

# Common Courses

MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY

SYLLABI FOR COMMON COURSES - UG PROGRAMMES

2017 ADMISSIONS ONWARDS

**COURSE 1- Fine-tune Your English**

Course Code	<b>EN1CCT02</b>
Title of the course	<b>Fine-tune Your English</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>1</b>
No. of credits	<b>4</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>90</b>

## AIM OF THE COURSE

The course is intended to introduce the students to the basics of grammar, usage and effective communication.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. confidently use English in both written and spoken forms.
2. Use English for formal communication effectively.

## COURSE OUTLINE

### Module 1

**(18 Hours)**

The Sentence and Its Structure - How to Write Effective Sentences – Phrases -What Are They? - The Noun Clauses - The Adverb Clause - -If All the Trees Were Bread and Cheesell - The Relative Clause - How the Clauses Are Conjoined -

Word-Classes and Related Topics - Understanding the Verb - Understanding the Auxiliary Verb - Understanding the Adverbs - Understanding the Pronoun - The Reflexive Pronoun - The Articles I - The Articles II - The Adjective - Phrasal Verbs - Mind Your Prepositions

## **Module 2**

**(18 Hours)**

To Err Is Human - Concord - A Political Crisis - Errors, Common and Uncommon - False Witnesses - The Anatomy of Mistakes- A Fault-finder Speaks - A Lecture on AIDS - A Test for You, Reader - Ungrammatical Gossip - Round Circles and Equal Halves: A Look at Tautology - Comparisons are Odious - In Defence Of A Friend - An Invitation

Spelling and Pronunciation - Pronunciation: Some Tips - More Tips on Pronunciation – Spelling - An Awesome Mess? - Spelling Part II

## **Module 3**

**(18 Hours)**

Singleness of Meaning - Shades of Meaning - Confusing Pairs - What Is the Difference? - Mismatching Mars the Meaning

The Tense and Related Topics - ‘Presentness’ and Present Tenses- The ‘Presentness’ of a Past Action - Futurity in English - Passivization

Idiomatic Language- ‘Animal’ Expressions - Idiomatic Phrases - ‘Heady’ Expressions - Body Language

## **Module 4**

**(18 Hours)**

Interrogatives and Negatives - Negatives- How to Frame Questions -What’s What? The Question Tag

Conversational English - Polite Expressions - Some Time Expressions - In Conversation - Is John There Please?

Miscellaneous and General Topics - On Geese and Mongooses - Pluralisation - On Gender and Sexisms

Reading – Kinds of Reading – Recreational Reading – Study-type Reading Survey Reading – The Process of Reading – Readability – The Importance of Reading – Previewing - Skimming

## **Module 5**

**(18 Hours)**

The world of words- have a hearty meal- word formation-Use the specific word- word games-the irreplaceable word- Let’s play games- body vocabulary

Very Good but Totally Incompetent - Long Live the Comma - The Possessive Case- Letter Writing- Academic Assignments

Get your doubts cleared

**Core Text: *Fine-tune Your English* by Dr Mathew Joseph.** Orient Blackswan and Mahatma Gandhi University

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**SYLLABI FOR COMMON COURSES - UG PROGRAMMES**  
**2017 ADMISSIONS ONWARDS**  
**COURSE 2 - Pearls from the Deep**

Course Code	<b>EN1CC02</b>
Title of the Course	<b>Pearls from the Deep</b>
Semester in which the Course is to be taught	<b>1</b>
No. of Credits	<b>3</b>
No. of Contact Hours	<b>72</b>

**AIM OF THE COURSE**

To introduce students to the different genres of literature and to the niceties of literary expression.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE**

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. appreciate and enjoy works of literature.
2. appreciate the aesthetic and structural elements of literature.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Module 1 [Fiction] (18 hours)**

Ernest Hemingway: *The Old Man and the Sea*

**Module 2 [One Act Plays] (18 hours)**

Susan Glaspell: Trifles  
 Asif Currimbhoy: The Refugee  
 A. A. Milne: The Boy Comes Home

**Module 3 [Short Stories] (18 hours)**

Guy De Maupassant: Two Friends  
 O. Henry: The Gift of the Magi

K. A. Abbas: Sparrows  
Flora Annie Steel: Valiant Vicky, the Brave Weaver

**Module 4 [Poems]**

**(18 hours)**

Rumi: The Chance of Humming  
Walter Scott: Lochinvar  
John Keats: La Belle Dame sans Mercy  
Robert Frost: After Apple Picking  
Chinua Achebe: Refugee Mother and Child  
Kamala Das: My Grandmother's House  
Ted Hughes: Jaguar  
Pablo Neruda: Tonight I can Write the Saddest Lines  
P. P. Ramachandran: How Simple!

