

| Course Code | Course Title | L | T | P | C |
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| PHD19013 | Gender Studies and Mythology | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |

UNIT 1. Introduction to Gender Studies

This Unit focuses to engage the students in Mapping and analyzing perspectives, issues and debates in the field of development from gender perspectives.

(a) Introduction, Gender Perspectives of Body, Social Construction of Femininity, Social Construction of Masculinity, Women's Studies and Gender Studies.

(b) Understanding renderings and characters in Epics

The Unit intends to examine through a gender lens, the inter-linkages between cultural practices, social processes and development approaches with stress on Vaishnavism, Shaivism and Shaktism

*Overview of Indian cultic traditions with stress on Vaishnavism, Shaivism and Shaktism

Unit 2: Gender and the Interpretation of Classical Myth (Lillian Doherty)

This Unit aims to understand the redefined gender roles and identities in the present times that are inevitably reflected in our interpretations and retellings of these classical myths. Using the new lenses provided by gender studies and diverse forms of feminism, Lillian Doherty re-examines some of the major approaches to myth interpretation in the twentieth century: psychological, ritualist, 'charter', structuralist and folklorist. She also explores 'popular' uses of

classical mythology - from television and comic books to the evocation of goddesses in Jungian psychology

Unit 3.

Understanding feminisms in global and local contexts and mapping feminist and masculinist interventions in knowledge.

*The Myth of Mars and Venus: Do Men and Women Really Speak Different Languages?
(Deborah Cameron)

Unit 4: Women of Mythology (Kay Retzlaff)

The Unit explores the tales, from ancient Egypt to old Ireland, from classical Greece to China, praise the divine and human heroines who demonstrate courage, daring, wit, creativity, and loyalty.

Unit 5: Women: In Indian Mythology (M.L. Ahuja)

This unit intends to understand the significant role-as Shakti assuming the power of creation, as the divine mother, as sages, as spiritual and religious leaders, as noble queens, as ideal wives and as compassionate daughters.

Suggested Readings:

1. Bolt, C. *The Women's Movements in the United States and Britain from the 1790s to the 1920s*. New York & London: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1993.
2. Burton, A. *Burdens of History: British Feminists, Indian Women and Imperial Culture*. University of North Carolina Press, 1994.
3. Holton, S. *Suffrage Days: Stories from the Women's Suffrage Movement*. London: Routledge, 1996.
4. Legates, M. *In Their Time: A History of Feminism in Western Society*. London: Routledge, 2001.
5. Rendall, J. *The Origins of Modern Feminism: Women in Britain, France and the United States, 1780-1960*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1985.
6. Kemp, Sandra and Judith Squires. *Feminisms*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.
7. Ramusack, Barbara N., and Sharon Sievers. *Women in Asia*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1999.
8. Bhasin, Kamala and Nighat Said Khan. *Some Questions on Feminism and Its Relevance in South Asia.*, Kali For Women, New Delhi, 1986.
9. Chaudhuri, Maitrayee (Ed.) *Feminism in India*, Kali for Women, New Delhi, 2004.

Assessment:

Candidate will be assessed based on written papers and/or oral presentations followed with a written examination.