keep your options and career plans open. All our undergraduate (BA) degrees provide apt opportunities for postgraduate studies and also general graduate employment. You can also extend your studies with an M. A. or a B. Ed. and pursue teaching. The College also has a superb library and an excellent placement cell.

The English course is affiliated to, and recognized by the University of Mumbai. You will enjoy ample opportunities to critique a variety of literary and popular texts with eclectic exposure to multimedia.

Interdisciplinary approach in English:

In the present context, English as a subject is offered as a major subject with a combination with the subject of Psychology.

The syllabi in English keep the spirit and need of an multi-disciplinary BA in mind, where the learner wishes to gain basic supporting knowledge in a field other than that of their specialization. The outcome at the end of completion of the third semester (three courses) is to have a learner with the basic knowledge of how to read fiction, poetry and drama. In the third and fourth semester, the student will be exposed to the development of Indian Writing in English as well as glimpses of American Literature and the application of theory to literary reading.

If the learner wishes to gain further insights into the subject, they can opt to take the further six or twelve courses in the fifth and sixth semesters. There, the object of study is to gain an in-depth knowledge of literature, build theoretical foundations and apply these to the study of literary and popular texts.

October, 2020.