**Core Text:** *Pearls from the Deep*. Cambridge University Press and Mahatma Gandhi University

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**2017 ADMISSIONS ONWARDS**  
**COURSE 3 - Issues that Matter**

Course Code	<b>EN2CCT03</b>
Title of the course	<b>Issues that Matter</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>2</b>
No. of credits	<b>4</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>90</b>

**AIM OF THE COURSE**

To sensitize the learners to contemporary issues of concern.

**OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course, the learner should be able to:

1. Identify the major issues of contemporary significance
2. Respond rationally and positively to the issues raised
3. Internalise the values imparted through the selections.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Module 1** **(18 hours)**

Kenzaburo Oe- The Unsundered People

Judith Wright: The Old Prison

Luigi Pirandello- War

**Module 2** **(18 hours)**

Persuasions on the Power of the Word On Censorship- Salman Rushdie

Peril- Toni Morrison

Bertolt Brecht: The Burning of the Books

Luiza Valenzuela- The Censors

**Module 3**

Bandhumadhav: The Poisoned Bread **(18 hours)**

Zitkala- Sa: A Trip Westward

Temsula Ao: The Pot Maker

**Module 4**

**(18 hours)**

Richard Leakey- Does it Matter?

Gieve Patel- On Killing a Tree

Sarah Joseph- Hagar: A Story of a Woman and Water

**Module 5**

Mallica Mishra- Understanding Refugeeism: An Introduction to Tibetan Refugees in India.

W.H.Auden- Refugee Blues

Ghassan Kanafani- The Child Goes to the Camp

**(18 hours)**

**Core Text: *Issues that Matter***

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**2017 ADMISSIONS ONWARDS**  
**COURSE 4 - Savouring the Classics**

Course Code	<b>EN2CCT04</b>
Title of the Course	<b>Savouring the Classics</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>2</b>
No. of credits	<b>3</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>72</b>

**AIM OF COURSE**

To introduce the students to the taste of time tested world classics.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE**

On completion of the course, the student should:

1. become familiar with the classics from various lands.
2. understand the features that go into the making of a classic.

**OUTLINE OF THE COURSE**

**Module 1 [Poems]**

**(18 hours)**

Homer- The Odyssey  
 Kalidasa- Lovely is Youth  
 Omar Khayyam- Rubaiyat  
 Dante Alighieri- The Divine Comedy  
 John Milton- On His Blindness

**Module 2 [Shakespeare Excerpts]**

**(18 hours)**

*Romeo and Juliet*: ACT II, Scene ii  
*The Merchant of Venice*: ACT IV, Scene i

**Module 3 [Novel Excerpts]**

**(18 hours)**

Miguel de Cervantes- Don Quixote  
Victor Hugo: *Les Miserables* (Part 1- Fantine Book II)  
Jane Austen- Pride and Prejudice

**Module 4 [Short Fiction]**

**(18 hours)**

Rabindranath Tagore- Kabuliwala  
Leo Tolstoy- How Much Land Does a Man Need?  
Charles Dickens- The Black Veil  
Jorge Luis Borges- The Shape of the Sword

**Core Text:** *Savouring the Classics*

**Recommended Reading**

Italo Calvino: *Why Read the Classics?*  
A. C. Bradley: *Shakespearean Tragedy*  
Katherine Armstrong: *Studying Shakespeare: A Practical Introduction*  
Gemma McKenzie: *Foundations of European Drama*  
Harold Bloom: *The Western Canon*  
Jeremy Hawthorn: *Studying the Novel*  
C. Marydas: *Shakespearean Aesthetics for University Wits*

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**2017 ADMISSIONS ONWARDS**  
**COURSE 5 - Literature and/as Identity**

