

# **Postgraduate Programme**

## **MA in English (MAEG)**

### **(ODL Mode)**

## **Programme Guide**



**School of Humanities**  
**Indira Gandhi National Open University**  
**Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**  
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### **Important Information**

The University sends study materials to the students by registered post and if a student does not receive the same for any reason whatsoever, the University shall not be held responsible for

that.

Assignments may be downloaded from the IGNOU website [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in)

The students are specifically instructed to send Examination Forms to the Concerned Regional Centre only and to no other place. Examination forms may be submitted online during the prescribed dates. They are also advised to submit the Registration/Re-registration forms only

at the respective Regional Centres and nowhere else. If any student sends the Registration/Reregistration Forms, Examination Forms at wrong places and thereby misses the scheduled date and consequently a semester/year, he/she will have no claim on the University.

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Published on behalf of the IGNOU, New Delhi, by  
**Prof. Smita Chaturvedi,**  
Director, School of Humanities.

## MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH (MAEG)

<b>Programme Code:</b>	<b>MAEG</b>	<b>Credits 80</b>
Educational Qualification:	Bachelor's Degree in any subject or a higher degree	
Duration:.	Minimum: 2 years Maximum: 5 years	
<b>Total Programme Fee:</b>	<b>Rs 16000/- (Learners are required to pay Rs. 8700/- (Registration fee of Rs 300/- (Non-refundable plus University Development fee of Rs 400/- is to be paid at the time of admission in addition) in the 1st year and Rs. 8000/- in the 2nd year</b>	
Two Academic Sessions	<b>July Session and January Session</b>	
Term End Exam:	<b>June and December</b>	

The learners may note that those who have taken admission in the 1 year in July will take their 1st year examination only after a year in June. If a student of Ist or II<sup>nd</sup> year is unable to clear the June examination, then s/he can take the examination in the following December.

Course Code	Title of the Course	Credits
<b>First Year Courses: 80 credits (MEG-05 + Any four of the following)</b>		
<b>MEG-01</b>	<b>British Poetry</b>	8
<b>MEG-02</b>	<b>British Drama</b>	8
<b>MEG-03</b>	<b>British Novel</b>	8
<b>MEG-05</b>	<b>Literary Criticism and Theory (Compulsory)</b>	8
<b>MEG-06</b>	<b>American Literature</b>	8
<b>MEG-07</b>	<b>Indian English Literature</b>	8
<b>MEG-08</b>	<b>New Literatures in English</b>	8
<b>MEG-09</b>	<b>Australian Literature</b>	8
<b>MEG-12</b>	<b>A Survey Course in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Canadian Literature</b>	8
<b>Second Year Courses: 80 credits (Any five of the following courses)</b>		

<b>MEG-04</b>	<b>Aspects of Language</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-10</b>	<b>English Studies in India, Elective</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-11</b>	<b>American Novel</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-14</b>	<b>Contemporary Indian Literature in English Translation</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-15</b>	<b>Comparative Literature: Theory and Practice</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-16</b>	<b>Indian Folk Literature</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-17</b>	<b>American Drama</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-18</b>	<b>American Poetry</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEG-19</b>	<b>Australian Novel</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>80</b>

## 4. MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH (MAEG)

### 4.1 Introduction

In an Open University of national stature, the basic approach towards the Master's Degree Programme in English has to be carefully balanced vis-à-vis the conventional Universities and correspondence institutions. As such, parity, institutional recognition and innovativeness have been the basic planning strategies. Keeping the heterogeneous nature and varied needs of our clientele in mind, the MAEG programme caters to human resource development as well as self-enrichment. The aim is to give the learners a sound base in language as well as to give them exposure to a wide range of literature, with options for specialisation in a particular area of interest. The learner would thus hopefully acquire linguistic competence as well as develop confidence in his/her critical and analytical abilities.

### 4.2 Eligibility

In accordance with the University's general policy of 'openness' and 'flexibility', all graduates are eligible for admission even if they did not take electives in English at the undergraduate level. There would be no admission test. However, undergraduates with no previous training in English should go through the undergraduate English courses of IGNOU. It would help them to understand the Master's level courses.

### 4.3 Duration

The programme can be completed in a minimum period of 2 years and a maximum period of 5 years.

