

Semester-VII

4. MJ 19: POPULAR LITERATURE

Objectives:

1. trace the early history of print culture in England and the emergence of genre fiction and best sellers
2. engage with debates on high and low culture, canonical and non-canonical literature
3. articulate the characteristics of various genres of non-literary fiction
4. investigate the role of popular fiction in the literary polysystem of various linguistic cultures
5. demonstrate how popular literature belongs to its time
6. Use various methods of literary analysis to interpret popular literature

SN	Subject and Objectives	Lectures Hrs	Methodology	Evaluation Mode
Unit-I		15Hrs		
	Children's Literature: 1. J. R. R. Tolkien – 'The Hobbit'	15	Lectures, discussion	Q & A, Assignments
Unit-II		15Hrs		
	Detective Fiction: 1. Arthur Conan Doyle – 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'	15	Lectures, discussion	Q & A
Unit III		15Hrs		
	Science Fiction: 1. Isaac Asimov – 'Nightfall'	15	Lectures, discussion	Q & A, Assignments
Unit-IV		15Hrs		
	Romance Literature: 1. Daphne De Maurier – 'Rebecca'	15	Lectures, discussion	Q & A, Assignments

Reference books:

1. Leslie Fiedler, 'Towards a Definition of Popular Literature', in Super Culture: American Popular Culture and Europe, ed. C.W.E. Bigsby
2. Felicity Hughes, 'Children's Literature: Theory and Practice', English Literary History, vol. 45, 1978,
3. Christopher Pawling, 'Popular Fiction: Ideology or Utopia?' in Popular Fiction and Social Change, ed. Christopher Pawling.