

MA LLMC Discipline-Specific Core Course Descriptions *Semester IV: January – April 2026*

Course Title	Dissertation
Category	a. Existing course without changes
Course Code	MALLMC DC699
Semester	IV
No. of Credits	5
Name of Teacher(s)	All faculty members
Course Description	This is a core course for the students of MA LLMC. The M.A. Dissertation follows the research methods course taught in Semester III, where the process of writing a dissertation research proposal was discussed. The students are expected to continue the preliminary proposals that emerged out of their work in the research methods course and complete their research and writing by the end of the semester. The students who register for this course are allotted a supervisor from the university faculty who would interact with them regularly. The supervisor will set mutually agreed deadlines for different stages of the dissertation and all dissertators are expected to participate in regular presentations of their ongoing progress at regular intervals throughout the semester.
Evaluation:	Continuous evaluation will be based on weekly updates and presentations with 40% weightage while 60% would be for the completed dissertation.
Course Outcomes	<p>Course Objectives in terms of programme-specific outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use research methods to produce original academic research output using interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to social issues. (PO4) • undertake higher academic research in the emerging transdisciplinary fields in the Humanities and Social Sciences. (PO8)

Course title	Philosophy of Communication
Category	c. New course
Course code	MALLMC615
Semester	IV (M.A.)
Number of credits	5
Maximum intake	30 (on first-come-first-served-basis for MA courses only)
Day/Time	
Name of the teacher	Dr. Srinivas Lankala
Course description	<p>Overview</p> <p>Communication offers a new perspective on philosophy and the essential questions of being, knowledge, ethics and truth. This course explores multiple ways of understanding both the process of human communication as well as the material form and historical location of the media. The course first takes a historical approach to rethink the origins of the discipline away from the Anglo-American approaches of the previous century towards other humanistic sources of knowledge such as rhetoric and philosophy, and non-anglophone theoretical streams. The course will also study the evolution of media technology as a cultural and historical phenomenon, from the role of paper, writing and print to the contemporary questions around new media and artificial intelligence. It concludes with an exploration of the role of media in our society of crisis, and the future of communication in a post-human world. At the end of the course, students are expected to have a broad understanding of the multiplicity of sources of communication theory and knowledge as well as explore new ways of thinking about communicative processes, language, ideology and media forms and technologies.</p> <p>Objectives in terms of Programme Specific Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate an advanced interdisciplinary understanding of the humanities and their significance to society. (PO1) • understand and contribute to the contemporary debates in the fields of literature, media, and cultural studies and their role in society. (PO2) • use research methods to produce original academic research output using interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to social issues. (PO4) • address social issues through a holistic and grounded approach using skills in language, literature, and media. (PO5) • undertake higher academic research in the emerging transdisciplinary fields in the Humanities and Social Sciences. (PO8) <p>Learning outcomes:</p> <p><i>a) domain specific outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop an understanding of human communication rooted in different philosophical traditions. • To study the influences of diverse contemporary intellectual schools on the discipline of communication

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To demonstrate the relationship of communication theory with social thought • To evaluate the philosophical basis for key concepts in communication, media, technology, and culture • To understand the ethical dimensions of interpersonal and mass communication • To develop an awareness of the relationship of language, literature, art, and technology to the practice of communication
Course delivery	Lecture/Seminar
Evaluation scheme	<p>Internal (modes of evaluation):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral presentation and written review of an assigned text: 20% • Short essay on an applied topic: 20% <p>End-semester (mode of evaluation):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research paper on a topic to be decided in consultation with the Course Instructor: 60%
Reading list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arneson, Pat, ed. 2007. <i>Perspectives on Philosophy of Communication</i>. Purdue Univ. Press. • Cadava, Eduardo, Peter Connor, and Jean-Luc Nancy, eds. 1991. <i>Who Comes After the Subject?</i> Routledge. • Chang, Briankle G., and Garnet C. Butchart, eds. 2012. <i>Philosophy of Communication</i>. MIT Press. • Chang, Briankle G. and Florian Spengler, eds. 2018. <i>Thinking Media and Beyond: Perspectives from German Media Theory</i>. Routledge. • Cook, Melissa A., and Annette M. Holba, eds. 2008. <i>Philosophies of Communication: Implications for Everyday Experience</i>. Peter Lang. • Floridi, Luciano. 2011. <i>The Philosophy of Information</i>. Oxford University Press. • Mangion, Claude. 2011. <i>Philosophical Approaches to Communication</i>. Intellect. <p><i>Other readings to be circulated in class.</i></p>

