DegreeLive

BA English Honours | Semester VI | ENG6EJ307

Reading World Classics

Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho • Comprehensive Notes

Chapter 2: Panoramic World Poetry Across Civilizations

Classical poetry captures the heroic ethos of ancient Greece, Roman metamorphoses, Persian mystic devotion, and Japanese Zen contemplation.

2.1 Homer's Iliad: Book 15 (Heroic Valor and Fate)

In Book 15 (lines 451–483, translated by Robert Fitzgerald), Homer depicts the fierce Trojan assault on the Achaean ships. Hector and Great Ajax rally their warriors, embodying the ancient Greek heroic code (*arete*) where warriors pursue immortal glory (*kleos*) while fully conscious of their mortal doom.

2.2 Ovid's Metamorphoses: Book III (Echo and Narcissus)

Roman poet Ovid narrates the tragic tale of the beautiful youth Narcissus who scorns all lovers, including the nymph Echo. Cursed by the goddess Nemesis, Narcissus falls hopelessly in love with his own reflection in a forest pool, withering away into the delicate narcissus flower, establishing the mythic archetypes of vanity, self-absorption, and tragic unrequited desire.

2.3 Transcultural Spiritual Lyricism: Tagore, Hafez, and Basho

Song 8 of Rabindranath Tagore's Nobel Prize-winning *Gitanjali* rejoices in simple, unadorned devotion, rejecting heavy jeweled ornamentation that hinders communion with the Divine. In Ghazal 344 (The Letter 'Ain), fourteenth-century Persian master Hafez blends ecstatic wine symbolism and spiritual surrender, while Matsuo Basho's haikus distill cosmic enlightenment into brief sensory moments of nature.

Advanced Critical Theory, Hermeneutics & Literary Praxis

In contemporary literary scholarship and higher education under the Calicut University curriculum, engaging with *Reading World Classics* (specifically Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho) requires a multidimensional theoretical apparatus that transcends simple narrative summary. Scholars must synthesize close reading methodologies with historical contextualization, cultural poetics, and contemporary critical theory to uncover the ideological architectures underpinning literary texts and media artifacts.

1. Hermeneutic Paradigms and Textual Mechanics

Critical inquiry into Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho reveals how textual forms construct meaning through complex aesthetic strategies and structural choices:

- **Structuralism and Semiotic Deconstruction:** The organization of signs, tropes, and syntactical structures establishes narrative authority while simultaneously revealing internal fissures. Binary oppositions embedded within the discourse—such as center versus margin, tradition versus modernity, and subjective interiority versus objective reality—are systematically problematized through textual slippages and ambiguous signifiers.
- **Postcolonial and Subaltern Interventions:** Interrogating power dynamics, linguistic hegemony, and epistemic violence within the literature demonstrates how marginalized voices negotiate, resist, or appropriate dominant canonical modes. The representation of colonial encounters, diaspora, and

regional identity operates not merely as a passive backdrop but as an active agent reshaping literary genres.

- **Feminist, Queer, and Intersectional Critique:** Analyzing the construction of gender roles, patriarchal surveillance, and non-normative subjectivities provides crucial insights into how bodily experience, domesticity, and public agency are mediated across divergent historical moments and cultural landscapes.
- **Ecocritical and Spatial Dynamics:** Physical topographies, built environments, and non-human ecologies function as active participants in the narrative economy. Space is never neutral; rather, it reflects socio-economic stratification, environmental exploitation, and geopolitical borders that delineate belonging and exile.

2. Historiographical Context and Reception Theory

Every literary text and cultural artifact is firmly situated within specific historical material conditions. Understanding Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho requires examining how contemporaneous social movements, intellectual revolutions, and material shifts in print and digital publishing influenced textual production. Furthermore, Hans-Robert Jauss's concept of the "horizon of expectations" demonstrates that textual reception is never static; each successive generation of readers reinterprets these works through evolving ethical, philosophical, and cultural frameworks.