Course Code	<b>EN3CCT05</b>
Title of the course	<b>Literature and/as Identity</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>3</b>
No. of credits	<b>4</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>90</b>

**AIM OF THE COURSE**

The course is intended to sensitivise students to the various ways in which literature serves as a platform for forming, consolidating, critiquing and re-working the issue of ‘\_identity’ at various levels.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE**

On completion of the course, the student should be aware of the following:

1. The subtle negotiations of Indigenous and Diasporic identities with-in Literature.
2. The fissures, the tensions and the interstices present in South Asian regional identities.
3. The emergence of Life Writing and alternate/alternative/marginal identities.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Module 1 (Diasporic Identities)**

**(18 hours)**

Agha Shahid Ali: Postcard From Kashmir  
 Amy Tan: Mother Tongue  
 Imtiaz Dharker: At the Lahore Karhai  
 Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni: Indian Movie, New Jersey

**Module 2 (South Asian Identities)**

**(18 hours)**

Sadaat Hasan Manto: The Dog of Titwal  
 Intizar Hussain: A Chronicle of the Peacocks  
 Selina Hossain: Fugitive Colours  
 Purnyakante Wijenaik: That Deep Silence

**Module 3 (Life Writings)**

**(18 hours)**

Malcolm X: -Nightmare, excerpt from *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*.

Sashi Deshpande: Learning to be a Mother in *Janani – Mothers, Daughters, Motherhood*,  
(ed.) Rinki Bhattacharya.

**Module 4 (Indigenous Identities)**

**(18 hours)**

Leslie Marmon Silko- Lullaby

*Garhwali Songs in Painted Words - An Anthology of Tribal Literature* - Edited by G. N.

Devy.

Mamang Dai- Pinyar, the Widow

**Module 5 (Alter Identities)**

**(18 hours)**

Nathaniel Hawthorne: The Birth Mark

Girish Karnad- Hayavadana

Ruskin Bond: The Girl on the Train

**Core Text: *Literature and/as Identity***

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**2017 ADMISSIONS ONWARDS**  
**COURSE 6 – Illuminations**

Course Code	<b>EN4CCT06</b>
Title of the course	<b>Illuminations</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>4</b>
No. of credits	<b>4</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>90</b>

**AIM OF THE COURSE**

To acquaint the learners with different forms of inspiring and motivating literature.

**OUTLINE OF THE COURSE**

At the end of the course, the student shall be able to:

1. maintain a positive attitude to life.
2. evaluate and overcome setbacks based on the insights that these texts provide.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Module 1 [Life Sketches] (18 hours)**

Helen Keller: Three Days to See  
 Jesse Owens: My Greatest Olympic Prize  
 Thus Spoke Sudarshan: Interview with God’s own Physicist-  
 Compiled from E C G Sudarshan’s Interviews

**Module 2 [Essays] (18 hours)**

Stephen Leacock: Are the Rich Happy?  
 A.G. Gardiner: On Courage

**Module 3 [Speeches] (18 hours)**

Lafcadio Hearn: On Reading in Relation to Literature  
 J. K. Rowling: The fringe benefits of failure and the importance of imagination  
 Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie- An Ode to Make-up

**Module 4 [Short Stories] (18 hours)**

Oscar Wilde: The Nightingale and the Rose  
 George Orwell: Roucolle, The Miser

John Galsworthy: Quality  
Alice Walker- Everyday Use  
**Module 5 [Poems]**

**(18 hours)**

William Ernest Henley: Invictus  
Robert Frost: The Road Not Taken  
Kahlil Gibran: Of Good and Evil  
Maya Angelou- Still I Rise

**Core Text: *Illuminations***

# Common Courses

MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY

SYLLABUS FOR COMMON COURSES – UG PROGRAMMES

2017 ADMISSIONS ONWARDS

**COURSE 1 - Fine-tune Your English**

**For Semester I B.Com**

Course Code	<b>EN1CCT01</b>
Title of the course	<b>Fine-tune Your English</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>1</b>
No. of credits	<b>4</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>90</b>

## **AIM OF THE COURSE**

The course is intended to introduce the students to the basics of grammar, usage and effective communication.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE**

On completion of the course, the student should be able to: 1. confidently use English in both written and spoken forms. 2. Use English for formal communication effectively.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **SECTION A: The Sentence and its Structure**

CHAPTER ONE: How to Write Effective Sentences

CHAPTER TWO: Phrases—What are They?

