

Institute of English Studies
Faculty of Arts and Humanities
University of the Punjab, Lahore.
Course Outline



Programme	BS English Literature	Course Code	ELL-306	Credit Hours	03
Course Title	Modern Novel				
Course Introduction					
Building on students’ understanding of fictional genres and characterization developed through the study of the classical novel, this course examines major twentieth-century novels and their literary innovations. It introduces key narrative techniques and movements, including Conrad’s critique of imperialism in <i>Heart of Darkness</i> , the stream-of-consciousness method of Woolf and Joyce, and the explorations of culture and humanity in the works of Forster and Golding. The course provides a foundation for the study of postcolonial fiction and highlights the novel’s significance as a central genre of modern literature. Through engagement with diverse themes and perspectives, students develop critical thinking skills and gain an appreciation of the novel’s capacity to represent complex ideas and human experiences.					
Learning Outcomes					
1. This course will survey the work of novelists who represent the artistic and cultural aspects of modern narratives. 2. The students are to examine different aspects of modern novels considering the style, point of view, tone, structure, and culture which contribute to the development of modern fiction. 3. Emphasis in this course is not on teaching the students a few modern novels but to enable them for reading and analyzing a modern novel. 4. The students will be acquainted and familiarized with the changing social and literary trends of 20th century as an aftermath and effects of WWI and later World War 2.					
Course Content			Assignments/Readings		
Week 1	Introduction to the Modern Novel. Shift from Classical to Modern Narrative Techniques				
Week 2	Joseph Conrad <i>The Heart of Darkness</i> (1899-1902) — Part I				
Week 3	Joseph Conrad <i>The Heart of Darkness</i> — Part II & III				
Week 4	Joseph Conrad Critical wrap-up of Conrad's style		Assignment 1		
Week 5	E.M. Forster <i>A Passage to India</i> (1924) — Part I: Mosque				
Week 6	E.M. Forster <i>A Passage to India</i> — Part II: Caves				
Week 7	E.M. Forster <i>A Passage to India</i> — Part III: Temple				
Week 8	Mid-Term Examinations				
Week 9	Virginia Woolf <i>To the Lighthouse</i> — The Window				
Week 10	Virginia Woolf <i>To the Lighthouse</i> — Time Passes				
Week 11	Virginia Woolf <i>To the Lighthouse</i> — The Lighthouse				
Week 12	William Golding <i>Lord of the Flies</i> (1954) — Chapters 1–4		Assignment 2		
Week 13	William Golding <i>Lord of the Flies</i> — Chapters 5–8				
Week 14	William Golding <i>Lord of the Flies</i> — Chapters 9–12		Revision		

Week 15	Synthesis & Modern Techniques Comparative study of Joyce, Woolf, and Forster	
Week 16	End-Term Examinations	
Textbooks and Reading Material		
1. Peters, J. G. (2024). <i>Joseph Conrad and the narration of silence</i>. Edinburgh University Press. 2. Adkins, P. (Ed.). (2024). <i>Virginia Woolf and the Anthropocene</i>. Edinburgh University Press. 3. Trivedi, H. (Ed.). (2024). <i>100 years of A Passage to India: International assessments</i>. Orient BlackSwan. 4. Carey, J. (2009). <i>William Golding: The man who wrote Lord of the Flies</i>. Faber & Faber. 5. Ryan, D. (2022). <i>Bloomsbury, beasts and British modernist literature</i>. Cambridge University Press.		
Teaching Learning Strategies		
• Class Discussion • Reading and analyzing the text through interactive sessions. • Class presentations. • Group Discussions. • Lectures, seminars and tutorials..		
Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar		
Two assignments, one before midterms and one after midterm, to be submitted.		