### 4.4 Fee Structure

Total programme fee is Rs. 16000/-, which is inclusive of the registration fee. At the time of admission student should pay the fee Rs. **8700/-** for the 1st year along with the filled-in application form, and for the 2nd year, fee Rs. 8000/- should be paid along with the filled-in registration form.

The program fee should be paid online as per instructions on the IGNOU website [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in). Timely payment of programme fees is the responsibility of the student. Students are expected to remit fees as early as possible without waiting for the last date. Late payments will not be entertained. In case students fail to remit the fees as per the above schedule, they will have to wait for the next admission cycle after a year.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>When to pay</b>	<b>Where to submit</b>
1st	Rs. 8,000/- per year Total = Rs. 16,000/- <b>(300 registration Fees plus 400 university development Fees)</b>	Along with the admission form	Admission and Re-registration form through online mode. (As per instructions in the IGNOU website <a href="http://www.ignou.ac.in">www.ignou.ac.in</a> )
2nd	Rs. 8000/-  July	As announced on the IGNOU website	

	Session		For fee : Regarding Re-registration fees, please see ignou website: <a href="http://www.ignou.ac.in">www.ignou.ac.in</a>
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The University can revise the programme fee, and the revised fee shall be payable by the student as per the schedule of payment notified by the University.

#### 4.5 Registration in the II<sup>nd</sup> year

After the 1<sup>st</sup> year, whether a student has passed/attempted the first year examination or not, s/he can seek admission for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year by submitting the programme registration form with the requisite programme fee within the registration schedule as notified by the University.

#### 4.6 Credit System

The open university system is based on credits. Credits can be transferred from one university to another, at the same level of education and for the same subject only. Credit transfer of a maximum of 50% credits only is allowed within a programme of study. In this case 50% is 40 credits of the 80 credits of the MA in English (MAEG)

Programme.

One credit is quantified by 30 hours of study. In other words, a candidate will have to put in 240 hours of study to complete an 8-credit course. S/he can decide how many courses s/he wants to pursue in a year by calculating how much time s/he can spare for their studies.

#### 4.7 Programme Structure (MAEG) (80 Credits)

The Master of Arts in English (MAEG) is an 80-credit program designed in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, to facilitate scholarly engagement with the literary arts. It emphasises critical thinking, advanced literary analysis, creative expression, and applied language skills. The curriculum priorities engagement with the

aesthetics, historical and philosophical dimensions of global literatures, promoting a literary-critical study. This postgraduate program bridges foundational British canons with the emergent voices of Indian, American and new literatures, providing a comprehensive historio-critical perspective along with the intellectual, analytical, and communicative competencies essential for the 21<sup>st</sup>-century knowledge economy.

#### 4.7 The Course Outline

##### MEG-01: British poetry

Block 1	Orientation for the study of poetry & The Medieval Poet Chaucer
Block 2	The Renaissance Poet Edmund Spenser
Block 3	The Metaphysical Poets: <i>Donne, Herbert &amp; Marvell</i>
Block 4	The Late Renaissance Poet John Milton
Block 5	The Neoclassical Poets: <i>Dryden and Pope</i>

Block 6	The Romantic Poets-I: <i>Blake, Wordsworth &amp; Coleridge</i>
Block 7	The Romantic Poets-II: <i>Shelley and Keats</i>
Block 8	The Victorian Poets
Block 9	The Modernist Poets: <i>W.B. Yeats and T.S. Eliot</i>
Block 10	Modernist and Postmodernist Poets: <i>Dylan Thomas, Philip Larkin, and Sylvia Plath, 'A Symposium' and 'Essays and Evaluations'</i>

## **MEG-02: British Drama**

Block 1	Christopher Marlowe: <i>Doctor Faustus</i>
Block 2	William Shakespeare: <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
Block 3	William Shakespeare: <i>Hamlet</i>
Block 4	Ben Jonson: <i>The Alchemist</i>
Block 5	J.M. Synge: <i>The Playboy of the Western World</i>
Block 6	Bernard Shaw: <i>Pygmalion</i>
Block 7	T.S. Eliot: <i>Murder in the Cathedral</i>
Block 8	John Osborne: <i>Look Back in Anger</i>
Block 9	Samuel Beckett: <i>Waiting for Godot</i>