3. Comparative Aesthetic and Thematic Matrix

The following analytical matrix summarizes key comparative dimensions across traditional interpretive paradigms and modern critical frameworks relevant to Module 2:

Critical Dimension	Traditional / Formalist Reading	Contemporary Critical Synthesis	Pedagogic & Interpretive Significance
Authorial Intent & Authority	Privileges authorial biography, conscious artistic intention, and unified aesthetic harmony.	Applies Roland Barthes's "Death of the Author" and Foucault's "author function" to analyze cultural discourses.	Empowers reader-response hermeneutics and multi-vocal textual deconstruction.
Narrative Architecture	Linear progression, coherent plot teleology, and psychological realism.	Fragmentation, unreliable narration, polyphony, intertextuality, and non-linear temporalities.	Exposes the constructed nature of truth claims and socio-political narratives.
Ideology & Power Relations	Universal humanism, moral transcendence, and universalized ethical struggles.	Marxist, Postcolonial, and Intersectional critiques uncovering systemic hierarchies.	Illuminates how literature critiques institutional power, caste, race, and gender.
Media & Cultural Materialism	Autonomous aesthetic object isolated from economic and technological modes of production.	Examines print capitalism, digital distribution, translation praxis, and multimodal adaptations.	Connects literary aesthetics to global production networks and digital media convergence.

4. Pedagogical Synthesis and Scholarly Praxis

For undergraduate honours scholars, mastering this module cultivates rigorous analytical discernment. By critically interrogating primary texts, contextual nuances, and secondary theoretical discourses, students

develop the capacity to produce sustained scholarly arguments, conduct original close readings, and articulate nuanced literary critiques that resonate within contemporary academic and cultural debates.

Advanced Critical Theory, Hermeneutics & Literary Praxis

In contemporary literary scholarship and higher education under the Calicut University curriculum, engaging with *Reading World Classics* (specifically Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho) requires a multidimensional theoretical apparatus that transcends simple narrative summary. Scholars must synthesize close reading methodologies with historical contextualization, cultural poetics, and contemporary critical theory to uncover the ideological architectures underpinning literary texts and media artifacts.

1. Hermeneutic Paradigms and Textual Mechanics

Critical inquiry into Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho reveals how textual forms construct meaning through complex aesthetic strategies and structural choices:

- **Structuralism and Semiotic Deconstruction:** The organization of signs, tropes, and syntactical structures establishes narrative authority while simultaneously revealing internal fissures. Binary oppositions embedded within the discourse—such as center versus margin, tradition versus modernity, and subjective interiority versus objective reality—are systematically problematized through textual slippages and ambiguous signifiers.
- **Postcolonial and Subaltern Interventions:** Interrogating power dynamics, linguistic hegemony, and epistemic violence within the literature demonstrates how marginalized voices negotiate, resist, or appropriate dominant canonical modes. The representation of colonial encounters, diaspora, and regional identity operates not merely as a passive backdrop but as an active agent reshaping literary genres.
- **Feminist, Queer, and Intersectional Critique:** Analyzing the construction of gender roles, patriarchal surveillance, and non-normative subjectivities provides crucial insights into how bodily experience, domesticity, and public agency are mediated across divergent historical moments and cultural landscapes.
- **Ecocritical and Spatial Dynamics:** Physical topographies, built environments, and non-human ecologies function as active participants in the narrative economy. Space is never neutral; rather, it reflects socio-economic stratification, environmental exploitation, and geopolitical borders that delineate belonging and exile.

2. Historiographical Context and Reception Theory

Every literary text and cultural artifact is firmly situated within specific historical material conditions. Understanding Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho requires examining how contemporaneous social movements, intellectual revolutions, and material shifts in print and digital publishing influenced textual production. Furthermore, Hans-Robert Jauss's concept of the "horizon of expectations" demonstrates that textual reception is never static; each successive generation of readers reinterprets these works through evolving ethical, philosophical, and cultural frameworks.

