

JAYPEE UNIVERSITY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, WAKNAGHAT

TEST -3 EXAMINATION- 2024

PhD-II Semester (HSS)

COURSE CODE (CREDITS): 23P1WHS104 (3)

MAX. MARKS: 35

COURSE NAME: Studying Gender through Literature

COURSE INSTRUCTORS: Dr Deler Singh

MAX. TIME: 2 Hours

*Note: (a) All questions are compulsory.*

*(b) Marks are indicated against each question in square brackets.*

1. In recent years, *testimonio* has emerged as a popular category for Dalit women's life narratives that highlight the structural violence operating due to the caste system. This discrimination leads to daily physical and psychological violence. Discuss these life narratives' potential role in bringing Dalit women's issues to the forefront. Substantiate your answer with the help of a suitable textual example. (CO 2) (5)
2. *Understanding Gender* by Kamla Bhasin touches upon critical issues related to gender, patriarchy, religion, caste and class. How do you think this work contributes to the debate surrounding gender and feminism? (CO 2) (5)
3. Sexuality, as a subject of political movements and academics, has gained significant prominence in recent years. This movement also points towards growing feminist involvement with women's rights to their lives and bodies. Comment on the statement with respect to the development of gender and sexuality studies in India. (CO 3) (5)
4. Discuss in detail the developments in literary Queer theory. What are the key concerns of sexuality in modern times? Elaborate with the help of literary examples to substantiate your answer. (CO 3) (5)
5. The book *Same Sex Love in India* by Vania, R, & Kidwai, S. defies stereotypes of Indian culture and Foucault's definition of homosexuality as a nineteenth-century invention, uncovering instead complex discourses of Indian homosexuality, rich metaphorical traditions to represent it, and the use of names and terms as early as medieval times to distinguish same-sex from cross-sex love. Discuss in detail the above statement. (CO 3) (10)
6. The idea of 'protecting' the caste by restricting its women is not isolated to the 'backward' khap panchayats in Haryana but is part of an everyday reality that most of us do not realise or acknowledge. Matrimonial ads daily attempt to find 'desirable' partners within caste-groups. Discuss the statement in detail. How do caste, gender and patriarchy intersect to create an environment of discrimination? (CO 2) (5)