## **MEG-03: British Novel**

Block 1	Henry Fielding: <i>Tom Jones</i>
Block 2	Jane Austen: <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Block 3	Emily Brontë: <i>Wuthering Heights</i>
Block 4	Charles Dickens: <i>Great Expectations</i>
Block 5	George Eliot: <i>Middlemarch</i>
Block 6	Joseph Conrad: <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
Block 7	James Joyce: <i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i>
Block 8	E.M. Forster: <i>A Passage to India</i>
Block 9	Muriel Spark: <i>The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie</i>

## **MEG-04: Aspects of Language**

Block 1	What is language?
Block 2	History of English Language
Block 3	Phonetics and Phonology-1
Block 3a	Phonetics and Phonology-2
Block 4	English Morphology
Block 5	English Syntax
Block 6	Language in Use-1
Block 7	Language in Use-2
Block 8	The spread of English
Block 9	Stylistics

## **MEG-05: Literary Criticism and Theory**

Block 1	An Introduction
Block 2	Classical Criticism: Plato, Aristotle
Block 3	Romantic Criticism: Preface to Lyrical Ballads, Biographia Literaria, A Defence of Poetry
Block 4	New Criticism: Richards, Eliot, Leavis, Ransom, Brooks, Wimsatt
Block 5	Marxist View of Literature
Block 6	Feminist Theories: Wollstonecraft, Woolf, Beauvoir, Showalter
Block 7	Deconstruction
Block 8	Contemporary Literary Theory: Freud, Lacan, Said, Spivak, Bhabha

**MEG-06: American Literature**

Block 1	Contexts of American Literature: <i>The Puritans and the Enlightenment</i>
Block 2	American Fiction-I: <i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
Block 3	American Fiction-II: <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>
Block 4	American Prose
Block 5	American Poetry-I: <i>Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson</i>
Block 6	American Poetry-II: <i>Frost, Stevens, William Carlos, Pound, Rich</i>
Block 7	American Short Story: <i>A Clean Well-Lighted Place. The Bear</i>
Block 8	American Drama: <i>The Hairy Ape, Death of a Salesman</i>
Block 9	Toni Morrison: <i>The Bluest Eye</i>

**MEG-07: Indian English Literature**

Block 1	Non-Fictional Prose
Block 2	Mulk Raj Anand: <i>Untouchable</i>
Block 3	Raja Rao: <i>Kanthapura</i>
Block 4	Anita Desai: <i>Clear Light of Day</i>
Block 5	Salman Rushdie: <i>Midnight's Children</i>
Block 6	Short Stories
Block 7	Poetry
Block 8	Mahesh Dattani: <i>Tara</i>

**MEG-08: New Literature in English**

Block 1	Introduction
Block 2	Ngugi Wa Thiong'o: <i>A Grain of Wheat</i>
Block 3	Wole Soyinka: <i>A Dance of the Forests</i>
Block 4	Bapsi Sidhwa: <i>Ice-Candy Man</i>
Block 5	V.S. Naipaul: <i>A House for Mr Biswas</i>
Block 6	Derek Walcott and Edward Brathwaite: <i>Caribbean Poetry</i>
Block 7	Patrick White: <i>The Solid Mandala</i>
Block 8	Margaret Laurence: <i>The Stone Angel</i>

**MEG-09: Australian Literature**

Block 1	An Introduction to Australian Literature
Block 2	Nineteenth-Century Australian Poetry

Block 3	Introduction to Short Fiction
Block 4	Modern Australian Poetry (1901-1970)
Block 5	Patrick White: <i>Voss</i>
Block 6	Contemporary Australian Poetry (1970 onwards)
Block 7	David Malouf: Remembering Babylon
Block 8	David Williamson: The Removalists

**MEG-10: English Studies in India**

Block 1	Institutionalisation of English Studies in India
Block 2	Beginnings of Indian English Writing
Block 3	Beginnings of Indian English Novel
Block 4	Different Englishers
Block 5	Problems of Teaching and Learning English Literature
Block 6	Questioning the ‘Canon’
Block 7	Evaluations of Canons in Indian English Writing
Block 8	Decolonising the Mind

**MEG-11: American Novel**

Block 1	James F. Cooper: <i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>
Block 2	Theodore Dreiser: <i>Sister Carrie</i>
Block 3	F. Scott Fitzgerald: <i>The Great Gatsby</i>
Block 4	William Faulkner: <i>Light in August</i>
Block 5	Henry Miller: <i>Black Spring</i>
Block 6	J.D. Salinger: <i>Catcher in The Rye</i>
Block 7	John Barth: <i>Floating Opera</i>
Block 8	Scott Momaday: <i>A House Made of Dawn</i>
Block 9	Alice Walker: <i>The Colour Purple</i>

