

محاوَر الامتحان الشامل لطلاب الماجستير في الأدب والقراءات المطلوبة

لكل محور 2026/2025

المحور الأول: Critical Theory, Poetry, Fiction and Research

Methods

- Charles E. Bressler, *Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice*, 5th ed., Longman, 2011.
- Lois Tyson, *Critical Theory Today, A User-Friendly Guide*, 2nd ed., Routledge, 2006.

***The emphasis of the comprehensive exam will be on the following theoretical approaches of criticism:**

- **1. The Historical Survey of Criticism since Plato until the Modern times** (In Charles E. Bressler, *Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice*, 5th ed., Longman, 2011)

2. Russian Formalism and New criticism:

(Historical development and theoretical assumptions)

3. Structuralism:

- a. Its historical development (Saussure's linguistic revolution, the structure of language, Saussure's redefinition of word, langue and parole)
- b. Methodologies of Literary Structuralism:
 - 1. The structure of literary genres
 - 2. The Structure of narratives (Narratology)/Vladimir Propp and Claud Levi-Strauss
 - 3. The Structure of Literary interpretation (Jonathan Culler)
 - 4. Semiotics (Roland Barthes)

4. Post-structuralism and Deconstruction.

a. (Deconstructing language, deconstructing our world, deconstructing human identity, deconstructing literature);

b. Read "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences" by Jacques Derrida, in

Charles E. Bressler, *Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice*, 5th ed., Longman, 2011, (pp 256-271).

c. Assumptions of deconstruction: (Transcendental Signified, Logocentrism, binary oppositions, phonocentrism and metaphysics of presence)

d. Deconstructive suppositions for textual analysis: (Acknowledging binary operations in western thought, supplementation, difference and Arche-writing)

5. Psychoanalytic Criticism:

a. Sigmund Freud (models of human psyche, the significance of dreams, the interpretation of dreams and literature)

b. literature and psychoanalysis:

Carl G. Jung, Northrop Frye, Jacques Lacan)

c. Lacan and textual analysis

6. Reader Response and Reception Theories:

a. Historical development (I. A. Richards, Louise M Rosenblatt)

b. Structuralism (Gerald Prince)

c. Phenomenology (Hans Robert Jauss, Wolfgang Iser)

d. Subjective Criticism (Norman Holland, David Bleich)

Fiction

- Orwell, George. Nineteen Eighty-Four.
- Steinbeck, John. Of Mice and Men.
- Wells, H.G. The Time Machine.
- James, Henry. The Turn of the Screw.
- Conrad, Joseph. Heart of Darkness.
- Defoe, Daniel. Robinson Crusoe.
- Fitzgerald, F. S. The Great Gatsby.
- Hawthorne, Nathaniel. The Scarlet Letter.
- Any book or article on dystopian fiction

Poetry:

- A. E. Housman: Is My Team Ploughing, When I was One and Twenty, Epitaph on an Army of Mercenaries.
- Wilfred Owen: Dulce et Decorum Est.

- Thomas Hardy: The Darkling Thrush, The Ruined Maid, Ah, Are you Digging on My Grave? I Look into My Glass, The Man He Killed.
- William Butler Yeats: Leda and the Swan, The Second Coming, Sailing to Byzantium.
- Robert Frost: The Road Not Taken, Stopping by Woods, Not to Keep, Out, Out, Acquainted with the Night, Nothing Gold can Stay, Mending Wall, After Apple Picking.
- T. S. Eliot: The Hollow Men, The Love song of J. Alfred Prufrock.
- Elizabeth Bishop: The Fish, Filling Station, One Art.
- Sylvia Plath: Mirror, Tulips.
- John Donne: The Flea, Song: Go and Catch a Falling Star, Death Be not Proud, Valediction: Forbidding Morning.
- Any article on the meaning and characteristics of metaphysical poetry.
- Browning, Robert: My Last Duchess.
- Lawrence, D. H.: Piano.
- Any article or book on the characteristics, features and stylistic elements of modern poetry.

المحور الثاني: Comparative Literature and Shakespeare

Shakespeare

- Hamlet
- Othello
- Macbeth
- The Merchant of Venice

*Further readings on Shakespeare:

- Stanely Wells & Lena Cowen Orlin, Shakespeare: An Oxford Guide, Oxford University Press, 2003.
- Juliet Dusinberre, Shakespeare and The Nature of Women, Macmillan Press LTD, 1996.

Comparative Literature

- Enani, M. Theories of Comparative Literature. South Valley University
- T. S. Eliot's Influence on Al-Sboul's Novella You as of Today
- Season of Migration to the North and Heart of Darkness African Mimicry of European Stereotypes
- Towards a Dialogue with the West: The Use of Eliot's Modernism in The Poetry of B.S. Al-Sayyab
- The Aesthetics of 'Pygmalion' in G. B. Shaw and Tawfiq al-Hakim
- Adaptation and Appropriation in Ahmed Saadawi's Frankenstein in Baghdad