

## ***Semiotic Approach to Feminist Studies***

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### Overview

There is no such thing as innocent as reading of the text (Annette Krauss, Serena Lee, Maiko Tanaka). Interpreting a text is very personal in nature because most of the readers interpret texts in their own way. There is a plurality of critical methods, interpretations and ways of reading. Our response to any text is largely conditioned or socially constructed. Feminist reading seeks to sensitize the readers to the power relations between men and women that prevail under patriarchy. It also encourages the reader to re-examine the established literary canon and to involve in literary theory and its multiple approaches to a text in order to legitimize their responses to the given text. In order to make a flawless feminist reading, the reader needs a kind of specific training or sensitivity which seems to be lacking in contemporary academia.

The expected participants will learn these topics through lectures and tutorials. There will be full-length discussions on the topic in question because the most challenging aspect of today's world is feminist studies and women emancipation.

<b>Modules</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Patriarchy and binary oppositions in literary texts.</li> <li>➤ Body politics: women's bodies as sites of material oppression and violation and/or resistance and affirmation.</li> <li>➤ Women's presence/absence within patriarchal cultures.</li> <li>➤ Women's voices and experiences as foregrounded by feminist critics and feminist theories Disrupting the homogeneity of 'women' as a category of analysis by highlighting differences in culture, race, religion and class.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Dates: 08-12 August, 2017. Venue: IIT Roorkee.</i></b>  <b><i>Deadline for registration: 25 July, 2017.</i></b>  <b>Limited numbers of seats are available for the workshop.</b></p>
<b>You Should Attend If...</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ You are a Faculty of English interested in Feminist Studies</li> <li>➤ You are a Student/researcher from the discipline of English interested in Feminist Studies</li> <li>➤ You are a Researcher from various disciplines in humanities and/or social sciences interested in knowledge of Feminist Studies and its applications.</li> <li>➤ You are Students or faculty from an academic institution interested in literature in general and Feminist Studies in particular.</li> <li>➤ You are Freelance scholars/ industry employees with an active interest in Feminist Studies as applicable to their workplaces.</li> </ul>
<b>Fees</b>	<p>The participation fees for taking the course is as follows:  <b>Participants from abroad : US \$300</b>  <b>Industry/ Research Organizations: Rs. 10000/-</b>  <b>Academic Institutions:</b>  <b>Teachers : All modules : Rs. 2000/-</b>  <b>Students : All modules : Rs. 1000/-</b>  <b>The above fees include all instructional materials, computer use for tutorials and internet facility at the host institute during the course. The participants will have to take care of their travel, accommodation and food. However, accommodation can be arranged for a few participants on first-cum-first-serve basis strictly against payment. Limited number of travel grants (Ill AC train fare) are available. For any queries regarding registration or other practical information, please contact the course coordinator.</b>  <b>Participants can register for the course on the link below:</b></p>

## The Faculty



**Prof. Kanika Batra** is the faculty in the Department of English, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, USA. She holds additional responsibilities as Director of Graduate Studies in English and Director of Comparative Literature. Dr. Batra researches and writes on postcolonial literature, feminist and queer studies, urban studies and globalization.



**Prof. Smita Jha** is the faculty of English in the Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee. Her research interest includes Indian Writing in English, Commonwealth Literature, Diasporic literature, Linguistics & ELT, Postcolonial writings, Contemporary Literary theories and Gender and Cultural Studies. She has organized a number of workshops and symposia on the topics like Translation in Post-Colonial India, Research Methodology, Sociolinguistics, Diaspora, and Women Novelists.

### Course Co-coordinator

Prof. Smita Jha

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