**MEG-12: A Survey Course in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Canadian Literature**

Block 1	Contexts of Canadian Writing
Block 2	Canadian Poetry
Block 3	Surfacing by Margaret Atwood
Block 4	The Tin Flute by Gabrielle Roy
Block 5	The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje
Block 6	The Canadian Short Story
Block 7	The Ecstasy of Rita Joe by George Ryga
Block 8	development of Canadian criticism

**MEG-13: Writing from the Margins**

Block 1	Theory, culture and history of Dalits
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Block 2	Fiction and autobiographical writing
Block 3	Poetry
Block 4	Drama and short fiction
Block 5	Theory, culture and the history of tribals
Block 6	Oral Narratives
Block 7	Fiction and Autobiography
Block 8	Poetry, Drama and Short Fiction

**MEG-14: Contemporary Indian Literature in English Translation**

Block 1	Background Studies
Block 2	Samskara: U. R. Anantha Murthy
Block 3	Tamas: Bhisham Sahni
Block 4	Short Story-I
Block 5	Short Story-II
Block 6	Indian Poetry
Block 7	Tughlaq: Girish Karnad
Block 8	Non-Fictional Prose

**MEG-15: Comparative Literature: Theory and Practice**

Block 1	Introduction
Block 2	Comparative Indian Literature-I
Block 3	Comparative Indian Literature-II
Block 4	Comparative World Literature-I
Block 5	Comparative World Literature-II
Block 6	Literature and Culture: Exchanges and Negotiations-I
Block 7	Literature and Culture: Exchanges and Negotiations-II

**MEG-16: Indian Folk Literature**

Block 1	Folk Literature and Language: Research and Pedagogy
Block 2	Identity and Hybridity: Kshetra and Desha
Block 3	Folk Literature: Sources, Characteristics, Classifications and Functions
Block 4	Folktales of India: Motifs, Modes and Mores
Block 5	Folk Poetry
Block 6	Folk in Contemporary Indian Fiction
Block 7	Folk Theatre

**MEG-17: American Drama**

Block 1	American Drama: An Introduction
Block 2	Musicals and Farce
Block 3	Naturalism/Realism
Block 4	The Twentieth Century Poetic Drama
Block 5	Absurd Drama
Block 6	Expressionism
Block 7	Avant-gardism

**MEG-18: American Poetry**

Block 1	An Introduction to American Poetry: Themes and Issues
Block 2	Eighteenth and the Nineteenth Century-I
Block 3	Eighteen and the Nineteenth Century-II
Block 4	Early Twentieth Century
Block 5	Mid Twentieth Century
Block 6	Late Twentieth Century
Block 7	Contemporary Poetry

**MEG-19: Australian Novel**

Block 1	The Australian Novel: The Beginnings
Block 2	From Colony to Federation
Block 3	New Directions
Block 4	War Novels
Block 5	Fiction by Indigenous Writers
Block 6	Multicultural Writing
Block 7	Contemporary Novel (1)
Block 7	Contemporary Novel (2)

#### **4.8 Instructional System**

The Master's Degree Programme delivery system adopts a multimedia approach, viz. self-instructional print materials, audio-video programmes, assignments, counselling sessions and teleconferencing through Edusat.

- i. Print Materials: These comprise the following, depending on the type of course
  - a) Self-instructional materials
  - b) Original texts like novels and plays, and collections of poems/essays/short stories, etc, You may, however, have to purchase the novels/plays on your own.
- ii. Audio-video Programmes: The Audio and Video programmes are supplementary, meant for clarification and enhancement of understanding. These are used during counselling sessions at the Study Centres. Besides, video programmes are telecast on the national network of Doordarshan/ Gyan Darshan.
- iii. Counselling Sessions: Generally, counselling sessions are held at the Study Centres during weekends (Saturdays and Sundays) and holidays. The Study Centre Coordinators will provide the counselling schedule.
- iv. Teleconferencing: The Teleconferencing Sessions will be organised for the MA Programme by the School of Humanities with the help of the Electronic Media Production Centre staff. The technical part comprises one-way video and two-way audio components. The subject experts counsel the students on various aspects of the courses in these sessions. The students are informed of the programme schedule in advance through the Newsletter.



School of Humanities

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