3. Comparative Aesthetic and Thematic Matrix

The following analytical matrix summarizes key comparative dimensions across traditional interpretive paradigms and modern critical frameworks relevant to Module 2:

DegreeLive

Critical Dimension	Traditional / Formalist Reading	Contemporary Critical Synthesis	Pedagogic & Interpretive Significance
Authorial Intent & Authority	Privileges authorial biography, conscious artistic intention, and unified aesthetic harmony.	Applies Roland Barthes's "Death of the Author" and Foucault's "author function" to analyze cultural discourses.	Empowers reader-response hermeneutics and multi-vocal textual deconstruction.
Narrative Architecture	Linear progression, coherent plot teleology, and psychological realism.	Fragmentation, unreliable narration, polyphony, intertextuality, and non-linear temporalities.	Exposes the constructed nature of truth claims and socio-political narratives.
Ideology & Power Relations	Universal humanism, moral transcendence, and universalized ethical struggles.	Marxist, Postcolonial, and Intersectional critiques uncovering systemic hierarchies.	Illuminates how literature critiques institutional power, caste, race, and gender.
Media & Cultural Materialism	Autonomous aesthetic object isolated from economic and technological modes of production.	Examines print capitalism, digital distribution, translation praxis, and multimodal adaptations.	Connects literary aesthetics to global production networks and digital media convergence.

4. Pedagogical Synthesis and Scholarly Praxis

For undergraduate honours scholars, mastering this module cultivates rigorous analytical discernment. By critically interrogating primary texts, contextual nuances, and secondary theoretical discourses, students develop the capacity to produce sustained scholarly arguments, conduct original close readings, and articulate nuanced literary critiques that resonate within contemporary academic and cultural debates.

Advanced Critical Theory, Hermeneutics & Literary Praxis

In contemporary literary scholarship and higher education under the Calicut University curriculum, engaging with *Reading World Classics* (specifically Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho) requires a multidimensional theoretical apparatus that transcends simple narrative summary. Scholars must synthesize close reading methodologies with historical contextualization, cultural poetics, and contemporary critical theory to uncover the ideological architectures underpinning literary texts and media artifacts.

1. Hermeneutic Paradigms and Textual Mechanics

Critical inquiry into Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho reveals how textual forms construct meaning through complex aesthetic strategies and structural choices:

- **Structuralism and Semiotic Deconstruction:** The organization of signs, tropes, and syntactical structures establishes narrative authority while simultaneously revealing internal fissures. Binary oppositions embedded within the discourse—such as center versus margin, tradition versus modernity, and subjective interiority versus objective reality—are systematically problematized through textual slippages and ambiguous signifiers.
- **Postcolonial and Subaltern Interventions:** Interrogating power dynamics, linguistic hegemony, and epistemic violence within the literature demonstrates how marginalized voices negotiate, resist, or appropriate dominant canonical modes. The representation of colonial encounters, diaspora, and

DegreeLive

regional identity operates not merely as a passive backdrop but as an active agent reshaping literary genres.

- **Feminist, Queer, and Intersectional Critique:** Analyzing the construction of gender roles, patriarchal surveillance, and non-normative subjectivities provides crucial insights into how bodily experience, domesticity, and public agency are mediated across divergent historical moments and cultural landscapes.
- **Ecocritical and Spatial Dynamics:** Physical topographies, built environments, and non-human ecologies function as active participants in the narrative economy. Space is never neutral; rather, it reflects socio-economic stratification, environmental exploitation, and geopolitical borders that delineate belonging and exile.

2. Historiographical Context and Reception Theory

Every literary text and cultural artifact is firmly situated within specific historical material conditions. Understanding Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho requires examining how contemporaneous social movements, intellectual revolutions, and material shifts in print and digital publishing influenced textual production. Furthermore, Hans-Robert Jauss's concept of the "horizon of expectations" demonstrates that textual reception is never static; each successive generation of readers reinterprets these works through evolving ethical, philosophical, and cultural frameworks.

3. Comparative Aesthetic and Thematic Matrix

The following analytical matrix summarizes key comparative dimensions across traditional interpretive paradigms and modern critical frameworks relevant to Module 2:

Critical Dimension	Traditional / Formalist Reading	Contemporary Critical Synthesis	Pedagogic & Interpretive Significance
Authorial Intent & Authority	Privileges authorial biography, conscious artistic intention, and unified aesthetic harmony.	Applies Roland Barthes's "Death of the Author" and Foucault's "author function" to analyze cultural discourses.	Empowers reader-response hermeneutics and multi-vocal textual deconstruction.
Narrative Architecture	Linear progression, coherent plot teleology, and psychological realism.	Fragmentation, unreliable narration, polyphony, intertextuality, and non-linear temporalities.	Exposes the constructed nature of truth claims and socio-political narratives.
Ideology & Power Relations	Universal humanism, moral transcendence, and universalized ethical struggles.	Marxist, Postcolonial, and Intersectional critiques uncovering systemic hierarchies.	Illuminates how literature critiques institutional power, caste, race, and gender.
Media & Cultural Materialism	Autonomous aesthetic object isolated from economic and technological modes of production.	Examines print capitalism, digital distribution, translation praxis, and multimodal adaptations.	Connects literary aesthetics to global production networks and digital media convergence.

