

Gujarat Vidyapith, Sadra

Department of English

B.A. (English)

Semester VI

MJRENG 604: Travel Writing

Credit: 4

No. of Hours: 60

Internal Evaluation: 40

Semester-End Examination: 60

Objective: The paper aims to introduce students to the emergent field of Travel Writing. This genre of writing is becoming increasingly popular and it has received serious critical scrutiny in last couple of decades. The paper aims to explore the basics of this field to understand the questions asked about travel writing.

Learning Outcomes:

After completing the course, the students will have:

1. understanding of complexity of defining travel writing.
2. understanding of contemporary issues raised in academic discourse on travel writing.
3. understanding of how to read travel narratives to learn about the place as well as about the person writing the travel narrative.

Unit No.	Title	Teaching Methodology	Weightage and Duration
1	Defining Travel Writing 1.1 Tim Youngs: Introduction to <i>Cambridge Introduction to Travel Writing</i> 1.2 Peter Hulme and Tim Youngs: Introduction to <i>Cambridge Companion to Travel Writing</i> 1.3 Jan Borm: Defining Travel: On the Travel Book, Travel Writing and Terminology 1.4 Mary Baine Campbell: Travel writing and its theory	1. Classroom lectures 2. Classroom discussion 3. YouTube videos	25%; 15 Hours
2	Historical Accounts of Travel to India in Medieval Ages 2.1 Ibn Battuta: from <i>Travels in Asia and Africa 1325-1354</i> . Book II Chapter VI 2.2 Jean-Baptiste Tavernier: from <i>Travels in India</i> . Volume I: Chapter VIII	1. Classroom lectures 2. Classroom discussion 3. YouTube videos	25%; 15 Hours

	2.3 Francois Bernier: from <i>Travels in the Mogul Empire: AD 1656-1668</i> . Letter to M. Chapelain describing the gentiles of Hindoustan		
3	Travel to Europe from Asia and Africa 3.1 Mirza Abu Taleb: from <i>Westward Bound: Travels of Mirza Abu Taleb</i> 1. Chapter 9: Ode to London 2. Chapter 10: Negotiating with People and Culture 3.2 Syed Ahmad Khan: from <i>Voyage to Modernism</i> . 1. 9 November 1969 2. 27 May 1870 3.3 Olaudah Equiano: from <i>The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano or Gustavus Vassa, The African, Written by Himself</i> . Volume II: Chapter XI	1. Classroom lectures 2. Classroom discussion 3. YouTube videos	25%; 15 Hours
4	Detailed Text 4.1 Michael Fisher: Introduction to Dean Mahomet's <i>The Travels of Dean Mahomet</i> 4.2 Dean Mahomet's <i>The Travels of Dean Mahomet</i>	1. Classroom lectures 2. Classroom discussion 3. YouTube videos	25%; 15 Hours

Recommended Texts:

- Bernier, Francois. *Travels in Mogul Empire AD 1656-1668*. Delhi: Low Price Publications, 2008.
- Equiano, Olaudah. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano or Gustavus Vassa, The African, Written by Himself*.
- Hasan, Mushirul. Ed. *Westward Bound: Travels of Mirza Abu Taleb*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Hooper, Glenn and Tim Youngs. Eds. *Perspectives on Travel Writing*. London and New York: Routledge, 2004.
- Hulme, Peter and Tim Youngs. *The Cambridge Companion to Travel Writing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- Ibn Battuta. *Travels in Asia and Africa 1325-1354*. Trans. and Ed. H.A.R. Gibb. Delhi: Low Price Publications, 2012.
- Khair, Tabish *et al.* Eds. *Other Routes: 1500 Years of African and Asian Travel Writing*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2005.
- Khan, Syed Ahmad. *Voyage to Modernism*. Trans. and Eds. Mushirul Hasan and Nishat Zaidi. Delhi: Primus Books, 2011.
- Mahomet, Dean. *The Travels of Dean Mahomet: An Eighteenth-Century Journey Through India*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.
- Tavernier, Jean-Baptiste. *Travels in India*. Delhi: Low Price Publications, 2007.
- Youngs, Tim. *Cambridge Introduction to Travel Writing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013.

