

### Submission Details and Deadlines:

Students are required to send an abstract of 250 – 300 words as an email attachment to [claretconference@gmail.com](mailto:claretconference@gmail.com). The abstract must be in MS word (please make it 97-2003 version compatible, double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, and mention the name of the student, year/semester combination, College (with Phone No. and address) with the name of the teacher mentoring the student. Kindly give the contact details of both the student and the teacher (Mobile phones and e-mail ids).

Please ensure that the abstracts are mailed before 2nd of February 2012. Acceptance will be communicated on or before 6th February 2012. A soft copy of the full length papers will have to be mailed to the organizers before 25th February 2012 and a hard copy of the paper (with bibliography), duly signed by the mentoring teacher and the Principal/ HOD with College seal is to be submitted on the day of the conference at the time of Registration.

### No Registration fee will be charged.

- The best three papers will be awarded prizes.
- All the participants will be issued certificates.
- Lunch and tea will also be served to the participants.

Kindly note that the paper presenters will be allowed 15 minutes to make the presentation. LCD facilities are available for Power Point Presentations.

Students will be required to present their college ID cards at the time of Registration.

### A Special Note to the English Teaching Colleagues

We request the English teachers to identify, encourage and help students in their preparations. Also, it would be a great honour to have all the members in the department in our midst on the day of the conference. If for some reason all members are not able to come, at least one or two teachers may kindly accompany the students. Ensure that students do not attend the conference without a teacher accompanying them.

Details of the programme and paper presentation schedules will be intimated through e-mail later.

Please feel free to contact the Conference Co-ordinator Mr. S. Narasihma Murthy, Dept of English for any assistance.

#### Organizing Committee:

Patrons: **Rev. Fr. Thomas Thennady**, CMF,  
Principal

**Rev. Dr. Joseph Mundackal**, CMF, Dean

#### Members:

Sr. Dr. Flower Komattam, Mr. D. Yogananda Rao and  
Mr. M. P. Aloysius, Dept. of English

Ms Geetha Singh, Ms Suchi Smita Sahu, Dept of Hindi

Mr Madesh and Ms Shashikala, Dept of Kannada

Ms Angela and Mr Rony Jose, Dept of Psychology

Mr Joseph, Dept. of Journalism

#### Contact Details:

The Co-ordinator,

**Optional English Conference**

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## St. Claret College

MES Ring Road, Jalahalli, Bangalore - 560 013



A One Day  
Conference for Students  
of Optional English

**The Space in Between:  
An Exploration of the Texts  
and Their Worlds**

February 29, 2012

Organized by

**The Department of  
English and Humanities**

## St. Claret College

St. Claret College (SCC), Bangalore, managed by the international network of Claretian Missionaries, from its humble beginning in 2005 has witnessed phenomenal growth over the years into several undergraduate programs in commerce, management, computer science, physics, electronics and liberal arts. Postgraduate program in Management (MBA) is the latest addition to the ever-growing stature of SCC. Situated in a serene and picturesque campus beside the outer ring road, close to BEL circle, the college enjoys a refreshing atmosphere, conducive for serious academic pursuits and professional training. Moved by the spiritual genius of St. Anthony Mary Claret and supported by the robust Catholic intellectual tradition, the College offers integral education to transform the students to be enlightened leaders who bring about a civilization of love and harmony

## The Department of English

The Department of English, a part of the faculty of Arts and Humanities, was established with the inception of the College and is oriented towards enhancing teaching methodologies and quality research. The Department strives to integrate the values of old world scholarship with the vibrancy of the present. The Department has also undertaken several activities with a view to inculcating sound reading habits which are prerequisites to sensitizing the impressionable minds of students to language, literature and culture. A one-day seminar on Tagore (in 2011) and exhibitions commemorating leading writers held all year long bear ample testimony to the Department's commitment. A Diploma programme in communication skills is also administered.

## The Context of the Student Conference:

One of the most important issues discussed at all levels concerning India's higher education is research. It is common knowledge that any country that wishes to be at the fore front in the knowledge sector must prioritize research. The conference, in its own humble way, aims to promote research at the grass root level by attempting to harness and direct students' energies. The conference is an initiative to introduce students to active research.

Moreover, the conference intends to explore the spaces in between the teacher and students on one hand and the stimulating literary texts that form the curriculum on the other. These spaces, it is true, are constantly explored in our classes on a day –to-day basis. The conference is envisaged to be an extension of our class rooms. A bigger class room, if you like.

## Themes and Topics:

Students are free to choose any topic (individual text, writer/poet, theme or literary and critical movements and schools or group them to exploit inter-textuality) but illustrations must be drawn from the prescribed texts of the Optional English Courses offered by Colleges affiliated to the Bangalore University (Semester I through Semester VI – old and new syllabus). A suggestive, but by no means exhaustive or curtailing, list is given below – only for indicative purposes:

- ☞ Representation of Time in the Elizabethan Poetry
- ☞ The Secular and the Religious – the two Dimensions of Metaphysical Poetry
- ☞ The Evolution of the Sonnet

- ☞ Exploring the World of Imagination – A Study of the Romantics
- ☞ Shelley – Ineffectual Angel?
- ☞ The Feminine Sensibility and Jane Austen
- ☞ Life's Little Ironies and Thomas Hardy
- ☞ The American Dream
- ☞ The Literature of Discrimination and Discrimination of Literature
- ☞ The Effectiveness of Literary Theory as a Tool to Understanding Literary Texts
- ☞ The Contemporariness of the Ancient Classical Texts
- ☞ The Two Voices of Victorian Poetry
- ☞ Patriarchal Oppression and the Creative Expression
- ☞ English as a Medium for Creative Expression for Non- Native Users
- ☞ The Representation of the Partition Trauma
- ☞ Use of Myths and Legends in Indian Writing in English

It may true that with some of the texts and themes it could be extremely difficult to be entirely original (as for example Shakespeare, Milton etc). In cases like these let us teach our students to gratefully and graciously acknowledge the source and refrain from plagiarizing.

Ideally, what the conference looks forward to is an active interaction between students and teachers which will help strengthening the learning-teaching bonds. Thus, if teachers could help students with primary and secondary source locations, editing and topic suggestions, the Conference would have more than validated itself.