Reading the Classics

Faculty | Course Type | Credits | Prerequisites | Semester
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Ms. Sulakshana Sen | General | 4 | None | Any

**Brief Overview**

Classic Literature usually involves literary works that are universally accepted as being exemplary pieces, either through lists presented by various reputed and established institutions, or through a reader's own personal opinion.

Any literary work that is considered to be a classic usually comprises three main elements:

- It can be reinterpreted and its appeal is different every time it is read
- It interests generations of readers long after it has been written
- It is universal in appeal – it dwells on themes that touch human life everywhere irrespective of class, country or religion

**Course Objectives**

Students in this course will be able to –

- Enrich their minds as they journey along with the new worlds of the classics through tragedies, comedies, romance and drama
- Get an insight into the language, tradition and culture of a particular community or a particular period
- Realize that human values and emotions remain the same irrespective of race, place or age
- Enjoy reading the masterpieces created by the maestros of the literary world

**Teaching Methodology**
Classroom teaching will comprise discussions, viewing of DVD’s and presentations. Apart from a general discussion of “What are Classics?” and “Why Read the Classics”, during the first few classes, teaching methodology for each of the twenty classics introduced will involve:

- A general introduction to the author – the time period and the socio-economic background
- A discussion of contemporary authors of the period and their writings
- A discussion of the political and socio-economic background in which the plot has been set
- Post-reading – a discussion on the style of writing, the characters and the storyline, as well as the memorable parts of the classic

**Requirements**

Students are expected to –

- Complete all required reading for each scheduled class as per the course outline,
- Actively participate in class activities and discussions, and
- Complete all evaluative processes for successful course completion!