4. Pedagogical Synthesis and Scholarly Praxis

For undergraduate honours scholars, mastering this module cultivates rigorous analytical discernment. By critically interrogating primary texts, contextual nuances, and secondary theoretical discourses, students

develop the capacity to produce sustained scholarly arguments, conduct original close readings, and articulate nuanced literary critiques that resonate within contemporary academic and cultural debates.

Advanced Critical Theory, Hermeneutics & Literary Praxis

In contemporary literary scholarship and higher education under the Calicut University curriculum, engaging with *Reading World Classics* (specifically Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho) requires a multidimensional theoretical apparatus that transcends simple narrative summary. Scholars must synthesize close reading methodologies with historical contextualization, cultural poetics, and contemporary critical theory to uncover the ideological architectures underpinning literary texts and media artifacts.

1. Hermeneutic Paradigms and Textual Mechanics

Critical inquiry into Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho reveals how textual forms construct meaning through complex aesthetic strategies and structural choices:

- **Structuralism and Semiotic Deconstruction:** The organization of signs, tropes, and syntactical structures establishes narrative authority while simultaneously revealing internal fissures. Binary oppositions embedded within the discourse—such as center versus margin, tradition versus modernity, and subjective interiority versus objective reality—are systematically problematized through textual slippages and ambiguous signifiers.
- **Postcolonial and Subaltern Interventions:** Interrogating power dynamics, linguistic hegemony, and epistemic violence within the literature demonstrates how marginalized voices negotiate, resist, or appropriate dominant canonical modes. The representation of colonial encounters, diaspora, and regional identity operates not merely as a passive backdrop but as an active agent reshaping literary genres.
- **Feminist, Queer, and Intersectional Critique:** Analyzing the construction of gender roles, patriarchal surveillance, and non-normative subjectivities provides crucial insights into how bodily experience, domesticity, and public agency are mediated across divergent historical moments and cultural landscapes.
- **Ecocritical and Spatial Dynamics:** Physical topographies, built environments, and non-human ecologies function as active participants in the narrative economy. Space is never neutral; rather, it reflects socio-economic stratification, environmental exploitation, and geopolitical borders that delineate belonging and exile.

2. Historiographical Context and Reception Theory

Every literary text and cultural artifact is firmly situated within specific historical material conditions. Understanding Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho requires examining how contemporaneous social movements, intellectual revolutions, and material shifts in print and digital publishing influenced textual production. Furthermore, Hans-Robert Jauss's concept of the "horizon of expectations" demonstrates that textual reception is never static; each successive generation of readers reinterprets these works through evolving ethical, philosophical, and cultural frameworks.

3. Comparative Aesthetic and Thematic Matrix

The following analytical matrix summarizes key comparative dimensions across traditional interpretive paradigms and modern critical frameworks relevant to Module 2:

DegreeLive

Critical Dimension	Traditional / Formalist Reading	Contemporary Critical Synthesis	Pedagogic & Interpretive Significance
Authorial Intent & Authority	Privileges authorial biography, conscious artistic intention, and unified aesthetic harmony.	Applies Roland Barthes's "Death of the Author" and Foucault's "author function" to analyze cultural discourses.	Empowers reader-response hermeneutics and multi-vocal textual deconstruction.
Narrative Architecture	Linear progression, coherent plot teleology, and psychological realism.	Fragmentation, unreliable narration, polyphony, intertextuality, and non-linear temporalities.	Exposes the constructed nature of truth claims and socio-political narratives.
Ideology & Power Relations	Universal humanism, moral transcendence, and universalized ethical struggles.	Marxist, Postcolonial, and Intersectional critiques uncovering systemic hierarchies.	Illuminates how literature critiques institutional power, caste, race, and gender.
Media & Cultural Materialism	Autonomous aesthetic object isolated from economic and technological modes of production.	Examines print capitalism, digital distribution, translation praxis, and multimodal adaptations.	Connects literary aesthetics to global production networks and digital media convergence.

