

DSE4-A II Introduction to Literary Criticism

Semester 6

Objectives

1. To introduce students to major trends and theories in modern literary criticism, including the ideas of T. S. Eliot, William Empson, Georg Lukács, and Sigmund Freud.
2. To develop understanding of New Criticism through key concepts proposed by Cleanth Brooks, W. K. Wimsatt, and Monroe Beardsley.
3. To familiarize students with critical terms and practical criticism techniques for analyzing poetry, prose, and drama.

Expected Outcomes

1. Students will be able to explain major theories of modern criticism such as impersonality, ambiguity, realism, and psychoanalytic theory.
2. Students will understand and apply principles of New Criticism, including concepts like tension, paradox, and intentional fallacy.
3. Students will be able to critically analyze literary texts using key critical terms and demonstrate practical criticism skills in interpreting poems, novels, and plays.

Unit IV: Modern Criticism

Eliot's theory of impersonality, William Empson's seven types of ambiguity, Georg Lukács' concept of realism, Sigmund Freud's structure of human mind – id, ego and superego

Unit V: New Criticism

Allen Tate's concept of tension, Cleanth Brooks' notion of paradox as the structure of poetry, Wimsatt and Beardsley's concept of intentional fallacy

Unit VI: Critical Terms and Practical Criticism

Critical Terms:

1. Catharsis
2. Allegory
3. Diction
4. Irony
5. Motif and theme
6. Genre
7. Metaphor
8. Point of view
9. Subjective and objective
10. Satire

Practical Criticism:

Practical criticism of poems, passages from novels and plays, etc.