

**B.A. III DC**

**Semester V**

**Course: 10**

**Course Code:**

**Title of the Course: Contemporary Drama**

**Credits: 04**

**Marks: 100**

Course	L	Cr	P/T	D	TP	TW	T
<b>Contemporary Drama</b>	4	4		2.30	75	25	100

**Objectives:**

- i. To map the historical and cultural contexts informing contemporary drama
- ii. To develop an understanding of the techniques, styles and forms of contemporary drama
- iii. To develop an understanding of the performative aspects of drama
- iv. To study and analyse the prescribed texts in their socio-cultural, literary and performative contexts
- v. To study the major playwrights of contemporary times

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the course, students should be able to -

- i. Demonstrate an understanding of the socio-political, historical and cultural contexts of contemporary drama
- ii. Identify and describe the techniques and devices employed in contemporary drama
- iii. Write analytically about contemporary drama using correct terminology
- iv. Respond to the performative aspects of drama
- v. Effectively communicate ideas related to drama during class and group activities

Unit	Topic and Details	No. of teaching hours assigned	Weight age in %
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical perspectives and practices that affected and transformed reading and performance of post-60s theatre: Postmodernist theory, Performance theory, Existentialism.</li>   <li>• Popular and Street Theatre, Epic Theatre, Political theatre, Theatre of Cruelty, Theatre of the Absurd, Kitchen Sink drama, Expressionist drama, Existentialism, Theatre of Menace, Retelling Canonical Drama.</li>   <li>• Themes and issues in post 1960s Indian Theatre: The Theatre of roots, Use of folk dramatic traditions, Dramatic responses to India's place in a globalised world, fundamentalism, nationalism, liberalization, etc.</li> </ul>	15	30%
II	Tom Stoppard. <i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead</i> (1966)	25	40%
III	Manjula Padmanabhan. <i>Harvest</i> (1997)	20	30%

**Evaluation Scheme:**

**Internal Examination : 25 marks**

1. Short notes on Unit I 10 marks
2. Assignment on any one of the prescribed plays 15 marks

**External Examination : 75 marks**

MCQs on Unit I 20 marks

Reference to context (3 out of 5)	20 marks
Essay type questions on Units II & III (2 out of 4)	20 marks
Short notes on the plays (2 out of 4)	15 marks

**Recommended Readings:**

Banham, Martin, editor. *The Cambridge Guide to Theatre*. Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Demastes, William. *The Cambridge Introduction to Tom Stoppard*. Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Dharwadkar Aparna. *Theatres of Independence: Drama, Theory, and Urban Performance in India since 1947*. Oxford University Press, 2008.

Erica Hoagland and Reema Sarwal, editors. *Science Fiction, Imperialism and the Third World: Essays on Postcolonial Literature and Film*. McFarland, 2010.

Eyre, Richard, and Nicholas Wright. *Changing Stages: a View of British and American Theatre in the Twentieth Century*. Knopf, 2001.

Gilbert Helen, editor. *Postcolonial Plays: An Anthology*. Routledge, 2001.

Innes, Christopher. *Modern British Drama: the Twentieth Century*. Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Kelly, Katherine, editor. *The Cambridge Companion to Tom Stoppard*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Lal, Ananda, editor. *The Oxford Companion to Indian Theatre*. Oxford University Press, 2004.

Loftis, Sonya Freeman. *Shakespeare's Surrogates: Rewriting Renaissance Drama*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.

Styan J.L. *Modern Drama in Theory and Practice*. Cambridge University Press, 1981.