4. Pedagogical Synthesis and Scholarly Praxis

For undergraduate honours scholars, mastering this module cultivates rigorous analytical discernment. By critically interrogating primary texts, contextual nuances, and secondary theoretical discourses, students develop the capacity to produce sustained scholarly arguments, conduct original close readings, and articulate nuanced literary critiques that resonate within contemporary academic and cultural debates.

Advanced Critical Theory, Hermeneutics & Literary Praxis

In contemporary literary scholarship and higher education under the Calicut University curriculum, engaging with *Reading World Classics* (specifically Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho) requires a multidimensional theoretical apparatus that transcends simple narrative summary. Scholars must synthesize close reading methodologies with historical contextualization, cultural poetics, and contemporary critical theory to uncover the ideological architectures underpinning literary texts and media artifacts.

1. Hermeneutic Paradigms and Textual Mechanics

Critical inquiry into Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho reveals how textual forms construct meaning through complex aesthetic strategies and structural choices:

- **Structuralism and Semiotic Deconstruction:** The organization of signs, tropes, and syntactical structures establishes narrative authority while simultaneously revealing internal fissures. Binary oppositions embedded within the discourse—such as center versus margin, tradition versus modernity, and subjective interiority versus objective reality—are systematically problematized through textual slippages and ambiguous signifiers.
- **Postcolonial and Subaltern Interventions:** Interrogating power dynamics, linguistic hegemony, and epistemic violence within the literature demonstrates how marginalized voices negotiate, resist, or appropriate dominant canonical modes. The representation of colonial encounters, diaspora, and

DegreeLive

regional identity operates not merely as a passive backdrop but as an active agent reshaping literary genres.

- **Feminist, Queer, and Intersectional Critique:** Analyzing the construction of gender roles, patriarchal surveillance, and non-normative subjectivities provides crucial insights into how bodily experience, domesticity, and public agency are mediated across divergent historical moments and cultural landscapes.
- **Ecocritical and Spatial Dynamics:** Physical topographies, built environments, and non-human ecologies function as active participants in the narrative economy. Space is never neutral; rather, it reflects socio-economic stratification, environmental exploitation, and geopolitical borders that delineate belonging and exile.

2. Historiographical Context and Reception Theory

Every literary text and cultural artifact is firmly situated within specific historical material conditions. Understanding Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho requires examining how contemporaneous social movements, intellectual revolutions, and material shifts in print and digital publishing influenced textual production. Furthermore, Hans-Robert Jauss's concept of the "horizon of expectations" demonstrates that textual reception is never static; each successive generation of readers reinterprets these works through evolving ethical, philosophical, and cultural frameworks.

3. Comparative Aesthetic and Thematic Matrix

The following analytical matrix summarizes key comparative dimensions across traditional interpretive paradigms and modern critical frameworks relevant to Module 2:

Critical Dimension	Traditional / Formalist Reading	Contemporary Critical Synthesis	Pedagogic & Interpretive Significance
Authorial Intent & Authority	Privileges authorial biography, conscious artistic intention, and unified aesthetic harmony.	Applies Roland Barthes's "Death of the Author" and Foucault's "author function" to analyze cultural discourses.	Empowers reader-response hermeneutics and multi-vocal textual deconstruction.
Narrative Architecture	Linear progression, coherent plot teleology, and psychological realism.	Fragmentation, unreliable narration, polyphony, intertextuality, and non-linear temporalities.	Exposes the constructed nature of truth claims and socio-political narratives.
Ideology & Power Relations	Universal humanism, moral transcendence, and universalized ethical struggles.	Marxist, Postcolonial, and Intersectional critiques uncovering systemic hierarchies.	Illuminates how literature critiques institutional power, caste, race, and gender.
Media & Cultural Materialism	Autonomous aesthetic object isolated from economic and technological modes of production.	Examines print capitalism, digital distribution, translation praxis, and multimodal adaptations.	Connects literary aesthetics to global production networks and digital media convergence.

