

Call for Papers

The Postgraduate Department of English, Providence Women's College, Kozhikode

invites you to

Con-Texts 2019

the annual PG students' One-Day National Seminar on

Revisiting the Classics

1 March 2019

Classics are the very milestones of our literary tradition. They are woven by writers and are consumed by readers with the influence of centuries of writing behind us. Italo Calvino said, "A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say." Being the gateway to the past, they give us what the great Victorian poet Matthew Arnold called "the best that is known and thought in the world." Some classics rise to prominence as the shining example of a movement (like Romanticism) or a genre (like Historical fiction). They spark a literary trend because they do it first or they do it best.

However, in recent years, we have come to recognise that the "classic" is an institutional construct developed by an educated class; an idea presupposing mutually supportive concepts of art, genius, and nationality, used strategically in places where the educated class reproduces itself. A "classic" is thus not an extra-historical object originating in some other inspiration that persons should come to appreciate or be culturally damned. Hence, the canonization of classics has come to be critiqued and problematised, as the product of certain historical and ideological processes.

At a time in human history when "post-truth", "alternate facts" and similar terms rattle the cages of our existing framework of knowledge and perceptions, it is relevant that we take a look at the ways that foundational texts and outlooks have been reworked or rewritten.

The national seminar on 'Revising Classics ' for PG students, conducted by the Post-Graduate Department of English, Providence Women's College, invites papers exploring the

contours and on the multifarious aspects of revisiting classics. The Seminar aims to generate a discussion about the ways in which the classics have been re-read in the present era and how all of these have contributed to the changing dynamics of political, social, economic, and gendered interactions.

Thrust Areas:

- Classics in the digital age
- Classics and ideology
- Classics and pulp fiction
- Classics and children's literature
- Classics and politics
- Classics and Media
- Classics and Performance
- Classics and Education
- Classics and Films
- Classics and Spirituality
- Classics and Culture
- Classics and Cartoons
- Classics and Religion
- Classics and Class
- Classics and Fashion
- Classics and Gender
- Classics and Advertisements
- Classics and Paintings
- Classics and Ethics
- Classics and Ethnicity
- Classics and Humanity
- Classics and Society
- Classics and Bibliotherapy
- Classics and Criticism
- Negative aspects of revising Classics

Abstracts of 200-400 words may be sent to contexts.pwc@gmail.com by **31 January 2019**.

Selected participants will be intimated by **5 February**. Full papers of 2000 to 3000 words, strictly following the MLA Handbook (7th edition), should be submitted by email by **25 February**, and hard copies should be submitted before the seminar.

Registration Fees: Rs. 150.

Participants should make their own arrangement for travel and accommodation.

Convenors:

Aiswarya P., II MA English

Keerthi N., II MA English

Staff Co-ordinator:

Dr. Aparna Nandakumar,

Assistant Professor, Dept. of English