



LITERATURE AND LIFE

PROF. S P DHANAVEL

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
IIT Madras

INTENDED AUDIENCE : Students, faculty, and general public

INDUSTRIES APPLICABLE TO : Industries interested in human understanding and well-developed personalities may recognize this course as a value addition to their employees

COURSE OUTLINE :

The primary objective of this course on Literature and Life is to help learners make sense of their own lives through the prism of literature. Hence, it will explore the interconnections between literature and life to understand and appreciate the complex but fragile human relationships at various levels like the individual, family, society, business, politics, etc., as represented in selected essays, poems, plays and short stories from British, American and Indian literature.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :

Prof. S P Dhanavel is a Professor of English at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai. He has published over 80 papers in national and international journals of repute and in some edited volumes. He has published three volumes of poetry Poetry of Life (1997), Muse Time (1998), and Purpose of Life (1998), a critical study The Indian Imagination of Girish Karnad (2000), a booklet Writing for Mass Media (2005), and an edited volume Critical Perspectives on American Literature (2008). He has also brought out innovative textbooks for college students: English and Communications Skills (2009), English and Soft Skills Vol. 1 (2010), Communication and Soft Skills (2015) Positive Traits for College Students (2015), Personality Development (2018), and English and Soft Skills Vol. 2 (2019). Further, he has authored English Language Teaching in India: The Shifting Paradigms (2012), which is a resource book for English teachers in India. His edited volume on Continuing Professional Development of English Language Teachers: Indian Perspectives and Practices is under review. Currently, he is teaching an online course on Poetry through the NPTEL/ SWAYAM portal.

COURSE PLAN :

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Elements of Literature

Week 3: Prose - 1

Week 4: Prose - 2

Week 5: Poetry - 1

Week 6: Poetry - 2

Week 7: Drama

Week 8: One Act Plays

Week 9: Novel

Week 10: Short Story - 1

Week 11: Short Story - 2

Week 12: Panel Discussion