4. Pedagogical Synthesis and Scholarly Praxis

For undergraduate honours scholars, mastering this module cultivates rigorous analytical discernment. By critically interrogating primary texts, contextual nuances, and secondary theoretical discourses, students

develop the capacity to produce sustained scholarly arguments, conduct original close readings, and articulate nuanced literary critiques that resonate within contemporary academic and cultural debates.

Advanced Critical Theory, Hermeneutics & Literary Praxis

In contemporary literary scholarship and higher education under the Calicut University curriculum, engaging with *Reading World Classics* (specifically Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho) requires a multidimensional theoretical apparatus that transcends simple narrative summary. Scholars must synthesize close reading methodologies with historical contextualization, cultural poetics, and contemporary critical theory to uncover the ideological architectures underpinning literary texts and media artifacts.

1. Hermeneutic Paradigms and Textual Mechanics

Critical inquiry into Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho reveals how textual forms construct meaning through complex aesthetic strategies and structural choices:

- **Structuralism and Semiotic Deconstruction:** The organization of signs, tropes, and syntactical structures establishes narrative authority while simultaneously revealing internal fissures. Binary oppositions embedded within the discourse—such as center versus margin, tradition versus modernity, and subjective interiority versus objective reality—are systematically problematized through textual slippages and ambiguous signifiers.
- **Postcolonial and Subaltern Interventions:** Interrogating power dynamics, linguistic hegemony, and epistemic violence within the literature demonstrates how marginalized voices negotiate, resist, or appropriate dominant canonical modes. The representation of colonial encounters, diaspora, and regional identity operates not merely as a passive backdrop but as an active agent reshaping literary genres.
- **Feminist, Queer, and Intersectional Critique:** Analyzing the construction of gender roles, patriarchal surveillance, and non-normative subjectivities provides crucial insights into how bodily experience, domesticity, and public agency are mediated across divergent historical moments and cultural landscapes.
- **Ecocritical and Spatial Dynamics:** Physical topographies, built environments, and non-human ecologies function as active participants in the narrative economy. Space is never neutral; rather, it reflects socio-economic stratification, environmental exploitation, and geopolitical borders that delineate belonging and exile.

2. Historiographical Context and Reception Theory

Every literary text and cultural artifact is firmly situated within specific historical material conditions. Understanding Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho requires examining how contemporaneous social movements, intellectual revolutions, and material shifts in print and digital publishing influenced textual production. Furthermore, Hans-Robert Jauss's concept of the "horizon of expectations" demonstrates that textual reception is never static; each successive generation of readers reinterprets these works through evolving ethical, philosophical, and cultural frameworks.

3. Comparative Aesthetic and Thematic Matrix

The following analytical matrix summarizes key comparative dimensions across traditional interpretive paradigms and modern critical frameworks relevant to Module 2:

DegreeLive

Critical Dimension	Traditional / Formalist Reading	Contemporary Critical Synthesis	Pedagogic & Interpretive Significance
Authorial Intent & Authority	Privileges authorial biography, conscious artistic intention, and unified aesthetic harmony.	Applies Roland Barthes's "Death of the Author" and Foucault's "author function" to analyze cultural discourses.	Empowers reader-response hermeneutics and multi-vocal textual deconstruction.
Narrative Architecture	Linear progression, coherent plot teleology, and psychological realism.	Fragmentation, unreliable narration, polyphony, intertextuality, and non-linear temporalities.	Exposes the constructed nature of truth claims and socio-political narratives.
Ideology & Power Relations	Universal humanism, moral transcendence, and universalized ethical struggles.	Marxist, Postcolonial, and Intersectional critiques uncovering systemic hierarchies.	Illuminates how literature critiques institutional power, caste, race, and gender.
Media & Cultural Materialism	Autonomous aesthetic object isolated from economic and technological modes of production.	Examines print capitalism, digital distribution, translation praxis, and multimodal adaptations.	Connects literary aesthetics to global production networks and digital media convergence.

4. Pedagogical Synthesis and Scholarly Praxis

For undergraduate honours scholars, mastering this module cultivates rigorous analytical discernment. By critically interrogating primary texts, contextual nuances, and secondary theoretical discourses, students develop the capacity to produce sustained scholarly arguments, conduct original close readings, and articulate nuanced literary critiques that resonate within contemporary academic and cultural debates.