Unit Wise Essential Reading List

Unit 1: Defining Travel Writing

- Hooper, Glenn and Tim Youngs. Eds. *Perspectives on Travel Writing*. London and New York: Routledge, 2004.
- Hulme, Peter and Tim Youngs. *The Cambridge Companion to Travel Writing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- Khair, Tabish *et al.* Eds. *Other Routes: 1500 Years of African and Asian Travel Writing*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2005.
- Youngs, Tim. *Cambridge Introduction to Travel Writing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013.

Internet Resources

Travel Writing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otaNQ8fjw3M>

Unit 2: Historical Accounts of Travel to India in Medieval Ages

- Bernier, Francois. *Travels in Mogul Empire AD 1656-1668*. Delhi: Low Price Publications, 2008.
- Ibn Battuta. *Travels in Asia and Africa 1325-1354*. Trans. and Ed. H.A.R. Gibb. Delhi: Low Price Publications, 2012.
- Mahomet, Dean. *The Travels of Dean Mahomet: An Eighteenth-Century Journey Through India*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.
- Tavernier, Jean-Baptiste. *Travels in India*. Delhi: Low Price Publications, 2007.

Internet Resources

The Detours of Ibn Batuta <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0v23vZqs8RI>

‘Before Orientalism: From Paris to Patna in the 17th Century

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NU8elNaZIx0>

Francois Bernier <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NU8elNaZIx0>

Unit 3: Travel to Europe from Asia and Africa

- Equiano, Olaudah. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano or Gustavus Vassa, The African, Written by Himself*.
- Hasan, Mushirul. Ed. *Westward Bound: Travels of Mirza Abu Taleb*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Khair, Tabish *et al.* Eds. *Other Routes: 1500 Years of African and Asian Travel Writing*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2005.
- Khan, Syed Ahmad. *Voyage to Modernism*. Trans. and Eds. Mushirul Hasan and Nishat Zaidi. Delhi: Primus Books, 2011.

Internet Resources

Olaudah Equiano <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wILYEI9euA>

Unit 4: Detailed Text

- Mahomet, Dean. *The Travels of Dean Mahomet: An Eighteenth-Century Journey Through India*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.

Internet Resources

Dean Mahomet https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiWl_QfWn3U

Travels of Dean Mahomet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fP60a29XK8M>

Examination Pattern

Continuous Evaluation:

Total Marks: 20

Components

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Student's Presentation from all units | Marks: 10 |
| a. Understanding of the subject matter | |
| b. Command over the language | |
| c. Confidence | |
| d. Answering questions | |
| 2. Assignment | Marks: 10 |
| a. Understanding of the question | |
| b. Use of multiple textual material | |
| c. Grammatical accuracy | |

Internal Examination

Total Marks: 20

Total internal examinations of 20 marks each will be conducted and the higher marks from either of the examinations will be considered.

Semester End Examination

Total Marks: 60

This will have equal representation from each unit. Following is a sample from each unit:

Unit 1: Defining Travel Writing

- One long question of 15 marks with internal options.
For example: Write a detailed essay on problems in defining travel writing.

Unit 2: Historical Accounts of Travel to India in Medieval Ages

- One long question of 15 marks with internal options.
For example: How foreign travellers in India in medieval age represented India in their narratives? Write on the basis of narratives you have read.

OR

- Two short questions of 7.5 marks each.
For examples: Write a short note on Tavernier's account of India in his narrative.

Unit 3: Travel to Europe from Asia and Africa

- One long question of 15 marks with internal options.
For example: What similarities and differences can you see in the depiction of Europe in the narratives you have read? How will you account for these similarities and differences.

OR

2. Two short notes of 7.5 marks each.

For examples: Discuss Syed Ahmad Khan's depiction of England from his narrative.

Unit 4: Detailed Text

1. One long question of 15 marks with internal options.

For example: Discuss the points highlighted by Dean Mahomet in his narrative about India.