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Course title	Studying Popular Culture
Category	b. Existing course with changes
Course code	MALLMC676
Semester	IV
Number of credits	5
Maximum intake	30
Day/Time	Tuesday and Friday 9 am -11 am
Name of the teacher/s	Dr. Parthasarathi Muthukkaruppan
Course description	<p>For over a hundred years now, ‘popular culture’ under different guises has been the object of social anxiety, public enthusiasm, and scholarly inquiry. Negative definitions dominated in the beginning with popular culture being defined residually as everything that is not high culture, or as an inferior, easy-to-digest culture whose consumption led to intellectual impoverishment. In the last four to five decades, however, a more affirmative definition has emerged and along with it a discipline devoted to its study.</p> <p>In this course we will inquire into the history of the category itself, the meanings of the terms ‘popular’ and ‘culture’, the concepts and modes of inquiry that define the field of popular culture studies. We will pay particular attention to the challenges posed to its use in the somewhat different modern Indian context. Readings will include theoretical texts and case studies.</p> <p><i>This course is meant for students with some prior acquaintance with Cultural Studies/Theory (minimum 10 credits in LCS courses).</i></p>
Course delivery	Lecture/Seminar/Experiential learning
Evaluation scheme	Internal Requirements: Regular attendance, active participation in classroom discussion, presentations, and two Class room tests. End-semester (mode of evaluation): Final Exam.
Reading list	Essential reading will be drawn from Pierre Bourdieu, Theodore Adorno, Tony Bennett, Ien Ang, Robert Witkin , Lana F Rakow , Christine Gledhill, John Fiske, John Storey, Stuart Hall, Michel de Certeau, Amir Saeed, Roland Barthes, Michael Ryan, Madhava Prasad, SV Srinivas, Partha Chatterjee, Terry Lovell, Ravi Vasudevan and other cultural theorists.

Course title	Translating South Asia
Category	a. New course
Course code	MALLMC620
Semester	4
Number of credits	5
Maximum intake	30
Day/Time	Tuesday 2-4, Friday 11-1
Name of the teacher/s	Dr. Tharesha K C
Course description	<p>i) A brief overview of the course</p> <p>Translating South Asia explores the theoretical, cultural, and political dimensions of translation in the multilingual and contested terrain of the subcontinent. The course begins with foundational debates in Western translation theory and moves toward postcolonial and decolonial critiques that reframe translation as a site of power, ideology, and resistance. Through modules that focus on gender, voice, vernacular literary systems, and the ethics of representation, students examine how translation mediates identity, memory, and cultural authority in South Asia. Special attention is given to Indian and regional translation practices, with an emphasis on the complex relationship between colonial legacies, linguistic diversity, and literary modernity. Drawing on both theoretical texts and case studies—from classical epics to contemporary fiction and feminist writings—the course enables students to critically assess how texts travel across languages and cultures, and what gets lost, gained, or transformed in the process. By the end of the course, students will be equipped to engage with translation not only as a linguistic act but as a political and ethical intervention central to the comparative literary enterprise.</p> <p>Course Learning Outcomes</p> <p>CLO1: Construct a conceptual framework to understand cross-cultural literary contact, multilingualism, and interliterariness in South Asian contexts.</p> <p>CLO2: Critically engage with key theoretical perspectives on translation, vernacular modernity, and literary systems through close reading of foundational texts.</p> <p>CLO3: Differentiate between various translation modes—literary, knowledge-based, and intermedial—based on their function, intention, and cultural specificity.</p> <p>CLO4: Translate and reflect on short texts from Indian languages to English with attention to ethics, context, and cultural nuance.</p> <p>CLO5: Evaluate the politics of translation in relation to power, caste, gender, and linguistic hierarchy in India and the Global South.</p>

