



**NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM**

**PROGRAMME: B.A., LL.B.(HONS.) FYIC**

**DETAILS OF COURSE OFFERED**

**ODD SEMESTER (I) – ACADEMIC YEAR- 2024-25**

SL. NO	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	L	T/ P	CR	CH
1	BL102.1 (ENGLISH MAJOR-I)	LAW AND LITERATURE	4 PER WEEK	1 PER WEEK	4	

**A. CODE AND TITLE OF THE COURSE: BL102.1 (ENGLISH MAJOR - I) LAW AND LITERATURE**

**B. COURSE CREDIT: 4 (TOTAL MARKS 200)**

**C. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH**

**D. COURSE COMPILED BY: APARAJITA DUTTA HAZARIKA**

**E. COURSE INSTRUCTOR: APARAJITA DUTTA HAZARIKA**

### **1. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

**THIS COURSE AIMS TO EXPLORE THE INTERSECTION OF LAW AND LITERATURE BY READING LITERARY TEXTS AS LEGAL TEXTS AND LEGAL TEXTS AS LITERARY TEXTS. THIS SHALL INCLUDE A READING OF NARRATIVES FROM ANCIENT TIMES TO THE CONTEMPORARY TIMES.**

**THIS COURSE SHALL ALSO HIGHLIGHT THE PIVOTAL ISSUES AND CONCERNS OF THE AUTHORS.**

THE OBJECTIVE SHALL BE TO ACCLIMATIZE THE LAW STUDENTS WITH LITERATURE WHICH WILL HELP THE STUDENTS TO BE COHERENT AS INDIVIDUALS, READERS AND CRITICS, AND DEVELOP READING POSITIONS THAT WILL FACILITATE THEIR ENGAGEMENT WITH ALL THE LITERATURE THEY WILL STUDY IN THE MAJOR COURSE.

## **2. TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

THE TEACHING METHODOLOGY SHALL BE LEARNER- CENTRIC IN NATURE WHICH WILL GIVE AMPLE SCOPE TO THE STUDENTS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE LEARNING PROCESS.

THE STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO DO INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ON TOPICS OF THEIR CHOICE WITH GUIDANCE FROM THE TEACHER. THE STUDENTS PREPARE THEIR TOPICS FROM THE SOURCES SUGGESTED TO THEM.

IN THE CLASSROOM THE STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PRESENT THEIR TOPICS AND TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

THE TEACHER SHALL HELP AND GUIDE THE STUDENTS IN THEIR PURSUIT OF LEGAL LEARNING.

THE TEACHER SHALL RECAPITULATE AFTER THE STUDENTS HAVE COMPLETED THEIR DISCUSSION, AND DOUBTS, IF ANY, ARE CLARIFIED.

## **3. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE COURSE**

THE FIRST PAPER IN THIS ENGLISH MAJOR COURSE OFFERS BASIC READINGS THAT ADDRESS SOME OF THE QUESTIONS RELEVANT TO THE AREA OF LITERATURE AND THE LAW.

THE ISSUES WHICH SHALL BE DISCUSSED IN THESE READINGS ARE EXPECTED TO GIVE STUDENTS A FOUNDATION IN IDEAS THAT WILL HELP IN THE READINGS OF LITERARY TEXTS IN THESE PAPERS.

STUDENTS WILL SUMMARIZE AND CLASSIFY DEFINITIONS OF LITERARY AND LEGAL TERMS.

STUDENTS WILL COMPARE THE NARRATIVES OF LAW AND THE NARRATIVES OF LITERATURE BY READING THE GIVEN TEXTS AS LEGAL TEXTS.

STUDENTS WILL EVALUATE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE FIELD OF LAW AND LITERATURE TO THE INTERSECTION OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES.

4. THE COURSE SHALL BE ASSESSED FOR 200 MARKS. THE EVALUATION SCHEME WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS: INTERNAL ASSESSMENT: 70% (140 MARKS) SEMESTER END EXAMINATION: 30% (60 MARKS)

SL. NO.	MARKS DISTRIBUTION	
1	PROJECT WORK	40 MARKS
2	SEMINAR/GROUP DISCUSSION	20 MARKS
3	ASSIGNMENT/ASSESSMENT	30 MARKS
4	MID-SEMESTER	40 MARKS
5	ATTENDANCE IN CLASS	10 MARKS
6	SEMESTER END EXAMINATION	60 MARKS

5. DETAILED STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE (SPECIFYING COURSE MODULES AND SUB-MODULES)

MODULE 1

THE REFLECTION OF LAW IN LITERATURE, *POSNER- PREFACE, INTRODUCTION, AND CHAPTER 1*

THE ANTINOMIES OF LEGAL THEORY, *POSNER, CHAPTER 3*

MODULE II

FRANZ KAFKA, *THE TRIAL*

MODULE III

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, *THE MERCHANT OF VENICE* (THE TRIAL SCENE)

MODULE IV

FRANCIS BACON, *OF JUDICATURE*

6. PRESCRIBED READINGS

ARENDT, HANNAH. *THE ORIGINS OF TOTALITARIANISM*, HARCOURT BARCE JOVANOVIICH, NEW YORK, 1979

BERRY, PETER. *BEGINNING THEORY*, ROUTLEDGE, NEW YORK, 2004.

BUONAMANO, ROBERTO. "KAFKA AND LEGAL CRITIQUE." *GRIFFITH LAW REVIEW* 25.4 (2016): 581-599.

CORMACK, BRADIN, MARTHA C. NUSSBAUM, AND RICHARD STRIER, EDS. *SHAKESPEARE AND THE LAW: A CONVERSATION AMONG DISCIPLINES AND PROFESSIONS*. UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2019.

LISKA, VIVIAN. "'BEFORE THE LAW STANDS A DOORKEEPER. TO THIS DOORKEEPER COMES A MAN...': KAFKA, NARRATIVE, AND THE LAW." *NAHARAIM* 6.2 (2012): 175-194.

LITOWITZ, DOUGLAS. "MAX WEBER AND FRANZ KAFKA: A SHARED VISION OF MODERN LAW." *LAW, CULTURE AND THE HUMANITIES* 7.1 (2011): 48-65.

POSNER, RICHARD A. "KAFKA: THE WRITER AS LAWYER." *COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW* 110.1 (2010): 207-215.

POSNER, RICHARD A. "LAW AND COMMERCE IN THE MERCHANT OF VENICE". *SHAKESPEARE AND THE LAW: A CONVERSATION AMONG DISCIPLINES AND PROFESSIONS*, EDITED BY BRADIN CORMACK, MARTHA C. NUSSBAUM AND RICHARD STRIER, CHICAGO: UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2013, PP. 147-155

POSNER, RICHARD A. *LAW AND LITERATURE*. 3RD ED. CAMBRIDGE: HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2009.

ROBINSON, MARTHA S. "THE LAW OF THE STATE IN KAFKA'S THE TRIAL." *ALSA F.* 6 (1982): 127.

TEUBNER, GUNTHER. "THE LAW BEFORE ITS LAW: FRANZ KAFKA ON THE (IM) POSSIBILITY OF LAW'S SELF-REFLECTION." *GERMAN LAW JOURNAL* 14.2 (2013): 405-422.

VAN HOUTUM, HENK. "WAITING BEFORE THE LAW: KAFKA ON THE BORDER." *SOCIAL & LEGAL STUDIES* 19.3 (2010): 285-297.

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