CHAPTER THREE: The Noun Clauses

CHAPTER FOUR: The Adverb Clause

CHAPTER FIVE: “If All the Trees Were Bread and Cheese”

CHAPTER SIX: The Relative Clause

CHAPTER SEVEN: How Clauses are Conjoined

### **SECTION B: Word Classes and Related Topics**

CHAPTER EIGHT: Understanding the Verb

CHAPTER NINE: Understanding Auxiliary Verbs

CHAPTER TEN: Understanding Adverbs  
CHAPTER ELEVEN: Understanding Pronouns  
CHAPTER TWELVE: The Reflexive Pronoun  
CHAPTER THIRTEEN: The Articles I  
CHAPTER FOURTEEN: The Articles II  
CHAPTER FIFTEEN: The Adjective  
CHAPTER SIXTEEN: Phrasal Verbs  
CHAPTER SEVENTEEN: Mind your Prepositions  
**SECTIONC: To Err is Human**  
CHAPTER EIGHTEEN: Concord  
CHAPTER TWENTY: Errors, Common and Uncommon  
CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE: False Witnesses  
**SECTIOND: The World of Words** CHAPTER  
THIRTY-TWO: Word Formation  
CHAPTER THIRTY-THREE: Using the Specific Word  
CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN: Body Vocabulary  
**SECTIONG: Tense and Related Topics**  
CHAPTER FORTY-SEVEN: 'Presentness' and Present Tenses  
CHAPTER FORTY-EIGHT: The 'Presentness' of a Past Action  
CHAPTER FORTY-NINE: Futurity in English  
CHAPTER FIFTY: Passivisation  
**SECTIONH: Idiomatic Language** CHAPTER  
FIFTY-ONE: 'Animal' Expressions CHAPTER  
FIFTY-TWO: Idiomatic Phrases  
**SECTIONI: Interrogatives and Negatives**  
CHAPTER FIFTY-FIVE: Negatives  
CHAPTER FIFTY-SIX: How to Frame Questions  
CHAPTER FIFTY-SEVEN: What's What?  
CHAPTER FIFTY-EIGHT: The Question Tag  
**SECTIONJ: Conversational English**  
CHAPTER SIXTY-TWO: Is John There Please?  
**SECTIONK: Miscellaneous and General Topics**  
CHAPTER SEVENTY-THREE: Letter Writing

In addition there will be an essay question on a general topic.

**Core Text: *Fine-tune Your English* by Dr Mathew Joseph.** Orient Blackswan and Mahatma Gandhi University

**MAHATMAGANDHIUNIVERSITY**  
**SYLLABIFORCOMMONCOURSES–**  
**UGPROGRAMMES2017ADMISSIONSONWARDSOURSE3-**  
**IssuesthatMatter**

**ForSemesterIIB.Com**

Course Code	<b>EN2CCT03</b>
Title of the course	<b>IssuesthatMatter</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>2</b>
No. of credits	<b>4</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>90</b>

**1.AimoftheCourse:**

To sensitize the learners about contemporary issues of concern; to enhance their linguistic skills in English language.

**Objectives:**

By the end of the course, the learner is able to

- identify major issues of contemporary significance
- respond rationally and positively to the issues raised
- internalise the values imparted through the excerpts
- re-orient himself/ herself asconscientious, cautious, concerned, conscientious and concerned human being and
- articulate these values in error free English.

