

**NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM**

**PROGRAMME: B.A., LL. B (HONS.) FYIC**

**DETAILS OF COURSE OFFERED**

**EVEN SEMESTER (II) – ACADEMIC YEAR .....**

**1. DETAILS OF THE COURSE:**

**A. COURSE CODE: BL 801.1 (ENGLISH MAJOR VIII, SEMINAR)**

**B. TITLE OF THE COURSE: POPULAR LITERATURE**

**C. COURSE CREDIT: 4 (TOTAL MARKS- 200)**

**B. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH**

**C. COURSE COMPILED BY: DR NUPUR SINHA**

**D. COURSE INSTRUCTOR: DR NUPUR SINHA**

## **2. Course Objectives:**

- The students will learn the rise of popular literature in the modern era, and how the eco-social-political-cultural landscape of the modern times shaped and advanced the field of popular literature.
- The historical, social and cultural context under which the most celebrated popular works has been written.
- To understand the contrast and contradictions between high literature and popular literature;
- How the rise of popular literature has contributed towards various socio-political and cultural issues of the current times?

## **3. Teaching Outcomes:**

- The students shall familiarize themselves with the miscellaneous forms and techniques of writing facilitated by pop culture and literature;
- The students shall learn various texts related to popular literature, and the literary genres associated with it.
- The characteristics and features of popular writing, and how its influence has been reshaping the language used in day-to-day life, as well as other forms of communication
- The overall impact of pop culture in various aspects of contemporary life and manners.

## **4. DETAILED STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE (SPECIFYING COURSE MODULES AND SUB-MODULES)**

### **MODULE I**

➤ Popular Writing and Literature, Genres and Forms, Post-Modernism, Cultural and Economic Theory, Post Third Wave of Feminism, Sexual and Gender Theory, Post-Humanism, Apocalyptic fiction, science fiction, Mass media

## **MODULE II**

### **Crime, Suspense and Detective Fiction**

- Mario Puzo: The Godfather
- Dan Brown : The Lost Symbol
- Agatha Christie: Murder on the Orient Express

### **Fantasy and Children Fiction:**

- C.S. Lewis: The Lord of the Rings
- The Marvel Comics: Iron Man and Captain America

## **MODULE III**

### **Romantic Fiction**

- Helen Fielding: Bridget Jones's Diary
- André Aciman: Call me by Your Name

## **MODULE IV**

### **Science and Apocalyptic Fiction**

- Liu Cixin: The Three Body Problem
- Stephen King : The Stand

### **Suggested Readings:**

Bennett, Tony, 1981, Popular Culture: Themes and Issues (Part I), London, Open University Press

Bennett, Tony, ed. Popular Fiction : Technology, Ideology, Production , Reading. London: Routledge, 1990

Bigsby, CWE Superculture: American Popular Culture and Europe. Bowling Green, Ohio: Bowling Green University Popular Press, 1975

Bourdieu, Pierre. Distinction : A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste. Trans. Richard Nice. Cambridge, Mass : Harvard UP, 1984.

Browne, Ray B, 1973, *Popular Culture and the Expanding Consciousness*, New York, Wiley

Fielding, Leslie A. *Cross the Border --- Close the Gap*, New York, Simon & Schuster, 1982

----, "Giving the Devil His Due", *Journal of Popular Culture*, Fall, 1978, pp 197-207

-----, "Towards a Definition of Popular Literature", *Superculture : American Popular Culture and Europe*, Ed. CWE Bigsby, Bowling Green Ohio, Bowling Green University Popular Press, 1975, pp 29-38

Srivastava Prem K " The Postmodern Condition and the Politics of the Popular." *Creative Forum, Journal of Literary and Critical Writings*, Bahri Publications, New Delhi. Vol 16, No 1-2, Jan-Jun, 2003: 119-130.