	<p>Objectives of the course in terms of Programme Specific Outcomes (PSO of the Programme under which the course is being offered)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate an advanced interdisciplinary understanding of the humanities and their significance to society. (PO1) • understand and contribute to the contemporary debates in the fields of literature, media, and cultural studies and their role in society. (PO2) • use research methods to produce original academic research output using interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to social issues. (PO4) • address social issues through a holistic and grounded approach using skills in language, literature, and media. (PO5) • undertake higher academic research in the emerging transdisciplinary fields in the Humanities and Social Sciences. (PO8)
Course delivery	Lecture/Seminar/Experiential learning (highlight the portion in the course description that lends itself to these)
Evaluation scheme	<p>Internal (modes of evaluation): End-semester (mode of evaluation): Sit in Examination *Please note that open-book examination is permissible only for courses offered as part of MA programmes and subject to approval by the Head of the Department/Dean of the School concerned</p>
Reading list	<p>Essential reading</p> <p>Module 1: Foundations of Translation Theory Themes: Equivalence, fidelity, the translator's role, linguistic transfer Focus: Historical evolution of Western translation theory Key Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roman Jakobson, “On Linguistic Aspects of Translation” • Eugene Nida, <i>Principles of Correspondence</i> • Walter Benjamin, “The Task of the Translator” • John Dryden, “On Translation” (Preface to Ovid’s <i>Epistles</i>) • Lawrence Venuti, <i>The Translator’s Invisibility</i> (Chapters 1–2) • André Lefevere, “Mother Courage’s Cucumbers: Text, System and Refraction in a Theory of Literature” <p>Module 2: Translation, Culture, and Power Themes: Ideology, rewriting, canon formation, postcolonial critique Focus: Translation as a cultural and political act Key Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, “The Politics of Translation” • Tejaswini Niranjana, <i>Siting Translation: History, Post-Structuralism and the Colonial Context</i> (Ch. 1 & 3) • Susan Bassnett and André Lefevere (eds.), <i>Constructing Cultures: Essays on Literary Translation</i> (Selections) • Harish Trivedi, “Translating Culture vs. Cultural Translation” • Talal Asad, “The Concept of Cultural Translation in British Social Anthropology” • Emily Apter, • “Untranslatable” Algeria: The Politics of Linguicide’ <p>Module 3: Gender, Voice, and Ethics in Translation</p>

	<p>Themes: Feminist translation, voice and agency, ethics of representation Focus: Translation and identity politics Key Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sherry Simon, <i>Gender in Translation: Cultural Identity and the Politics of Transmission</i> (Chapters 1 & 2)• Luise von Flotow, “Feminist Translation: Contexts, Practices and Theories”• Barbara Godard, “Theorizing Feminist Discourse/Translation”• Mahasweta Devi, “Draupadi” tr. Gayatri Spivak (with Translator’s Note)• Ranjit Hoskote, “Translation and/as Resistance in Indian Literary Cultures” (essay/interview) <p>Module 4: Indian and South Asian Contexts of Translation Themes: Multilingualism, vernacular modernity, literary systems Focus: Translation practices in India and the Global South Key Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A.K. Ramanujan, “Three Hundred Ramayanas: Five Examples and Three Thoughts on Translation”• Sujit Mukherjee, <i>Translation as Discovery</i> (Selections)• G.N. Devy, <i>After Amnesia: Tradition and Change in Indian Literary Criticism</i> (Chapter on translation)• Ipshita Chanda, <i>Traces of the Real: Translations of the Political in South Asian Literatures</i> (Selections)• Velcheru Narayana Rao, “On Poets and Kings: A Translation of Telugu Court Poetry” (Selections) <p>Additional reading</p>
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