**2.CourseOutline:**

**Module1**

**(18hours)**

1. TheUnsurrendered People - Kenzaburo Oe
2. The Old Prison – Judith Wright
3. War– Luigi Pirandello

**Module2****(18hours)**

4. Persuasions on the Power of the Word - Salman Rushdie

Peril - Toni Morrison

5. The Burning of the Books- Bertolt Brecht

6. The Censors - Luisa Valenzuela

**Module3****(18hours)**

7. "The Poisoned Bread" – Bandhumadhav

8. *A Westward Trip*-ZitkalaSa

9. "The Pot Maker" – TemsulaAo

**Module4****(18hours)**

10. Does it Matter – Richard Leakey

11. On Killing A Tree - Gieve Patel

12. Hagar: A Story of a Woman and Water (Gift in Green [chapter 2]) – Sarah Joseph

**Module5****(18hours)**

13. Understanding Refugeeism: An Introduction to Tibetan Refugees in India

14. Refugee Blues – W. H. Auden

15. The Child Goes to the Camp(from Palestine's Children)– GhassanKanafani

**CoreText:ISSUESTHATMATTER**

**MAHATMAGANDHIUNIVERSITY**  
**SYLLABIFORCOMMONCOURSES-UGPROGRAMMES**  
**2017ADMISSIONSONWARDS**  
**COURSE7-GemsofImagination**

**ForSemesterIIIB.Com**

Course Code	<b>EN3CCT07</b>
Title of theCourse	<b>GemsofImagination</b>
Semester in which the Course is to be taught	<b>3</b>
No. of Credits	<b>3</b>
No. of Contact Hours	<b>54</b>

**AIMOFTHECOURSE**

To familiarisestudents to differentgenres of literature and to help them imbibe critical thought in discussingliterature.

**OBJECTIVESOFTHECOURSE**

On completion of the course, the student should beable to:

1. appreciate the aesthetic and cultural milieu inwhich literature resides.
2. discern theways in which different literary genres affect reading.
3. distinguish between literary appreciation and literarycritique

**COURSEOUTLINE**

**Module1[Fiction] (18hours)**

ErnestHemingway: *TheOldManandtheSea*

**Module3[ShortStories] (18hours)**

GuyDe Maupassant: Two Friends  
O. Henry:The Gift of the MagiK.  
A. Abbas: Sparrows  
FloraAnnie Steel: Valiant Vicky, the Brave Weaver

**Module4[Poems] (18hours)**

Rumi:The Chanceof Humming  
Walter Scott:Lochinvar

John Keats: La Belle Dame sans Mercy  
Robert Frost: After Apple Picking  
Chinua Achebe: Refugee Mother and Child  
Kamala Das: My Grandmother's House  
Ted Hughes: Jaguar  
Pablo Neruda: Tonight I can Write the Saddest Lines  
P. P. Ramachandran: How Simple!

**Core Text:** *Gems of Imagination.*

**MAHATMAGANDHIUNIVERSITY**  
**SYLLABIFORCOMMONCOURSES-**  
**UGPROGRAMMES2017ADMISSIONSONWARDSOURSE**  
**8–RevisitingtheClassics**

**ForSemesterIVB.Com**

Course Code	<b>EN4CCT08</b>
Title of the course	<b>RevisitingtheClassics</b>
Semester in which the course is to be taught	<b>4</b>
No. of credits	<b>3</b>
No. of contact hours	<b>54</b>

**AIMOFCOURSE**

To introducethe studentsto the taste of time tested world classics.

**OBJECTIVESOFTHECOURSE**

On completion of the course, the student should:

1. become familiar with the classics from various lands.
2. understandthe features that go into the making of a classic.

**OUTLINEOFTHECOURSE**

**Module1[Poems]**

**(18hours)**

Homer: “Father and Son” (*Odyssey* Book 16: 113-189) (Translated by Robert Fagles)  
 Kalidasa: “Lovely is Youth” (Translated by J.G. Jennings)  
 Omar Khayyam: *Rubaiyat* (quatrains: 25-28) (Translated by Edward Fitzgerald)  
 Dante: Dante meets Virgil (*Inferno* Canto 1: 49-102) (Translated by J.G. Nichols)  
 John Milton: “On his Blindness”

**Module2[ShakespeareExcerpts]R**

**(18hours)**

*omeoandJuliet*: ACT II, Scene ii  
*TheMerchantofVenice*: ACT IV, Scene i

**Module3[NovelExcerpts]**

**(18hours)**

Miguel de Cervantes: *DonQuixote* (Chapter 8) (Translated by Edith Grossman)  
 Jane Austen: *PrideandPrejudice* (Chapters 1-6)  
 Victor Hugo: *LesMiserables* (Part 1- Fantine, Book II, Chapters 9-13) (Translated by Christine Donougher)

**CoreText:***RevisitingtheClassics*