

## ELT375 Popular Fiction and Culture

**Level:** 3

**Credit Units:** 5 Credit Units

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Presentation Pattern:** EVERY JAN

### Synopsis:

ELT375 Popular Fiction and Culture explores the history, forms and role of popular fiction in popular culture. It provides a critical introduction to key concepts and approaches to popular literature studies: debates about the value of popular literature, issues of cultural production, literary taste, readership and reception. The course looks at the important genres of popular fiction: crime and mystery, romance, horror, fantasy and science fiction. Students will read representative examples of these genres and examine them in their social, cultural, political contexts.

### Topics:

- What is popular culture?
- Literature and popular culture
- Emergence of popular fiction and mass readership
- Crime and mystery in detective fiction
- Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*
- Mystery and romance
- Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*
- Narratives of horror: Stephen King's *Misery*
- Fantasy and science fiction in popular culture
- Philip K. Dick's *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*
- Nuraliah Norasid's *The Gatekeeper*
- Changes in modes and production of popular fiction.

### Learning Outcome:

- Identify characteristic features of key genres of popular fiction.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the historical and cultural production of popular fiction.
- Evaluate critical issues and approaches in the study of popular fiction.
- Discuss the social, historical and cultural contexts of works of popular fiction.
- Examine the stylistic features and treatment of issues in popular fiction genres through close reading of texts.
- Apply research skills and critical methods to discuss works of popular fiction.

### Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	20
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 2	30
Overall Examinable	ECA	50

Components		
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>