Advanced Critical Theory, Hermeneutics & Literary Praxis

In contemporary literary scholarship and higher education under the Calicut University curriculum, engaging with *Reading World Classics* (specifically Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho) requires a multidimensional theoretical apparatus that transcends simple narrative summary. Scholars must synthesize close reading methodologies with historical contextualization, cultural poetics, and contemporary critical theory to uncover the ideological architectures underpinning literary texts and media artifacts.

1. Hermeneutic Paradigms and Textual Mechanics

Critical inquiry into Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho reveals how textual forms construct meaning through complex aesthetic strategies and structural choices:

- **Structuralism and Semiotic Deconstruction:** The organization of signs, tropes, and syntactical structures establishes narrative authority while simultaneously revealing internal fissures. Binary oppositions embedded within the discourse—such as center versus margin, tradition versus modernity, and subjective interiority versus objective reality—are systematically problematized through textual slippages and ambiguous signifiers.
- **Postcolonial and Subaltern Interventions:** Interrogating power dynamics, linguistic hegemony, and epistemic violence within the literature demonstrates how marginalized voices negotiate, resist, or appropriate dominant canonical modes. The representation of colonial encounters, diaspora, and

DegreeLive

regional identity operates not merely as a passive backdrop but as an active agent reshaping literary genres.

- **Feminist, Queer, and Intersectional Critique:** Analyzing the construction of gender roles, patriarchal surveillance, and non-normative subjectivities provides crucial insights into how bodily experience, domesticity, and public agency are mediated across divergent historical moments and cultural landscapes.
- **Ecocritical and Spatial Dynamics:** Physical topographies, built environments, and non-human ecologies function as active participants in the narrative economy. Space is never neutral; rather, it reflects socio-economic stratification, environmental exploitation, and geopolitical borders that delineate belonging and exile.

2. Historiographical Context and Reception Theory

Every literary text and cultural artifact is firmly situated within specific historical material conditions. Understanding Module 2: Classical Poetry: Homer, Ovid, Tagore, Hafez, and Basho requires examining how contemporaneous social movements, intellectual revolutions, and material shifts in print and digital publishing influenced textual production. Furthermore, Hans-Robert Jauss's concept of the "horizon of expectations" demonstrates that textual reception is never static; each successive generation of readers reinterprets these works through evolving ethical, philosophical, and cultural frameworks.

3. Comparative Aesthetic and Thematic Matrix

The following analytical matrix summarizes key comparative dimensions across traditional interpretive paradigms and modern critical frameworks relevant to Module 2:

Critical Dimension	Traditional / Formalist Reading	Contemporary Critical Synthesis	Pedagogic & Interpretive Significance
Authorial Intent & Authority	Privileges authorial biography, conscious artistic intention, and unified aesthetic harmony.	Applies Roland Barthes's "Death of the Author" and Foucault's "author function" to analyze cultural discourses.	Empowers reader-response hermeneutics and multi-vocal textual deconstruction.
Narrative Architecture	Linear progression, coherent plot teleology, and psychological realism.	Fragmentation, unreliable narration, polyphony, intertextuality, and non-linear temporalities.	Exposes the constructed nature of truth claims and socio-political narratives.
Ideology & Power Relations	Universal humanism, moral transcendence, and universalized ethical struggles.	Marxist, Postcolonial, and Intersectional critiques uncovering systemic hierarchies.	Illuminates how literature critiques institutional power, caste, race, and gender.
Media & Cultural Materialism	Autonomous aesthetic object isolated from economic and technological modes of production.	Examines print capitalism, digital distribution, translation praxis, and multimodal adaptations.	Connects literary aesthetics to global production networks and digital media convergence.

4. Pedagogical Synthesis and Scholarly Praxis

For undergraduate honours scholars, mastering this module cultivates rigorous analytical discernment. By critically interrogating primary texts, contextual nuances, and secondary theoretical discourses, students

develop the capacity to produce sustained scholarly arguments, conduct original close readings, and articulate nuanced literary critiques that resonate within contemporary academic and cultural debates.

DegreeLive