

Refresher Course on
Folkloristics and Semiotics

The Department of English, Mizoram University in collaboration with MZU – HRDC is organising a Refresher Course on Folkloristics and Semiotics during 5th -25th September 2017. The course shall be focused upon interdisciplinary arenas that are located upon the predominant aspects, centered towards the studies of folkloristics and the semiotics thereof. For many years, scholars especially from the humanities and social sciences have taken immense interest in the study of folkloristics and semiotics. The coherent study of folkloristics dates back to the first quarter of the 19th century, but significant interest in the discipline had been garnered much before that date. Folkloristics and Semiotics as a discipline, straddles the space between the Humanities as well as the Social Sciences. In many ways, it includes all aspects of a culture, and not merely the oral traditions. Interpretation of the aspects of folkloristics and semiotics as well as the concept of culture, where each genre has its own integrity and completeness, will be the focus of the course.

The proposed Refresher Course shall situate itself in terms of specific areas of study that comprise amongst other matters: artifact, describable and transmissible entity, that are related to oral tradition, culture, as also rituals and behaviour. While focusing upon these, the course shall also endeavour to interpret the significance of the traditional notions of culture that has been shared within various societies. Theoretical as well as praxis interpretation shall concentrate upon:

- i) the familial within the ethnic, occupational and religious spaces.
- ii) the concept of the regional within the signs and symbols.
- iii) the significance of creativity within the arena of symbolic forms such as custom, belief, skill, language, literature and art.
- iv) genres such as art, music, play, dance, drama and ritual.

As the objective of the course is highly interdisciplinary in terms of its approach, faculty from the humanities and social sciences are invited to send in your applications for the proposed refresher course. Details regarding the course may be accessed at: www.hrdcMZU.in